



Monthly Update

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Outreach to the Dominican Republic

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Mission Statement

To develop a model in Montellano where we feed, educate, and equip the citizens spiritually and practically, with the skills needed to prosper in every area of life. Led by the Holy Spirit, we will then reproduce this prototype throughout the Island nation, "One Village at a time".

A Special Note

It's that time of year again, when school bells welcome back students from their summer vacations and the inevitable question arises "what did you do last summer?" So, here is my version of "what I did last summer" and some other testimonies about our amazing trip July 2011 to our mission in the Dominican Republic.

Last April I was asked to assist with an upcoming youth mission trip (a combined trip with youth from MetroWest Worship Center's Activate and from LifeSong's Four 12 youth groups) that would take place in July. Well, my natural response was, "are you kidding me, me with 19 teenagers, this is a joke right"? For the record I had only one child and let's just say that my house was not the one chosen as the fun place to hang. However, after much prayer and some prodding from the Lord my spiritual response had to be yes as I felt the Lord really wanted to stretch me and I do mean stretch me! And after all, this wasn't about me! I also knew two seasoned and fabulous Pastor's, Pastor David Payne (Pastor LifeSong Church) and Pastor Phil Rainbow (youth Pastor, LifeSong) were leading this trip, I wasn't sure how the two groups would meld, or if the younger members would be able to handle such a trip. We had several weeks of preparation, and as the two youth groups met and practiced, I watched something amazing happen. These two groups began to form a strong bond and as I watched them practice their testimonies, learn several skits and songs in Spanish, and worship the Lord with all their hearts, I understood why God brought me on this trip. These kids just blew me away.

I have been on several trips to our mission and I felt a special blessing on this one. I witnessed these young people commit themselves to serving our mighty God and the people of the Dominican Republic. They ministered at our school and had a blast doing the Bible Vacation Bash teachings, crafts and sports (over 100 youth attended each day). They did street ministry, songs and skits in the communities of Montellano, Arroyo de Leche (located in the mountains) and in the Haitian village near Montellano. As a result, many children and adults gave their hearts and confessed Jesus as their Lord and Savior. I believe through their obedience, hard work, love and dedication they changed and impacted many lives, including their own!

One special memory I have is one night we went to the rooftop of the Mission to worship and talk about the day; well let me tell you, God showed up! I was so blessed by what took place. Many opened their hearts and were transparent with one another, sharing much. There was lots of laughter and tears. They comforted and supported one another with such maturity and words of wisdom flowed out from them right down to the youngest of them all...

The bond formed was now solidified. The two groups continue to meet and I am so thankful to see that the next generation of leaders has such promise and I have so much hope for their and our future. I love them all.

As I reflect on what I did last summer, this was the highlight for sure and I am so thankful that I know that the school bell welcomes our students to the MetroWest School in Montel-

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lano. I truly believe that when they tell their stories about what they did last summer they will be chock full of memories of the youth mission trip last July and what a blessing this youth team was to them.

Thank you all for your continued support and if you are reading this and do not currently support the mission, please visit our website to learn how you can be a blessing to our mission. (WWW.MWCMDR.ORG)

Deb Cousins
Executive Director MWCM

Brooke Massicotte's Testimony:

When we arrived, the moonlit night offered peace to our undeciding hearts. We were unsure. Was this what it had claimed to be? Was the Dominican Republic really a place to change ALL of our souls? I didn't quite believe that it would yet, but my-O-my! Were we in for a serious reality check!

The first day, we went to the Cristiano Iglesia (Christian Church) and the first time a child came up to me I was a little anxious to just pour my heart out the first second. But I do regret that now. If I made this much of a difference after only completely pouring out my love for half of a week, then just imagine the bigger difference I could have made if I loved that innocent, love seeking little girl from the start.

When I first started to actually believe in God's miraculous change was when a young woman on our mission's team severely injured her ankle. 1 day later, after no healing to her ankle, my missions team prayed all together for her and they went all out. They meant it. They knew that God would heal her ankle with the snap of his finger. I, however, was unsure. So I just tried to tell myself it would work, it would work! They ended and the day went on.

We step out of the van and she is running down the stairs to greet us, and starts to jump up and down like a little kid on Christmas! I started to cry because I knew it was God's hand guiding her, and I wanted that love.

For anyone who doesn't believe all the way that the lord God cannot create miracles like I witnessed; please believe it and I'm not just saying this. I felt God's presence and it felt better than ever! Gloria A Dios!!

Kelsie Payne's Testimony:

You always know when you have experienced the most life changing things.

You always know the time when you become more open to people.

You always know just when to share the love to kids in need.

Well you know what; I experienced it all at once. Going to the Dominican Republic was the best thing that has ever happened to me. Getting to meet all kinds of new people and getting to bond with the people surrounding me was such a joy. Knowing that now while we are back at home we can share the love that we shared down in the Dominican to everyone here puts a warm feeling in my heart. Now being back at home makes me miss the DR incredibly. Before going on the trip I had struggles with how I was going to deal with the trip. I had questions like is this the right thing for me? Am I ready for this big of an impact? But going on the trip just proves not to question yourself with these things. Push yourself to do so much more in life! Now that I am back from the DR I am so thankful that I got that amazing experience. The Dominican taught me so much more in life and not to be afraid to be yourself and let God lead the way.

I feel so much more confident in myself and my walk with God that in my times of doubt I just look to him and he will take me down the right path.

So, I just want to say I have been changed forever going on this trip and will never be the same. I love all you guys that went to the DR♥ all of you have helped me in so many ways you have no idea.



Brooke



Kelsie