

The Wesson Family

SERVING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

January/February 2021

Dear Praying Friends:

“But I will hope continually,
and will yet praise thee more and more.”
Psalm 71:14

I praise the Lord once again for His blessings as we have continued to hope, continued to pray, and continued to labor in spite of the limitations placed upon us because of the pandemic.

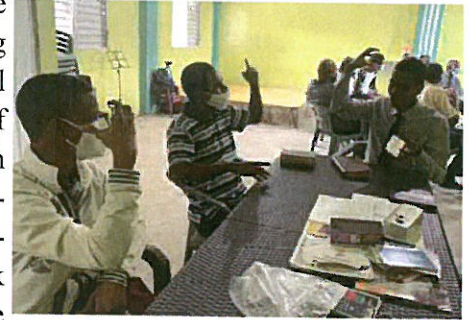
The Dominican government tightened our curfew and made our restrictions even greater toward the end of last year. They have relaxed slightly in the past few weeks, and we hope that as time goes by we will have even more freedom to hold services without having to be so strict to stay within the allotted time.

Although “man” may place regulations, God is not hindered to bless His work by the limitations placed upon us by the government. We have worked hard through the long months of quarantine to maintain a close relationship with our deaf and keep our group together.

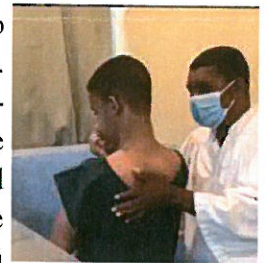


With curfew being lifted enough for us to go back to having our deaf service on Sunday afternoons, it is a DELIGHT to see nearly ALL of them come back!! Not only that, but in the last few weeks, we have had three first time visitors who are now coming on a regular basis! Our hearts are blessed beyond measure to see their faithfulness to the deaf service on Sunday nights, as well as to see some of them attending all three weekly church services!

Just this month, we have begun having deaf Sunday School class and more deaf are coming each week. What a blessing to see God answer prayer as I ask Him to put a desire for “Him” in their hearts.



One great blessing this month was to see David follow the Lord in baptism. He will be turning 16 years old tomorrow and has a tender heart to the Lord. I’m so thankful for him and these other wonderful young people who are growing in their walk with the Lord.



Stephen has been having great results as he visits the children in his class on Thursday nights before the service. Libenson and Wilbi are two boys that he personally led to Christ and who followed the Lord in believer’s baptism.



Our hearts are filled with gratitude for your faithful financial support of our family that enables us to continue serving and ministering to these “dear ones” that we love so much.

We greatly appreciate the special love offerings that you sent during December. Thank you for your kindness to our family during the Christmas season.

We pray for you regularly and trust that the Lord will bless you and your labors for Him!

For Jesus’ sake,

Mrs. Joy, Kimberly, Stephen, Ashlyn, & Katlyn Wesson



Deaf Ministry  /TheWessons
Music Ministry
Soulwinning/Discipleship

**Missionaries to the
Dominican Republic
Since 2000**

Dear Praying Friends:

August 2022

I am thrilled to share that we have found a 15-passenger van that will meet our need for the deaf ministry! We have purchased it and are working on the paperwork to be able to ship it to the Dominican Republic.

Our greatest need right now is for funds to help with costs of shipping and customs fees to bring it into the country.

We are so appreciative to the many churches and individuals who have already given for the purchase of this vehicle. We are currently lacking thousands of dollars to get it shipped in. We know that God has led us this far and that He will provide what we need.

If you would like to help with this need, you may contact me directly at joy@wessons.net, or you may send your gift to Baptist International Missions, account #878, marked "Wesson family –deaf route." Thank you for your continued prayers as we work on getting it down here.

Since my last update, we returned to the Dominican Republic in July and "hit the ground running." We went right into our Vacation Bible School followed by our annual church camp.

I would like thank all of you who sponsored our deaf to go to camp this year. Once again, God used this time, to "grow" them spiritually. The opportunity to spend hours with them

in this setting, and teaching them God's Word has yielded precious fruit! Two of our deaf young men preached at camp this year through an interpreter. The deaf also did a beautiful drama on "The Prodigal Son."

