



# Solid Rock Missions

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September-October 2003

## Relatively Large News

Almost every newsletter this past year has had a headline proclaiming "Big News". We really hate to be stuck in the same rut for each issue but the news is big. It is exciting to see God at work and how He is opening doors for new opportunities. It is also exciting to see how you are responding to these needs. Your faithfulness to God and to our friends in the Dominican Republic is thrilling to see. Good things are happening and lives are changing. That's the bottom line.

## Student Sponsorship Expands

We are happy to report that the sponsorship at the Christian Center for Development in San Juan is continuing to grow. As of this writing, we have 725 students sponsored at the CCED. Enrollment at the beginning of the school year is 960. There are approximately 30 students that pay their own way. Another 50 are being covered through our General Scholarship That means we still have 205 students there that need sponsorship. We are hoping to sponsor more children this year and help fund their education at this fine Christian school.



CCED Students

## So What Is Next?

Those that know us at SRM, know that we are not content with where we are but we are always looking for the "next step" in supporting ministries in the DR. As we approach full funding of the CCED, we asked that question, investigated some opportunities, prayed about it and made some decisions. Now we are ready for that next step.

We are pleased to announce a sponsorship program for the Jim Smith School in El Rosario. This school is a small Christian school located in the small town of El Rosario, which is located about fifteen miles southwest of San Juan. There are approximately 114 students in the school in five grades. Funding for the school is almost non-existent. There is a small amount of funding that barely buys food for the students to get one good hot meal each school day. The school currently has a half-day session with the ability of doubling their size by adding an afternoon session. The sad part is the school has no funds to pay their teachers or to purchase books and supplies.



Jim Smith School at El Rosario

This summer, the Central Mennonite Church youth group from Archbold, OH spent several days repairing and painting the school.

As we have been preparing this program, we have told several interested individuals about our proposed sponsorship program. Just by that small word of mouth, we already have the

first two students sponsored. That leaves 112 that have no support.

The other hard part is as we were investigating possible future involvement, we visited several other Christian schools that

also need help. As we continue to increase sponsorship at the CCED and the Jim Smith school, you can rest assured that SRM will continue to work on ways to help these other schools.

All of our student sponsorships are run the same way. For \$22.00 US, a sponsorship will provide a child with an education at a Christian school, books, uniform, a hot meal each school day, and medical and dental care during the year. You will now have the option of selecting a student from the school of your choice.

We currently have some unsponsored students from the CCED on our website. We will be putting up some students from El Rosario later this year. We will have complete profiles and photos of the students in November. In the meantime, we have a list of students to sponsor now.

One last comment on sponsorships.....in mid September, SRM received the updated student list for the current year. We discovered that approximately 100 sponsored students have not returned. Most of them has been because they have moved from the area. We are just now getting information for the replacement students. If your child is no longer there, we will send you information on a new one just as soon as we get that information. We will be traveling to the DR to take student photos later this year. We are hoping to have complete, updated information (including photos) on all of your sponsored students in early December.

## Low-Cost Health Assurance

No, that is not a typo. You might have thought "insurance". We think it is assurance. Healthcare has not been a financial priority for the average Dominican family. The economic conditions there have worsened in the past several months. Inflation during the last 3 months has been over 100%. Many families are working all day just to put one meal on the table. Discretionary money in the household budget is non-existent. The results: Dominicans cannot afford healthcare.



Best Care Anywhere

We have a small solution that will have a big impact. For \$22.00 US per month (\$264 per year) you can provide 12 people with healthcare at the Clinica Cristiana de Salud Integral in San Juan. Try doing that in North America. (Sorry, this program is not available to anyone other than Dominicans in the San Juan area.). For more information, please contact us here at Solid Rock Missions.

## 2003 Fall Project

As our programs and personnel continue to increase, it causes growing pains in other areas. We are anticipating the arrival of Rod and Sandy Nofziger to our staff at the guesthouse. This also increases our need for additional transportation.

Our fall project is to raise funds to purchase a 4 wheel-drive, 4 door pickup truck for use by the guesthouse personnel. This vehicle will join the 5 year old pickup truck currently in use at the guesthouse.

Contributions to this project need to be designated for the "truck fund". We are hoping to be able to purchase the truck when the Nofzigers arrive in January 2004.

## Pardon Us, Our Slip Is Showing

Most generally we do not have problems with our mailing but there is always a first and it just happened at a time when our communication to you was important. Our last newsletter contained information on our annual banquet. We have tried to find out what happened and correct the problem but at this time, we don't know what happened. Please pardon the problem. If you did not get the last newsletter, you can see it online at [www.solidrockmissions.org](http://www.solidrockmissions.org).

## In With The Old and In With The New

The recent Solid Rock Missions' Board of Directors meeting saw some additions to the board membership. Some past members re-joined the board; Dr. Don and Kay McClure from Pauline, SC have returned to the board. New members include Joanne Strooband from Jordan Station, Ontario and Cora Hunse from Beamsville, Ontario. That brings the total number of board members to 19. Please remember to pray for them as they make decisions effecting the ministry of Solid Rock Missions.

