



*Received on /  
around the  
Christmas Eve  
Service  
December 24*

# Christmas Eve *Offering*

The Board of Elders and Missions Committee wholeheartedly invite one and all to share towards three worthy and exciting projects:

20% for the HWC Food Pantry

30% for Wellspring Ministries

50% for the LaGonave, Haiti, hospital renovation project

***The following is a quote from Dan Irvine, GP Area Director for the Caribe Atlantic Area:***

“The Wesleyan hospital on LaGonave is the only hospital available to a population of approximately 120,000 people. It has been operating as a 35 bed facility for more than fifty years. The existing building has two primary issues. Due to salt intrusion into the masonry structure, the building concrete has begun to spall which is a terminal condition, which does require the buildings replacement.

“Secondly the building lacks capacity for electric and plumbing required of a more modern hospital. We presently have an offer from a donor that if we will raise \$100,000 they will match it 4/1 for a total of \$500,000, which should complete the first phase of a 1.3 million general overhaul, currently on the drawing board.

“Houghton church has a long history with missions in Haiti and especially the hospital. There may be those who ask whether or not this resource intensive ministry is the best strategic use of available funds. I have personally asked the same question and have been convicted that our Wesleyan hospital is in the words of the hymn writer, ‘A charge to keep.’ The unexpected contact of the large donor to me is confirmation that this is in fact still part of our reason to exist as a mission in Haiti. At last count, we had raised about \$43,000 of our \$100,000 and we have approximately 10 months to finish raising the necessary funds as we hope to be under construction before the end of 2010.”