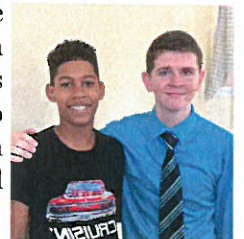
I have made a short, informal, video to share the "highlights" of our summer activities. It has been uploaded to YouTube and you may access it here using this link, or this title.

https://youtu.be/S1fpY3_WFhQ

Wesson Family Summer Update 2022

We trust this video will be an encouragement to you as you see what God is doing here and the lives that are being changed because of the Gospel of Christ and because of your faithful financial support.

Some of our greatest blessings are the souls we have seen saved. Joshua is a young man that Stephen met on his "walk-in" bus route." He led Joshua to Christ and invited him to attend church camp. Joshua has now been baptized and is attending church every service.



Kimberly will be heading back to the US soon for her senior year of Bible college. It has been wonderful to have her home! She has spent her summer investing in the lives of the Dominican people, serving in the area of music, deaf ministry, and in mentoring the young ladies. I'm thankful for her strength, dedication and testimony for the Lord.

We thank the Lord for each of you and your love and investment in our labors here for Christ. May the Lord bless you!

For Jesus' Sake,

Mrs. Joy Wesson and family



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The Wesson Family

SERVING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



December 2021

Dear Praying Friends:

It is with a thankful heart that we share with you what the Lord is doing in our family and ministry as we close out this year 2021 in the Dominican Republic.



We have seen the Lord work in a mighty way as our deaf have become actively involved in bringing other deaf to church as a result of camp this last summer. Sunday after Sunday they have brought first time visitors. It has been a joy to personally lead these pre-

precious souls to Christ. We have a whole new group of faithful young deaf adults. Victor, Abel, Xaviar, are some of those that have been saved while we continue to pray for: Carlos, Damian, and Gabriel to accept Christ as their Savior.

Another great blessing I have had was to see two of our deaf young adults, Eva and Marian, follow the Lord in believer's baptism.

On Thursday evenings, I work with the deaf on their Bible reading. It is hard for them to understand the conjugations of the verbs.

Reading, in general, is very frustrating for them. I challenged them to read the Gospel of John before the end of the year. David, Marian, and Eva all completed this assignment. This is the first book of the Bible they have ever read. We are beginning the year 2022 challenging our deaf department to read the book of Proverbs. It is a joy to help these "babies in Christ" to grow in the Lord.



We are thankful to have Kimberly back on the "team" here for a few weeks as she is home from Bible college on Christmas break. She did a great job teaching the deaf this morning emphasizing the Christmas story and the gifts the wise men gave to Jesus. She challenged them that they too have talents and their "time" that they can give to Christ.

was a special moment for me at church this morning as I realized that each of my children were serving in different areas of the ministry.

As I left the deaf class and walked into the Sunday School room beside ours, Ashlyn was standing before the children (with fear and trembling) teaching the Bible lesson in Spanish for her first time. —She did a great job!



Stephen was in the next room teaching his Sunday School class, and Katlyn was taking care of the babies in the nursery.

One of my greatest blessings is seeing our children love serving on the mission field as Josh and I have always loved it. I praise

the Lord for allowing us to continue serving here together and for His faithfulness to care for us and encourage us through this past year.

Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

Deut. 36:1



Many of you have responded letting us know you are praying with us about our need for a van. **Thank you for your prayers and for those of you have given very generous offerings to help us with this need.** Our dealer has informed me that he plans to travel to the US the beginning of January to buy the van. Please pray that the Lord will help him to find just the right one that we need.

We don't take lightly the privilege and responsibility that we have to represent you in the Dominican Republic. Thank you for your faithfulness to support our family and the Lord's work here.

May you have a blessed New Year!

Mrs. Joy, Kimberly, Stephen, Ashlyn, and Katlyn Wesson



Dear Praying Friends:

My heart is filled with gratitude and appreciation to those of you who supported us prayerfully or financially making it possible for our deaf to attend camp this year. We had an amazing week!

