



Solid Rock Missions

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A Time to Give Thanks

Before we get carried away with all of the subjects near and dear to our hearts, we want to pause to give thanks to a wonderful, God for the blessings He has granted to us this past year. These blessings have come in a number of different ways.

They have come from the many teams that have gone on one of our trips, from those of you that sponsor children in the schools we work with, from our generous donors, and (in a few cases) from a few unlikely sources. All of these have helped us share

God's love with people as we served those in need. Most exciting is that a large number of people have come to know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior because of these efforts. All of you have played a big part in this and we want to thank you for supporting the work of this mission as we con-

tinue to work with those in need. We want to thank you for your financial support, labor and prayers. God has opened new doors for this ministry. Along with opening doors, He continues to provide the resources for this ministry to continue serving the Dominican people in Jesus' name.

The Student Sponsorship Program

Our student sponsorship program continues to play an important role in providing children with an opportunity to receive a wonderful education in a Christian atmosphere. These things help a child develop and give them hope of breaking the cycle of poverty they are stuck in.

The economic problems in the Dominican and North America have created challenges for the programs and the schools that serve these children. Just like here, the costs for goods and services in the Dominican Republic have rapidly increased.

Food and transportation costs have seen the biggest increase. Many Dominican families can now only afford one modest meal each day.

In North America, we know that some of you have added strains on your budgets. This has resulted in some people dropping their sponsorships. We appreciate the sacrificial giving some of you done over the years in order to give a child hope.

Student Sponsorships are still one of the best bargains around. Besides giving a child hope, you are also giving the child a hot



meal each school day as well as medical and dental care.

We need your help in getting the word out that 79 cents a day (\$24 per month) will provide a child with the opportunity of a lifetime

- all for less than a cup of coffee every day. Please consider sponsoring a child, and ask your friends and co-workers to help. Sponsorships really do make a difference in a child's life.

The purpose of Solid Rock Missions is to glorify God in partnerships by ministering spiritually, physically, socially and educationally to those in need, in the name of Jesus Christ.

It is that time of year

Opportunities abound. Here are a couple of important ones for you to consider.

The Solid Rock Missions' General Fund

Much of the giving to our organization is designated to projects and programs. One fund we neglect to promote that needs some help at the moment is our General Fund. This fund covers the operational expenses of our office, operational support funding for both clinics, upkeep for our vehicles in the DR, start-up support for new programs, emergencies, and other needs.

School Christmas Parties

One thing our Sponsorship Program does not cover is funding for Christmas parties at the school we serve. Each year, we rely on special gifts to underwrite the expenses of these celebrations. Each school has their own party where they provide food, fun and a little gift for each child. We need your help. Please designate your gift to "Student Gift Fund". Thank you for your help.

From the Heart

There are many things to rejoice and be thankful about. (And there are some special concerns along the way). We are going to touch on a few of them.

- In the last newsletter we shared about the wedding of the 5 couples in El Peñon. All of that happened as a result of people accepting Christ after Tropical Storm Noel. There were more people wanting to renew their vows in front of the church and we challenged the pastor there to come up with 10 more couples for another wedding. The next wedding is scheduled for December 7th and we have been informed that 15 couples in the church will be wed that day. These weddings are a step in their faith and commitment to God. He is at work in these communities.

- Rod and Sandy Nofziger have completed 5 years of serving teams at the Guesthouse. We are grateful for their time there. They have returned to the Pettisville, OH area and their plans include traveling to see their family.

- The Central Church (in downtown San Juan) construction project is complete. They dedicated the new sanctuary on September 28th. They are grateful to everyone who helped with that project. A special thank you goes to Northwoods Church in Peoria, IL for working with the Central Church and supporting their dream of a larger facility.

- While we are talking about completed projects, we are happy to report that the classroom construction project at the Emmanuel School in San Juan is complete and in use. Thank you to everyone for your help in making this project possible.

- The director of the Emmanuel School, Migdalia Montero went to be with the Lord in late September after battling breast cancer. Our prayers are with her husband, Socrates, and the school during this time.

