



Solid Rock Missions

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September –October 2005

Orville and Delight

Some of you had the opportunity to attend our banquet in Northwest Ohio. For those of you who were not there,



Orville & Delight Fricke

you missed a fun evening. It was not the typical banquet in a number of ways. This banquet was a surprise roast for Orville and Delight Fricke. If you have traveled with Orville on one of his many trips to the Dominican Republic or Burkina

Faso, you know what an entertaining time he can make it. We had a good time making fun of Orville. But more than that, we said thank you to Orville for his dedicated service and we thanked Delight for sharing Orville with all of us.

Orville's trips began in 1981. He took countless teams to the Dominican Republic and Africa. His teams built churches, clinics, schools and a few other things along the way. Several of those team members shared their experiences with the people gathered to salute the Frickses. Some shared about the experiences they had with Orville. Others shared about Orville's heart for the poor. All of the speakers expressed their thanks for helping them personally with their vision for missions. Besides Orville's long term involvement with mission work, he has been involved locally with a shelter for battered women and a halfway house for former prison inmates.

Orville continues to have a heart for missions. Another wonderful trait he has is that he is an encourager. He is a valuable member of the Solid Rock Missions' Board of Directors. Orville's love



Orville and friends in La Jagua, DR

for people and his desire to see people come to Christ is a model for all of us.

Delight was honored as well. There are not many wives that would allow their husbands to go to the end of the earth to help others.

We appreciate her sacrifice.

On behalf of all of the people's lives Orville and Delight have touched and changed, we want to say "thank you" to Orville and Delight. And we want to remind them that God is not finished in using them for His Kingdom.

Thank you to all of you for helping keep this a secret. Orville really was surprised.

Juanita Sheeler Support Needs

Those of you who have been on one of our trips knows one of the behind the scenes workers at the Guesthouse. Juanita Sheeler has been a wonderful addition to the guesthouse staff since early 2004. Her first year she financed the expenses herself. This past 10 months a number of you have helped her with her support. That support will take her through the end of this year. She has now decided to extend her stay until next April. She does not have support raised for the extended part of her stay.



Juanita Sheeler

If you would like to make a commitment to her support, please let us know. Please designate your gifts to "Juanita Sheeler Support".

Giving Opportunities

The economy in the Dominican Republic continues to go in directions we are not expecting. Most generally, those directions are not good. The Dominican peso is losing ground to the US dollar. Normally, this would not be a severe problem but prices for goods are rising as well. The average family's money is not buying as much as it once did. Add to that the cost of gasoline topping \$4.00 US per gallon and it makes it almost impossible for the typical Dominican to get around. Many have gone from cars to motor scooters to walking. The question is what will Dominicans have to give up next.

This is having an impact on the schools and clinics we work with. Most are working to cut expenses to make their money stretch a little farther. Some have stretched it to the limit.

Likewise, the SRM General Fund is also being stretched and challenged. The SRM General Fund goes beyond just the operation of this work. It pays the significant monthly subsidies to the clinics as well as expenses for our English teachers at the CCED school. We also occasionally send funds to help with emergencies. This fund is flexible enough to allow us to help in different areas.

Unfortunately, part of the income that goes into that fund has been reduced. Before, we used leftover funds from our trips help us meet the needs that we face. But this year, the guesthouse has been hit with increased costs. Because of the decrease in giving to the General Fund, we are left with less to meet these needs. It makes us a little nervous, but it is all in God's hands.

Rather than start another fund drive for some other project this fall, we are concentrating on raising funds to help meet the needs of the General Fund. Since much of this directly supports the operation of Dominican ministries, it is a great place to make sure your gifts are helping others.

Our Commitment To You

There is so much need out there and so many places needing financial support. With the damage caused by the recent hurricanes, we are seeing a large number of organizations making solicitations to help the victims of these tragedies. The key thing that we all need to be reminded of is to be careful of who you are giving to. There are fraudulent organizations out there wanting your money.



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*

There is one seal that does provide some assurance that the funds given are being used properly. That is the seal of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA). The ECFA not only has requirements based on Christian principles, but it also monitors and occasionally disciplines its members if they violate the regulations of the council. Becoming a member is not easy to do. Besides annual financial audits, the basic operation of member organizations are scrutinized. ECFA also serves as a resource for non-profit organizations. They keep us aware of pending legislation and changes in IRS rules and regulations.

