



# Solid Rock Missions

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March –April 2006

## 2006 Banquet

We know it may seem like we just had the SRM banquet but we need to start talking about it again. Because of everyone's busy schedule in the fall, we decided to have it this spring. The date is April 29th. The time is 6 pm. And the location is Central Mennonite Church east of Archbold, OH (the same place as the fall banquet). The cost is \$15.00 per person. Reservations are needed and can be made by calling 419-335-8046 or e-mailing us at [srm@solidrockmissions.org](mailto:srm@solidrockmissions.org). Reservations need to be made by April 24th.

We will have a great time with our Dominican guests, hear a little about the work going on in the DR and enjoy some inspirational entertainment.

There will be a freewill offering to help with the purchase of a partially-built house in San Juan. It is our hope to purchase and finish the house so it can be used as a place for our English teachers to stay while they are in San Juan as well as a place for some of our longer term volunteers to stay. Gifts to this fund can be designated for the Teacher's House. We currently need about \$45,000 to complete this project.

## Trip Updates

There is still time to get your reservations in for the SRM Taste and See Tour, May 19-26 and the SRM Youth Trip, June 24—July 1st. The cost for either trip is \$550 plus airfare. The Taste and See Tour is for those of you wishing to see what is going on in the DR (without the hard work). The SRM Youth Trip is for young people interested in serving on a work team in the Dominican Republic. We will have a great time on both trips. One tip; don't wait too long to register. There are a limited number of places left for the youth trip.

## What Are SRM Board Members Doing?

We can answer that with two words.....a lot! In our newsletters, we tell you about all of the wonderful things going on in the DR. Behind all of these things are a number of wonderful people that continue to give their finances, time and labor for a project that is special to them. We would like to tell you a little more about what they are doing. Here are some brief profiles on two members. Both have been involved in the DR for a long time.

### Profile Number One

The first person we want to tell you about is Cora Hunse. Cora lives in Canada and works for Health Canada as a nurse practitioner. Her work takes her north of the Arctic Circle to provide healthcare for an indigenous tribe.



Some of the problems were due to a lack of food. Others because of the lack of medical care. And still others were be-

cause of the lack of education of their parents to know how to properly care for them.

Cora had a heart for children. Back in the early 1990s, a similar problem existed and Cora stepped forward to lead a nutrition program that went a long way in wiping out the problem. That was until a year and a half ago. When Cora heard about the problem, she went back into action. First she checked out the need, then she solicited help by telling friends back home. She approached the Nestle Corporation to purchase and then have donated powdered milk. The money that was raised went for the necessities (milk, cereal, vitamins) for these kids to survive. And survive they did.



Cora reports that "so far we have had more than 140 children [in the program] keeping it at about 100 at a time. They have in total gained more than 800 lbs. The data is a bit skewed since we have just admitted about 10 children with severe malnutrition otherwise the numbers would look better. The other exciting thing is that when we went with the VIMM group to the campos where there are malnourished children in the program, 70 people came to Christ. Pastor Morales and his colleague Fran are following up."

We want to say thank you to Cora and to those of you who have invested your resources in the lives of these young children. As you can see, they are not only surviving but they are hearing the good news of God's love for them. What more can we say?

### Profile Number Two

If you have been on an SRM construction trip or on a construction trip prior to that to the Dominican Republic, you may remember this guy. He has gone on about 25 of these trips. His name is Raul Rodriguez from Archbold, OH.

Raul was first recruited by Orville Fricke in 1982 and he has been going back ever since. Raul has developed many friendships with both the Americans and Dominicans. One of those special relationships is with Pastor Wilson Payano and the church he started in the barrio near the CCED school. For a long time, the church met in the multipurpose building at the school. Then they began meeting in a small building in the middle of the barrio. That was when this church really started to grow. They outgrew the little building they were renting and they began to have dreams of building their own church on some vacant land near the center of the barrio. They did have one little problem. That was money.



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Those of you who know Raul know he has a heart for people in need. Raul decided to pretty much single-handedly help them out. Raul and his wife Rosie began serving some fundraising meals. Raul also did some scrap salvage that brought in more funds. Before long, the land was purchased. Then Raul made a few trips to organize the construction of the church using local volunteers. It did not take long and the church was finished. The church family finally has a place of its own. The building was completed last fall and put into use immediately. That was when a new problem developed. The church started growing at a very fast rate. Many people have recently come to know Christ and have started attending this small church. In less than 4 months, the church is now nearly full every time the doors are open for services. The building was built with the intention of adding Sunday School classrooms. Raul is already making plans for that.

