



Pictured with the equipment that is being donated and shipped to Haiti to help with the continued cleanup following the devastating earthquake that hit the area are, seated in the backhoe, Riley and Sydney Hall, and standing, Dan and

LaVonna Smith, Randy Jones, team leader for the recent missions trip to Haiti; Jim and Carolyn Luthye, Chuck Hall and Bill Streller, chairman of the equipment project.
Gloria G. Brown photos

Perryans sending equipment to Haiti

"The people of Haiti are very hard working people," said Bill Streller, chairman of a new project undertaken by the people of the First Church of the Nazarene and Chuck Hall, a member of the First Baptist Church.

The group recently visited Haiti on a missions trip and returned with a passion to do something more.

"Although they are hard working people, they just do not have the equipment to deal with the devastation of the recent earthquake," said Streller. "The equipment we are sending will help our missionary be able to help with the cleanup and to be able to start the rebuilding sooner."

Equipment being sent to Haiti from the local group include a 14,000 pound Tandem axle trailer, a single axle army trailer, a 1971 Kaiser 2 1/2 ton truck, a CBL 40 backhoe and an 1820 Ditch Witch® trencher.

"The Nazarene Church has many missionaries around the world, but we here in Perry are partial to the Caribbean region because the missionary serving that region is Curt Luthye. Curt is a Perry High School graduate," continued Streller. Curt's parents are Jim and Carolyn Luthye, who also went on the trip in March of this year, and are active members of the local Nazarene Church.

Streller said, "The truck is so important to them because the conditions are so bad that a large percentage of the time they cannot get around with a two wheel-drive vehicle. This six wheel-drive vehicle is an answer to their prayers. They have recently lost one of their trucks in an accident, so the need has become even greater."

Streller credited Chuck Hall and Grant Goley, with Ditch Witch® of Oklahoma as organizing the purchase of the backhoe. Ditch Witch of Oklahoma, run by Goley and Gary Bridwell, also donated a trencher. The First Church of the Nazarene donated the 14,000 pound tandem-axle trailer. The remainder of the equipment was purchased through the Caribbean Regional Office of the Church of the Nazarene in Miami, FL.

"I really appreciate those who have helped make this project a success," said Streller. "There are so many who have helped made this project a success. In addition to those already mentioned, those who have contributed in some way include Will and Dana Rogers and Buck Rogers with R&L Products and Rogers Dirt Construction; E-Z Drill, Richard Crow and family with Ground Zero Storm Shelters, Sam's Auto, Big J., Charles Machine Works and Darrold Graham."



Bill Streller shakes hands with Jim and Carolyn Luthye, whose son Curt Luthye is the missionary who will be the recipient of the equipment being sent by the local group.

Streller said they are working to finalize the shipping arrangements and hope the equipment will be shipped on Monday, June 14. However, if not shipped that day, it should be shipped some time next week.