I took advantage of the free time in the afternoons to talk to them individually confirming their salvation experience. I got to lead Greisi, a middle-aged deaf lady, to Christ as well as counsel several of them regarding personal steps of Christian growth in their lives.

The Lord used our camp speaker to bring messages that our deaf needed as they are making spiritual decisions. Some of them are preparing to follow the Lord in baptism, and all of them returned from camp with a burden to reach other deaf people for Christ. It is exciting to see them putting their decisions into action writing down names of their deaf friends for us to find and visit.



One of the highlights of camp was a drama beautifully done by our deaf department. The message of the drama was a blessing to all who were present reminding us of Acts 4:12—that there are many “religions” in the world, but that our salvation is in JESUS CHRIST!

Another highlight was to have one of our own deaf teenagers preach his first sermon the week of camp. David is 15 years old and believes the Lord has called him to preach. He did a great job preaching on John 3:16.



A few weeks ago, Stephen, Ashlyn, and Katlyn had the opportunity to help BIMI missionaries Jeffri and Pamela Polanco do a Bible School in their church in the little town of Nagua located on the north shore of the Dominican Republic. I was unable to make that trip, but my heart was blessed to hear the reports and see my children serving the Lord in this capacity.



It was six years ago this August that Josh went to be with the Lord while doing this same thing in the country's interior. What a blessing it is for us to be able to continue on sowing the seed of the Word of God in the hearts of these Dominican children and see them come to Christ!



May I ask for your prayers regarding a need that we have. We've been praying about and saving up to replace the van that I use weekly to bring both deaf and hearing to church as well as for deaf visitation. It is once again in the shop needing repairs, and I am borrowing a van from another missionary family. We are asking the Lord to provide for us to bring in a 12 or 15-passenger van from the US as it is much more cost effective than finding one here. We would appreciate your prayers for God's provision for this need.

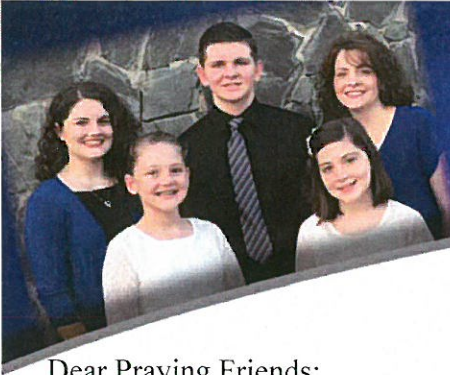
Thank you for partnering with us to see souls saved in the Dominican Republic. We thank the Lord for you!

Mrs. Joy Wesson and family

The Wesson Family

SERVING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

May/June 2021



Dear Praying Friends:

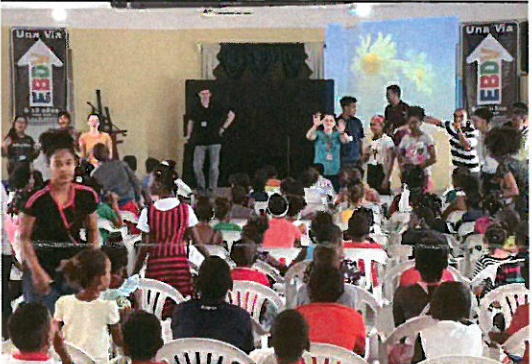
I thank my God upon every remembrance of you

Phil. 1:3

We appreciate your love and prayers for our family and ministry in the Dominican Republic. In spite of a continued curfew in the country, we are excited to resume some of our normal annual events.

Missions Conference was held the first part of May. What a blessing it was to have our deaf attend the conference for the first time. It was a joy to take them aside and using a map, explain world-wide missions and the Great Commission according to Matthew 28:18-20. They have learned about faith promise giving and see the need to preach the Gospel not only in our country but around the world.

Another big highlight in May was our Vacation Bible School. After weeks of careful preparation and training, we had an enthusiastic team of workers prepared and excited for a great Bible School. The Lord blessed all of



the hard work and gave us a great group of children with many accepting Christ as their Savior during these classes.



