



Solid Rock Missions

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PARTNERS

Solid Rock Missions has a new local phone number:

419-956-4077

Our 888 number and all of our other contact information remains the same.

Newsletter Update

As a result of increased costs in sending newsletters to you, we will be switching to an electronic version in the very near future. If we have had e-mail contact with you in the past (and we have your e-mail ad-

dress), you will automatically be signed up to receive our online newsletter. If you would like to make sure you will receive our electronic newsletter, you can register on our website (www.solidrockmissions.org)

Click on the newsletter link and go from there.

For those of you still interested in receiving a printed copy of *Partners*, please call or write to let us know. Thank you for allowing us to share our ministry with you.

Making a Difference

We are grateful for all of you that sponsor children in one of the Christian Schools we work with in the Dominican Republic.

This year has been a challenging year for all of the schools. We saw early signs of the world economic problems when we saw a larger than normal change in student enrollment last fall as families moved away for employment reasons. This is probably the reason why some of you received a different student. Some of the schools actually ended up with a lower number of students than normal. Others were able to bring in more students to replace the ones they lost.

We also have lost some sponsors. All of these things, including rising costs for operations,

have had some impact on all of the schools. In spite of that, the schools have adjusted and are doing well. They are still providing excellent educations and are also sharing God's love with each student. All of the directors agree that God is at work in the lives of the children. They are very grateful for your help in allowing their schools to make a difference.

The school directors also appreciate your support in providing funds this past year for a Christmas party for each school and small gifts for every student.

We still have plenty of students needing a sponsor. Twenty-four dollars a month is all it takes to provide a child with a wonderful education and give a child hope for a better future.



Mission Team News

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.

Joe and Shannon Zimmerman are having a great time with the teams that have traveled to the Guesthouse in 2009. They are doing a wonderful job of hosting and supporting the teams that come to serve.

We have seen fewer teams this year. In spite of that, the teams that have gone have worked hard to use their talents to help the Dominican people. As well

as treating more people, the teams have also seen a larger number of people accept Christ. The teams have gone to familiar sites as well as some new communities. They have been welcomed with open arms by Dominicans. One team participated in a new event this year; a Women's Health Day that was a joint project between Dominican, Haitian and American organizations.

Donate Now

SRM has recently upgraded our ability to accept gifts by Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) or by credit card. Our newest website feature allows you more options and more control over your giving. Whether it is a one time gift, a trip payment or a recurring sponsorship payment, you can manage your gift from the comfort of your computer by clicking on the "Donate Now" button near the bottom of our home page. Or you can call us and we will help you set up your electronic giving account.

From the Heart

We want to share some more stories of how God is at work in the Dominican Republic.

As you may recall from previous issues of this newsletter, we told you about a family with 4 boys that have muscular dystrophy. Every time we visit the family there is someone new who comes along.

In December, Raul Rodriguez helped take a wheel chair down for the boys. While we were there, we discovered that the family did not have enough food. We made sure that they received an adequate supply and even threw in large bag of candy for the kids for Christmas.



The next trip was with the Highland team in January. There was a physical therapist along with the team. The therapist and a nurse spent an evening visiting the boys, assessing their needs and teaching them some therapy exercises. After that, the team put together some supplies and equipment for the boys. On the next trip we were able to deliver those items and some medicine.

Our most recent trip to visit the boys was with a group from Northwest Ohio that included a dermatologist. The timing could not have been better. Several of the boys had developed some open sores. A physician with the team recognized the problem from a recent medical article she

had read. And the team had brought extra medicine that they were able to provide to resolve the problem.

All of this was not just a coincidence. God was at work. Prior to the December visit with the family, we had a conversation with the pastor of the church that had rebuilt their house. We knew the family's physical needs, but where were they at spiritually? We found out that the children and their mother had all accepted Christ and attended a church near their home. But what about the father? Well, he occasionally attended church, but he had not accepted Christ into his heart. We

needed to discuss that with him that day. The pastor went along as we delivered the items we brought. The conversation with the father led to the question "if you die today, do you know where you would go?" We then shared

that it was because of God's love for us that we were sharing God's love with his family. Right there in the middle of their living room, the father asked Jesus into his heart (with his entire family watching). It was a time of rejoicing. The boys would see their father in heaven. And the father knew that he would see his boys and their new bodies when they went to heaven.

This is just one of the many great stories of God at work in the Dominican Republic. Recently another six couples were married in a church ceremony in El Peñon as a result of their new commitment to Christ. This year's teams have reported that many people have accepted Christ as a result of their efforts. God is at work.

2009 Dominican Republic Trip Calendar

- Jun 5-15 Northwoods Community Church Youth, Peoria, IL
- Jun 20-Jul 4 Brookside Community Church Youth, Ft. Wayne, IN
- Jul 11-19 The Ascent, Golden, CO
- Jul 18-22 Crossroads Evangelical Church Youth, Wauseon, OH
- Jul 18-26 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
- Aug 1-8 Kyle Stinehart Team, Toledo, OH
- Aug 1-8 Mission Solutions, Croton, OH
- Oct 3-10 First Baptist Church, Sylacauga, AL
- Oct 10-18 Northwoods Community Church, Peoria, IL
- Oct 31-Nov 7 Brookside Community Church, Ft. Wayne, IN
- Nov 7-14 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 bittersweet memory from the December trip was that this was Raul Rodriguez's last trip to the DR. He went to be with the Lord a short time after returning home. We are certain he was greeted in heaven by those he had helped while he was living. Raul was one of the hardest working people we have had the privilege to work with. We are grateful for his years of volunteer service to the Dominican people.

We are grateful for your ongoing support and prayers for our ministry.

We appreciate your gifts for our occasional special projects. We have another special project needing help. That is sending a shipping container full of donated medical and school equipment and supplies to the DR. We need approximately \$5,000 for this shipment. Please designate gifts for "Shipping Container".

In Loving Memory....

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|-----------------------|------------------|
| Jane Nelson | Warren Kingsbury |
| Richard Meier | Frieda Rupp |
| Clarisa Short | Raul Rodriguez |
| Maj. Daniel W. Willis | Cary Martin |

In honor....

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Cile Williamson, MD | Dorothy Meier |
| Ed Meier | Sandy Meier |
| Carol Meier | The Dooley Family |
| The Stevens Family | Ruth Zimmerman |
| Dr. Mike and Susan Jones | |

Gifts to Solid Rock Missions are tax-deductible.

