



Greetings from Connie

January/2016

Iglesia Evangélica Dominicana
Apartado 42 Barahona, Dominican Republic

‘Celebrate Jesus Celebration’

<http://www.flumc.org/newsdetail/celebrate-jesus-model-goes-international-3765385> You can read more about our Celebrate Jesus Celebration by clicking on the link above. This was written by Susan Green, Managing Editor of the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Beach Baptisms

It was a wonderful day as we baptized 10 people at the beach in December. Two became full members the next day in our service and the others are provisional members until they reach 18 years of age as is the regulation here.



The Zika Virus

As you know, we are now under the threat of a new mosquito born virus called Zika. It is recommended here that no one become pregnant for the next two years. However, we have two of our young ladies already pregnant! Please pray that their babies will be protected from this virus that can affect the fetuses. A time that should be full of excitement will now be a time of concern and lots of prayer!

New Bibles

Thank you to New Covenant UMC for the new Bibles. We received Bibles for our youth and also a dozen large print Bibles. These two men accepted Jesus during our Celebrate Jesus campaign, were baptized and received their first Bible. We were all so excited for them and they are very happy with their new Bibles. They are learning for the first time the joy of reading for themselves God’s Word.



January Retreat

Although we had a small turnout due to so many illnesses, we enjoyed a ‘day apart’ on a high place overlooking the ocean. We studied how to have the faith to rejoice in the Lord even though everything around us seems to be going wrong. We discussed the lives of Habakkuk, Joseph and Jesus and learned from them how to have the faith to accept the hard times knowing that God is at work even though we don’t understand.



Christmas Meal for those in Need

As is our custom, we prepared a meal for 40 families who are in difficult times in our village. It is a great time of fellowship as we work together to prepare the meals and then deliver them.



Special Anniversary Visitors

We were blessed in a special way this year as we celebrated our Church's anniversary. Cathy and Perferido Gonzales were here with us all the way from Great Britain. Perferido and Cathy were two of our 'founding fathers' our new little congregation in 2008. Perferido was a teacher at the COPA school and Cathy was the education advisor. They were so pleased to see how we had grown from our beginnings in the ambulance garage to our new sanctuary and new members.



2008



2015

I thank God for each of you for helping and praying for our ministry here in the Dominican Republic.

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