

All Are Invited to Attend the 'Friends of Haiti' meeting

Tuesday, January 31, 6:30-8 PM

St. Bernard Parish,

1617 W. Pine Street, Appleton

St. Bernard Social Justice Committee will be hosting a presentation by the Friends of Haiti, Tuesday January 31 from 6:30 to 8:00 PM in the Parish Activity Center. **Learn about Friends of Haiti's role in improving health, environmental & economic conditions in the territory of Thomazeau, Haiti.** There will also be more information on scheduled mission trips to Haiti occurring on April 16-27 and October 15-26.

Haiti is located on the western third of the island of Hispaniola, next to the Dominican Republic. Haiti lies some 700 miles southeast of Florida. It is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. Social and political upheaval, hurricanes, erosion and disease continue to devastate the country.

§ Friends of Haiti (FoH) was founded in 2000 by Fr. Larry Canavera at St. Philip's Parish in Green Bay, WI.

§ FoH travels to Haiti at least four times a year. Two trips are medical and two trips are surgical. Dental care is provided on the medical missions.

§ Approximately 60,000 people are served in the Thomazeau area: 5,000 to 6,000 medical patients, 200-300 dental patients, 50-70 surgical patients served on each trip.

§ The Initial emphasis was medical but now FoH provides educational, clean water and agricultural development services too.

§ FoH is all volunteer. 97 cents of every dollar goes toward the people of Haiti. Committee **meetings and trip preparation are a year round job.** FoH's main sources of volunteers are from Green Bay, WI, Olympia, WA, Baltimore, MD and Tucson, AZ.

