School Success
by Staci Calkin

Every student looks to the end of a semester with mixed emotions. To reach the end and have a break, they have to go through “finals.” The school system in Haiti functions within a similar framework. December is the end of the semester. Before students are out for a three-week break, they must sit through a week of tests. The same tests are given across the country during that week.

The children at the Source of Light Center have been doing an amazing job with their studies and applying themselves to their schoolwork. In late December, our mission team from West Lynchburg Baptist Church visited Source of Light during the week before the tests, and we saw many of the children studying during their off hours. Schoolbooks went to the playground with us, and a few of the children were meeting with tutors. Their efforts paid off!

Pastor Ronel and the school administrators have been pleased to see the children excelling well above average. The grades in Haiti are on a point scale from 1-10. Their grades are compiled from all their classes and include math, history, French, English, Science, and others.

A 10 is an exceptionally high score and is difficult to achieve. A passing grade is a 5. At Ecole Source de Lumière, a majority of the students passed easily with grades above a 6. We want to
congratulate several of the children on their exceptional work and achieving grades above a 7.0!

The Source of Light Center officially opened in January 2012. Located in the Delmas 19 community of Port-au-Prince, Source of Light is truly a place of great hope for the people of Haiti. Following the devastating earthquake in 2010, the Haiti Baptist Convention identified the need for a children’s home and school as their greatest challenge. In partnership with the Baptist World Alliance and Hungarian Baptist Aid and under the leadership of the Haiti Baptist Convention, Virginia Baptists committed to addressing this need.

Currently, 40 children call the Source of Light Center their home. Many of these children were directly impacted by the 2010 earthquake in Haiti. The children range in age from 3-17. Their smiles, energy, and capacity to love are completely contagious. Together they have created a beautiful family!

For more information about the Source of Light Center and to learn about the child sponsorship program: Visit SourceOfLightHaiti.org or contact Staci Calkin at haitichildsponsorship@bgav.org.

For more information about the Source of Light Center, contact:
Craig Waddell
Partnership Coordinator, Mission Development
Baptist General Association of Virginia
800.255.2428, ext. 7263
craig.waddell@bgav.org

For more information about the Source of Light Center, contact:
Craig Waddell
Partnership Coordinator, Mission Development
Baptist General Association of Virginia
800.255.2428, ext. 7263
craig.waddell@bgav.org