Solid Rock Missions has been a member of the ECFA for the past two years. We are proud of this accreditation. It means we are doing what we say we are doing. It also means that we subscribe to tough standards. (You can see those standards at www.ecfa.org.) Part of our responsibilities is to monitor the funds as they are sent on to the organizations we work with in the Dominican Republic.

Audited financial statements and our annual IRS filing is posted on our website at www.solidrockmissions.org. By request, they are also available by mail.

Thank you for the faith you have placed in Solid Rock Missions to be your extension to those in need. If you have any questions about how we handle funds, please ask.

Just A Reminder

Husbands.....Christmas is coming. Now is a good time to begin thinking about gifts for your wife (and kids). It is also a time to consider some other giving opportunities. Solid Rock Missions has some things to consider.

The last several years, we have discouraged people from sending gifts to students (unless you are going on a trip). We have created another opportunity to allow all the students to benefit. That is our Student Gift Fund. This fund has been created so that all of the students will be able to receive something. Money given to this fund will be shared with all the schools we support. It will be split according to the number of students in each school.

Now about that gift for your wife, or whoever might be difficult to shop for. We have something without a power cord. That is to sponsor a child at one of the schools we support. For \$24 per month, you can provide a child with an education at a Christian school, a uniform, books and supplies and a hot meal each school day.

It is also easy to do. Simply go to our website and go to the Student Sponsorship page. There you can select a child and register on line. It is simple to do and it is something that is having a significant impact on the lives of children in need. You will be providing them with a Christian education. Better

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.

2005 Guesthouse Calendar

Oct 1-8 Dr. Jim Crook Team, Sylacauga, AL
Oct 15-23 Northwoods Community Church, Peoria, IL
Oct 22-29 Brookside Community Church, Fort Wayne, IN
Oct 22-24 Jared Burkholder Family, Omaha, NB
Oct 30-Nov 5 Dr. Greg Pomeroy Team, Portland, ME
Nov 12-20 Medical Missions in Christ, Lake Charles, MO
Nov 22-29 Smith Family, Pettisville, OH

Out Trip Groups

Nov 12-20 Shore Mennonite Church, Shipshewana, IN

Please contact us for available dates and rates. The complete calendar is on our website at www.solidrockmissions.org.

yet, you are providing them hope to improve their future. P.S. This reminder also extends to women and children.

News and Notes

Rod and Sandy Nofziger have extended their commitment to serve at the Guesthouse for an additional year. They are now committed to staying until the end of 2007. They have just returned to San Juan from a brief vacation in the US.

A number of construction projects remain in the San Juan area. The multi-purpose building in El Cercado is moving along. It is hoped that Phase One will be completed early in 2006.

The CCED building project has been a little slow. Part of the reason is the need for additional funding. The other part is because of the large number of projects and the limited number of construction teams we have had this summer.

The last project we have underway is the fence project at the school in El Rosario. That project is moving along and hopefully will be completed soon.

The next project on the drawing board is the construction of two additional classrooms in El Rosario. We are anticipating construction to start in February. Second Presbyterian Church in Roanoke, VA has announced their decision to fund the construction of this building.

The 2006 calendar is on our website. There are a few open dates. Please contact our office if you are interested in scheduling a group or if you would like to join one of the already scheduled groups.

Fall is also a great time to schedule a visit from SRM to your church. If you would like to have a presentation, please call or e-mail us so we can put you on the schedule.

Fiscal years for many churches start and end at many different times of the year. If your church is now planning their budget, now is the time to consider how they might become involved with the different ministries we work with. Please contact us for more information.

Please remember to pray daily for Solid Rock Missions, the schools and clinics we work with and for the Voice of the Light radio station. Your prayers are appreciated.

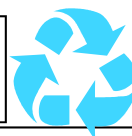
In Loving Memory

Orville Rupp, Archbold, OH
Joyce Bernath, Archbold, OH

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

In Loving Honor

Amanda Wyse, Wauseon, OH for her 21st Birthday
In honor of Dorine Smith and in memory of Jim Smith



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