

## ***Haiti Mission Moment***

Roger and his wife at the construction site for their new home.



CWS PHOTO

The suggested Sunday for the OGHS Offering is March 11, 2018.

## *What makes a house a home?*

A house is a structure with some walls, a roof, doors and windows. The house becomes a home when it is a place where you can feel safe and loved. When you're at home, you can let your guard down. You can relax and rest.

Sometimes, though, a house isn't really a home. That was certainly the case for Roger Doris and his family. They built their house in Haiti's Northwest Department in 1989. It was a traditional mud-and-stick house, like so many in Haiti are. In 2000 and 2001, they renovated their home to replace the mud walls with concrete blocks and added a tin roof. It was definitely a home.

Then Hurricane Matthew hit in late 2016. As the wind pounded on the house and the rain poured down. Extensive damage was done to Roger's house. The walls shook and cracked. The wood support columns—which weren't particularly sturdy to start with—were damaged badly.

Overnight, that house was stripped of being a home. The family still lived there, but they were afraid. They didn't know how much longer the house would stand. That sense of security was

gone. There was no more peace of mind, and no way to let down their guard.

We responded to help Roger and his family build a new house. Roger had training as an iron worker and carpenter, so he teamed up with professional masons to work on the new house. His family provided funds to pay for the new foundation and food for the workers. They also received seeds to plant so that the family would have a food and income source.

Now, the family has a house where they can feel safe. The house has a strong foundation and sturdy support columns made of rebar. More than that, everyone has peace of mind. It is truly a home.

Roger describes the house as a “miracle.” He doesn't live in fear anymore.

Each of God's children is loved. Each one deserves to be safe and protected, too, no matter where they live.

Our neighbors in Haiti needed us when their security was taken away, and we were there to help. Thank you for your support of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

