
The Sidler Family

Serving Christ in the Dominican Republic



Dear Pastor and Church family:

December 20, 2024

We send you warm greetings from the Dominican Republic. Thank you so very much for the kind notes from many of you letting me know that you are praying for me with my RCVS, a disease where the blood vessels in my brain shrink, and the blood does not circulate properly. This causes terrible thunder-clap headaches that last from 5-16 hours. Every moment of the headache, there is a chance that I will have a stroke, a brain aneurysm, a brain hemorrhage, or bleeding on the brain. The disease usually runs its course in around 3 months, but I have had these headaches off and on for over 2 years. Although I feel much better, my wife and I are concerned, because there is a 10% chance that I can have a reoccurrence of the disease when I get back on an airplane to go back to the DR next month. I have been checking on the possibility of going back on a ship instead of a plane, but have not found an option yet.

In my absence last month, in the Dominican Republic, our church had an ordination counsel that I was not able to attend because of not being allowed to travel yet. Three of our young men were ordained for the gospel ministry – Brother Francisco, Brother Ronald, and Brother Santos. We also had a wedding for Samuel and Marion, a couple in our deaf ministry.

Just before travelling to the states I had the privilege of being with Pastor Santos in his new church, the Mount Calvary Baptist Church of Carrizal. We had a wonderful service with 52 present and 26 professions of faith in Christ. My assistant pastor, Bro. Leonardo was there with me, and he saw a young man named “Tulile” walking by as he was leading the singing. Leonardo stopped the song for a moment and hollered, “Hey come sit down & and hear the preacher preach.” The young man continued to walk by Leonardo hollered again, “Hey I said come sit down to hear the preacher preach.” He stopped, turned around, and came to the service. I approached him and thanked him for coming, told him I realized he was walking home from working in the fields (as he works in agriculture), and that of course it was voluntary for him to be there. Tulile responded that he wanted to be there and said, “Thank you”. Praise the Lord, after the preaching he got saved! He has been in the services each week, and really wants the church to have more services. We think the Lord for putting a church in this needy community. They are averaging between 25-40 and have had as many as around 50. The Lord is giving us

people saved each week, and there is a good group of new converts that are ready to get baptized!

Like you probably are, we are in the middle of some special Christmas activities like a special Christmas Cantata, a Christmas Banquet, a Christmas Play, special Christmas and New Year's services, and Three Kings Day for the kids on the Sunday, January 5th. After the holiday season, we are praying for a good group to sign up for classes in our Bible College again for the January through May Semester.

May the Lord pour His richest blessings upon you, your family, and your church during this special time of the year. Thank you so very much for your faithful prayer and financial support as we serve the Lord planting churches in the Dominican Republic. Please pray that the Lord would have mercy in regards to my health with this Reversible Cerebral Vasoconstriction Syndrome. We certainly don't want for me to have a stroke or any of the other things that could happen. God bless you my friends!

*Your friends and servants in the Dominican Republic,
Missionaries Steve and Nohemy Sidler*

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