We could tell you more stories about Raul (which we will probably do in the future). We wanted to really call attention to his dedication to the Dominicans and this church. We are also grateful for his involvement with Solid Rock Missions. He has played a big part in many of our construction projects. Since he is now retiring from his job at Sauder Woodworking, he is going to be spending more time helping SRM with our projects as well as continuing to build this church.

### A Very Special Letter

All of you know Isaias and Peggy Melo. Besides sending their letter out with our newsletter, they also send a letter out with another organization. Here is an excerpt from a very special letter they recently sent.

*Since New Year's Day the time has been filled with visiting medical teams. Each of these has brought loving service to the poor of this area. As always each team has its own personality; we have enjoyed these groups and have been impressed with the servant spirit that has been evident. One of the physicians here for the first time, in a reflective moment, wondered whether the work he had done that week had made much of an impact. As we talked, I was able to share with him my perspective that it often isn't only the magnitude of a work done that matters and often God uses the seemingly small and everyday type incidents to impact people—that it may matter as much to people the manner in which they were treated as valued human beings as the specific medical service provided. At the time, we are unaware of how God will use these acts of love in the lives of others; sometimes God allows us to see how these seemingly small seeds grow into something more.*

*A few months ago a young man died. He had graduated from the CCED School about 2 1/2 years ago; just after he finished, he was diagnosed with leukemia. Though the initial treatment worked, it didn't last. In his last days and hours on this earth, he was able to assure his family that he would be meeting Jesus. Who or what had the biggest impact for this young man? Those who pray? Those who build the buildings? Those who teach? Those who sponsor students? Those who direct the school? Those who donate other resources? Those who provide medical and dental care? What*

### Something To Think About

*"There is no use in being the richest man in the cemetery. You can't do business from there" - Col. Harlan Sanders*

**Gifts to Solid Rock Missions are tax-deductible.**

### Our Mission Statement

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.

### 2006 Guesthouse Calendar

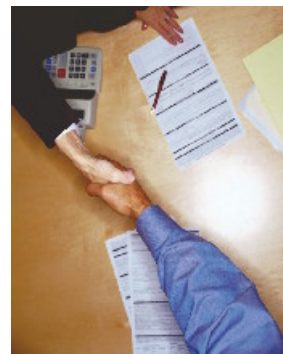
May 6-13	Grace Community Church, Washington Courthouse, OH
May 13-20	Grace Lutheran Church, Hendersonville, NC
May 19-26	SRM Taste and See Tour
Jun 24-Jul 1	SRM Youth Trip
Jul 1-8	North Clinton Mennonite Church Youth, Wauseon, OH
Jul 8-15	Second Presbyterian Church Youth, Roanoke, VA
Jul 15-22	Dr. Tom Roberts Team, Spartanburg, SC
Jul 22-Aug 3	Crossroads Evang.Church Youth, Wauseon, OH
Sep 30—Oct 7	Jim Crooks' Team, Sylacauga, AL
Oct 14-22	Northwoods Community Church, Peoria, IL
Oct 21-28	Brookside Community Church, Fort Wayne, IN
Nov 4—11	First Presbyterian Church, Nashville, TN
Nov 11-18	Medical Missions for Christ, Lake of the Ozarks, MO
Dec 3-7	Van Vleet /Pomeroy Team, Portland, MA

Please contact us for available dates and rates. The complete 2006 calendar is on our website at [www.solidrockmissions.org](http://www.solidrockmissions.org). We are now booking 2007 dates.

*we see is one does not work without the others. In the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo there is a plague with the following quote from Edmund Burke, "No one made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could only do a little. We can all understand that if everyone does a little, it becomes big. At the same time our "mistake" may be that we underestimate what God can do through things. That seem nearly insignificant to us. I suspect that even Jesus' life and death seemed insignificant to many in his time—and look what God has done since!*

*The ministry of the clinic and the school are here because many have chosen to do what they could in love. We are grateful for all who participate in this ministry.*

What more can we say? God is working in many ways. Lives are being touched and changed. Thank you for all the things you are doing to help the ministries we work with.



## A Plan To Leverage The Value Of Your Assets



Now there is a way for you to bypass capital gains shrinkage of a highly appreciated asset, generate cash, and make a charitable contribution.

For details on the Part Gift – Part Sale plan, contact our office.

**Solid Rock Missions**  
...touching lives for eternity

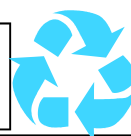
### In Loving Memory

Betty Oyer  
Fern Lauber  
Welthie Rupp

### In Honor

Tammy Leinbach  
Lawrence V. Conway, Sr.

**Thank you for the gifts of love given in their name.**



**Our newsletters and brochures are 100% recyclable. When you are finished with them, pass them on to a friend.**