We finished out the month of May with an even greater blessing! Stephen and I have been praying for my children's dentist, Dr. Ana Fernandez, to accept Christ as her Savior. She is a precious Catholic lady that my children love dearly.

We have witnessed to her over the years, and she has watched my children as they lost their dad, yet have not lost their joy and their faith in God. The Lord has used these things to open her heart to Him. What a great blessing it was to lead her to accept Christ as her Savior in a little coffee shop in Santo Domingo. We ask for your prayers for her and her family as she is burdened for her husband and her three sons to accept the Lord as their Savior as well.

Our youth camp is coming up the third week of August. Some of our deaf will be attending for the first time. They are thrilled about this exciting week, and we are trusting the Lord to help them grow in their faith and their walk with God as a result of this effort.

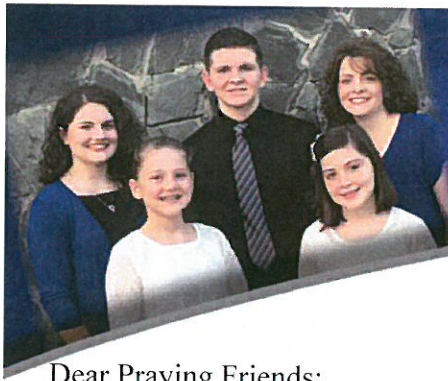


The cost of camp per person is around \$50 US. In the past, some of you have sponsored our deaf children and teens to attend camp. If you would be interested in sponsoring one of them, you can email me at joy@wessons.net for more information, or you can send your love gift directly to BIMI and mark it as "deaf camp DR" ACCOUNT #878.

We have been here in the US for a few weeks taking care of medical check-ups and reporting to some of our supporting churches. We have been encouraged to see some of our long-time supporters—some that have been supporting us for 25 years! We thank the Lord for all of you! Please remember us in prayer as we fly back to the Dominican July 13. We look forward to being home.

May the Lord's blessings be upon each of you. We love and appreciate you!

Mrs. Joy, Kimberly, Stephen, Ashlyn, and Katlyn Wesson



The Wesson Family

SERVING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

November 3 2020

Dear Praying Friends:

As we begin the month of November and look forward to the celebration of Thanksgiving, I am reminded of these excerpts from this passage in Psalms 124:

*If it had not been the Lord who was on our side...
... Then the waters had overwhelmed us....
Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.*

I am thankful that we **do** have our loving Father on our side. Because of that, we aren't overwhelmed with the sorrows and burdens of life, but rather we are helped through His mercies that are new everyday!



I am writing this letter from Louisiana where I have been reporting to some of our supporting churches. My plan was to come in for a little over four weeks, but that changed quickly with the arrival of two devastating hurricanes that hit southwest Louisiana one after the other. My mother's home and property were damaged by both of the storms as well as most of our supporting churches in this area.

It is sad to see what everyone has been going through but also has been a real blessing to see God's people meeting together even in open-air meetings because their auditoriums are damaged. We have certainly enjoyed being in these churches again and sharing what God has been doing in the Dominican Republic as well as sharing with them in special music.



I've been assisting my mother with some of her repairs as we are finishing up our meetings and business in the US. Also, during this time, I have been able to order some tracts and Bibles for our deaf ministry. *We certainly appreciate the generosity and kindness of the individual who made this possible.*



As we prepare to return to the field, we rejoice to see how the Lord has blessed in our absence. The workers and I have been communicating and working together to try and get the deaf back to church again after the many interruptions to church attendance because of COVID-19.

Modern technology has made it very easy for me to video-call the deaf and for them to call me whenever they want to talk. The growth and faithfulness of this group makes me look forward even more to getting home to continue this beautiful ministry with these, my "treasures"!!



We covet your prayers for our family as we prepare to leave soon and especially for Stephen as he is recovering from surgery. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for enabling us to serve as your missionaries in the Dominican Republic.

May you have a blessed Thanksgiving!