## 2002-3 Fiscal Year

We are humbled and very thankful for God's goodness to this ministry this past year. We are also thankful to each of you who have played a part in making our dreams a reality. We closed the year well ahead of our dreams and expectations. We have seen a strong increase in funding of the Student Sponsorship Program. That has greatly effected the operation of the school. We have also been able to put into place a fiscal plan that helps address some of the immediate needs that happen on an annual basis. We have also seen some increases in giving to other programs and projects. Thank You!

In a year that has seen many ministries cut back their ministries, we are thrilled that God has blessed Solid Rock Missions through people like you. We have actually been able to grow. We thank you for your faith and trust in us.

We are also happy to announce that our operating costs for the programs we raise money for still remain under 10%. That means for every dollar you give, 90 cents goes directly to its intended use. Solid Rock Missions will be going through an audit this fall to confirm that our records are in order.

## El Cercado News

As time goes on, the excitement is growing about the opening of the new clinic in El Cercado. The project is rapidly coming to a close. The finishing touches are being completed, cleanup is



**The Cabinets Are In Place**

being done, and supplies and furnishings are being put into place.

Dr. Osvaldo Canario is overseeing the startup of this facility. Another local doctor will join him in staffing the clinic. They will also have a small staff to help start the clinic.

The facility will have exam rooms, dental facilities,

x-ray and sonogram equipment, a pharmacy and lab. The opening date has been set for early October. We continue to have some expenses in finishing and equipping the clinic. First Presbyterian Church of Spartanburg, SC is providing operating funding to help start the facility. Even after the facility opens, there will be some small projects that need to be completed. If you would like to help, please designate your funds to the El Cercado Clinic.

**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.

## 2003 Guesthouse Calendar

Oct 11— 19 Northeast Christian Church I, Louisville, KY  
Oct 18—26 Northeast Christian Church II, Louisville, KY

## 2004 Guesthouse Calendar

Jan 3-9 Gaylord Rotary Club, Gaylord, MI  
Jan 7-17 Highland Community Church, Wausau, WI  
Jan 17-24 First Presbyterian/Dr. Bill James, Spartanburg, SC  
Jan 17-24 Oasis Church, Wauseon, OH  
Jan 24-Feb 1 VIMM / Fred Marcinak, Walhalla, SC  
Jan 31-Feb 14 First Presbyterian/Don & Kay McClure  
Spartanburg, SC  
Feb 14-21 Second Presbyterian Church, Roanoke, VA  
Feb 21-28 CrossWay Community Church, Nashua, NH  
Feb 28-Mar 6 Northwoods Community Church, Peoria, IL  
Mar 6-13 Eureka Bible Church, Eureka, IL  
Mar 13-20 Fox Plastic Team, Schenectady, NY  
March 20-27 Spring Break Mission Team, Williams Co. OH  
March 27-Apr 3 Jim and Mary Blankenship Team, Danville, PA  
Jun 12-19 Dr. Tom Roberts Team, Spartanburg, SC  
Jun 19-Jul 3 Highland Community Church Youth, Wausau, WI  
Jul 3-17 Crossroads Evangelical Church Youth, Wauseon, OH  
Jul 24-31 Gaylord Evangelical Free Church Youth, Gaylord, MI  
Jul 31-Aug 14 Archbold EMCC Church Families, Archbold, OH

## Help Wanted

We have a medical team that will be doing clinics in towns and villages January 7-17. Their team is short on family practice doctors. We need your help. Please contact SRM if you are interested in going on this trip.

## Remember When

Everyone who goes to the DR comes back with some stories about their time there. One of the stories we enjoy hearing comes from Dr. Gordon Zimmerman as he served with one of the early work teams with Orville Fricke. They were working on building a church "back in the boonies" way out in the middle of nowhere. The project was going great and many long hours were put in to try to complete the project. The project continued into the late Saturday evening. Gordon, being a preacher and Bible scholar had some real concerns as they poured some concrete after 10 pm. His concerns were about the concrete setting up before midnight, so they could honor scripture in keeping the Sabbath holy.

The story teller really made the story vivid and funny.

It has been a number of years since Gordon has been to the DR but this heart continues to remain there. Gordon has graciously continued to serve on the Solid Rock Missions' Board of Directors and Executive Committee.

Gordon's health has been deteriorating recently. He has been battling cancer for over 10 years. We know that even though he was unable to attend our recent board meeting and banquet, his heart and prayers were with us. And we know he wanted to be there. We always appreciated his wisdom and insight.

Now our thoughts and prayers need to be with him and his family. We want to say "thank you" to our friend, counselor and partner. And we also want to thank his wife, Ruth, for generously sharing him with us.

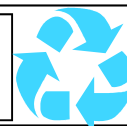
## In Loving Memory

Mrs. Emagene Yingling, Edinburg, TX  
Valletta Werder, Archbold, OH

*Thank you for the gifts of love given in their memory*

## In Honor

Dr. Richard Judkins



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