



# *a trip of perspective*

## **HAITI: SUMMER 2017**

On this trip to Haiti we will meet dedicated, grassroots leaders who are building inspiring, liberating community-based responses to systemic challenges. Hosted by our Haitian partners Limyè Lavi Foundation (Light of Life), we will learn about Haiti's culture, its history and policies in relationship to the US, and experience solidarity and accompaniment in action.

With a focus on Limyè Lavi's transformative work to end the restavek (child servitude) system, part of our time will be spent in a rural community, living in the homes of Haitian peasants: building relationships; discovering abundance in what looks like scarcity; and seeing long-term solutions, helping us make the connection with our own lives and communities at home. Daily reflection will anchor our experience.

We seek to listen, learn and be present to the lives, circumstances and relationships we experience in Haiti. Alongside our encounter with material poverty is an encounter with hope. Through this experience, participants will have the opportunity to examine their own lives and choices in relationship to the larger global family.

The \$1,500.00 fee covers trip leadership; administrative expenses; speaker honoraria; local ground transportation; and all meals and lodging.

**For more information about this Haiti trip or to receive a trip application, please contact Mike at (202) 469-8512 or by e-mail at [mike@faithandmoneynetwork.org](mailto:mike@faithandmoneynetwork.org)**



*“Woch nan dlo pa konnen doule woch nan soley.”*

**“The rock in the water does not know the suffering of the rock in the sun.”**

HAITIAN PROVERB

# SOME FACTS ABOUT HAITI

Population: 10.3 million (Sept. 2013 est.)

Area: slightly smaller than the state of Maryland

People: Although Haiti averages about 325 people per square kilometer, its population is concentrated most heavily in urban areas, coastal plains, and valleys. About 95% of Haitians are of African descent. The rest of the population is mostly of mixed Caucasian-African ancestry. A few are of European or Levantine heritage. Sixty percent of the population lives in rural areas.

Religions: The dominant religion is Roman Catholicism. Increasing numbers of Haitians have converted to Protestantism through the work of missionaries active throughout the country. Much of the population also practices voodoo (voodoo), recognized by the government as a religion in April 2003. Haitians tend to see no conflict in these African-rooted beliefs coexisting with Christian faith.

Languages: Haitian Creole, French

Literacy: total population: 56%

Health: Child mortality--1 out of 8 children die before they reach the age of five

Population below poverty line: 80% (2003 est.); 54% live in abject poverty