Mrs. Joy Wesson and family

The Wesson Family

SERVING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

January 2020

Dear Praying Friends:

As we begin a new year of service in the Dominican Republic I am reminded that this is a special year as it marks 20 years since we left home and family to bring the Gospel to the Dominican people.

Though not without its hardships, it *has* been and *continues* to be a wonderful, fulfilling life as we give our all for the salvation of souls and the spiritual growth of those around us.

As I am memorizing the book of Philippians in my devotional time this year, my mind and heart is drawn to Phil.1:12 & 18b.

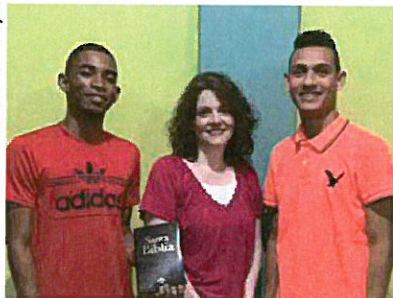
But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel;... I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice.

What reality these verses are in our lives! As time goes by, we rejoice more and more that God CAN and DOES work all things together for good.

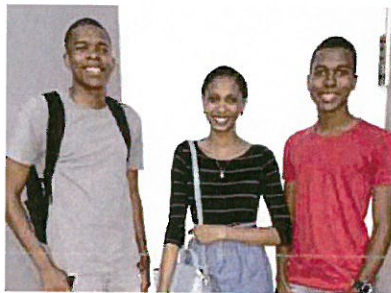


We rejoice in what God is doing in the deaf ministry. In our last prayer letter, we requested prayer for our new deaf visitors to understand the Gospel and be saved. The Lord is answering our prayers. Pictured here with me are: Elianny (10 years old), Dorangi (19 years old), and Eva (20 years old). I had the sweet opportunity to lead these precious girls to the Lord right before Christmas.

Just last night at church, Wascar, a 21-year-old deaf young man, (the one in the orange shirt) gave his heart to Christ. Samuel, the young man in the red shirt, is around 20 years old. I led him to the Lord in December. They were thrilled last night to receive their very own Bibles.



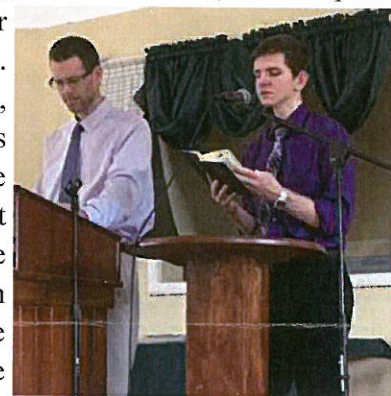
We are teaching them the signs for the books of the Bible and then doing "Sword Drills." This is their favorite part of the program; they have just learned that the Bible has an index in the front and are learning to use it to find the references as we call them out.



All the work that is done with the deaf could not be accomplished without the help of faithful deaf workers. Pictured here are: Ronald, Edwin, and Chantal. They are Bible institute students of Brother

Steve Sidler, our pastor, and are dedicated to the deaf ministry. The Lord has opened a door for them to get formal training in sign language. It is a joy and privilege to work with them from week to week and see them progress in their skills and love for the deaf.

I say often that one of my favorite things about being a missionary is serving together as a family. It is a joy to see Stephen's love and initiative in our missionary endeavors. He has had multiple opportunities lately to interpret from English to Spanish for the main church services. He is doing a wonderful job, and I thank the Lord for His willingness to serve. We are praying with him about the Lord's will for his future and are enjoying having him continue on with us until the Lord leads him on to the next chapter of his life.



We praise the Lord for the six precious deaf that have trusted Christ as their Savior over the past few weeks. We ask you to pray for us as we teach them about believer's baptism that they will understand and take this next step of obedience to Christ. Thank you for laboring with us for souls!

Mrs. Joy, Kimberly, Stephen, Ashlyn, and Katlyn Wesson

The Wesson Family

SERVING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

October 2019

Dear Praying Friends:

*Faithful is he that calleth you,
who also will do it. 1 Thess. 5:24*

As we approach this Thanksgiving season and reflect on the many things for which we are thankful, I am reminded once again of God's goodness and His faithfulness in our lives! Through these recent years of serving as a single mother/missionary on the mission field, I have clung to the verse in Psalm 121:2 "...my help cometh from the Lord."