- We would like to ask you to pray for two people who have meant a lot to SRM. Please pray for Joanne Strooband and Raul Rodriguez. Both are being battling serious illnesses. Cards and notes of encouragement may be sent to them through our office.

- We appreciate your response to help with prosthetic needs in the DR. We have received new and used prosthesis as well as monetary gifts to purchase more for those needing help.

- Our annual audit is complete. The audited financial report can be viewed on our "About Us" page on our website. 86.44 % went to programs, 12.07 % went to administration and 1.48 % went to fundraising. Those numbers show our dedication and efficiency in making sure that your gifts are used the best way possible.

- SRM has also been given a four-star rating (the highest possible) by Charity Navigator, a premier evaluator of charities in the US. Less than 17 % of charities receiving this rating receive this high rating for two years in a row. Solid Rock Missions has received this rating for third consecutive year.

Solid Rock Missions also continues to maintain its accreditation with ECFA (Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability). SRM has complied with the ECFA Standards of Responsible Stewardship for the past 5 years.

- About once a year, SRM sends

2009 Dominican Republic Trip Calendar

Dec 26-Jan 3	Elaine Davis' Team Oil City, PA
Jan 6-18	Highland Community Church, Wausau, WI
Jan 17-24	First Presbyterian Church, Gainesville, GA
Jan 17-24	Volunteers In Medical Missions, Seneca, SC
Jan 24-Feb 7	First Presbyterian Church, Spartanburg, SC
Feb 7-14	Second Presbyterian Church, Roanoke, VA
Feb 14-21	Gaylord Rotary Club, Gaylord, MI
Feb 28-Mar 7	St. Mary's Primary Care, Palentine Bridge, NY
Mar 7-14	Dr. Lynn Hughes' Team, Concord, NC
Mar 14-22	Northwoods Community Church, Peoria, IL
Mar 21-28	Wesley Skiles' Team, Croton, OH
Apr 4-11	The Beste Group, Wilmington, NC
Apr 4-11	Dr. Diane Bernardi Team, Bryan, OH
May 1-9	Bon Secures School of Nursing, Richmond, VA
May 23-30	Grace Lutheran Church, Hendersonville, NC
May 31-Jun 6	Dr. Tom Roberts' Team, Spartanburg, SC
Jun 6-15	Northwoods Community Church Youth, Peoria, IL
Jun 13-22	Northwoods Community Church Families, Peoria, IL
Jun 20-Jul 4	Brookside Community Church Youth, Ft. Wayne, IN
Jul 4-11	Renee Baker Team, Toledo, OH
Jul 11-18	Second Presbyterian Church Youth, Roanoke, VA
July 11-18	Kevin Schlenger Family
Jul 18-22	Crossroads Evangelical Church Youth, Wauseon, OH
Jul 18-22	The Ascent, Golden, CO
Jul 19-26	Christian Fellowship, Holland, OH
Jul 25-Aug 2	Hesston Mennonite Brethren Youth, Hesston, KS
Jul 25-Aug 1	True North, Wauseon, OH
Aug 1-8	Jubilee Fellowship Church Youth, St. Catherines, ON
Oct 31-7	First Presbyterian Church, Nashville, TN
Nov 7-14	New Community Church, Elizabeth City, NC
Nov 14-21	Gaylord Rotary Club, Gaylord, MI

If you would like to book a team at the guesthouse or other locations where we work in the Dominican Republic, please contact our office at 419-956-4077 or e-mail us at srm@solidrockmissions.org.

a container full of medical and educational equipment and supplies to San Juan. The shipment costs approximately \$5,000. If you are interested in helping, please designate contributions to the container shipment.

- World economies are struggling. The same is true in the DR. Prices are high and food is difficult to find. Many families are financially struggling to feed themselves

even once a day. Please pray for world leaders and the people that are facing these great difficulties.

- Thank you for your help and support as we serve those in need. May God's grace and peace be with you and your families as you celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Merry Christmas from Solid Rock Missions.

Gifts to Solid Rock
Missions are
tax-deductible.