He has made it possible to press on and continue on in the work by sending me special people to help me in the ministry and also "keep my head above water" amid the adversities of daily life in a third world country. One of these "adversities," you might call it, is the severe water shortage we have had this year in Santo Domingo. We have been in a drought, so the city has had to ration our water. That being said, there is not enough water to reach my house where I live. Since February, we have had to order truckloads of water about every five days just to have enough water to run the household. After much prayer and research, we decided to dig a well. As of yesterday, we now have an endless supply of running water for our home and enough water to share with our neighbors. Praise the Lord for that!

This month marks two years that the Lord brought our family to work with the Sidler family in Iglesia Bautista Monte Calvario. It is a joy to serve in the music ministry, work with the teen girls, and most excitedly of all establish a deaf ministry. As we have made progress in training our deaf leaders and have an established group of faithful deaf, my heart has been heavy and burdened to seek the Lord to open doors for us to find more deaf people in our area.

I sought the Lord in prayer for many weeks and even months, praying for wisdom and guidance of how to find them and how to reach them, claiming James 5:16

"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

I praise the Lord for hearing and answering our prayers! Just in the last several weeks, we have had eight deaf visitors. This past Sunday night we had a total of **26** deaf in attendance! —the most we have ever had.



Psalm 107:31 "Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!"—We praise the Lord for His goodness to us!

One of these new deaf is a 13-year-old deaf boy named David. Since the first time he visited, he has not missed a service! I had the wonderful privilege of leading him to Christ on his front porch two weeks ago. I'm looking for the Lord to do great things in his life.



Others of these new deaf are a set of twin girls, age 20, named Ana and Eve. (They are the ones standing on each side of me.) They are precious! We are praying for them that they will understand their need to be saved and give their hearts to the Lord.



As I close, I would like to thank the members of Grace Baptist Spanish Church of Sulphur, LA, for the beautifully illustrated soul winning booklets (pictured above) you have provided for us. We have seen 18 precious souls come to Christ through using this material you have sent. Thank you for your love and sacrifice on our behalf.

To all who read our letters, pray for our family, or support us financially, THANK YOU for making it possible for us to continue to serve here in this wonderful place we call "home." May the Lord bless you!

Mrs. Joy, Kimberly, Stephen, Ashlyn and Katlyn Wesson

THE Wessons

SERVING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



August 2019

Dear Praying Friends:

And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee:
for my strength is made perfect in weakness.

Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities,
that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches,
in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake:
for when I am weak, then am I strong.
II Cor. 12:9, 10

This month as we observe the 4th anniversary of Josh going home to be with the Lord, I am thankful for the promises of Scripture and for Christ's strength that is made perfect in our weaknesses. Nothing can prepare us for the unexpected trials and pain in our lives, but one thing we CAN count on, is God's all-sufficient grace at the very moment we need it. His compassions fail not...they are new every morning. GREAT is thy faithfulness.



May I begin this letter by expressing my deep appreciation to the individuals and churches who sponsored our deaf young people to go to camp. What a blessing it was to me personally to take deaf campers for the first time. We thank the Lord for sending us Brother Justin Waters from my home church to teach our deaf during the morning sessions. The "hearing" young people that we have trained in sign language over the past several years were

a huge help in translating all the services. Our deaf had a wonderful time and received some wonderful messages. They are excited about going back next year.



We praise the Lord for the souls that we have seen come to Christ over the summer months. Stephen had the opportunity to work in Vacation Bible School at the church that his dad started here in the capital. He led the music and counselled the children that



came forward for salvation. We rejoice with him for the eight precious souls that he led to Christ that week.

Doña Telma is a sweet older Dominican lady that I met on deaf visitation several weeks ago. I had the privilege of leading her to Christ on her front porch.

The most precious of all was leading an American young lady to the Lord that had come down to visit on a missions trip. She came with her church group but she was unsaved. What a blessing it was to see her bow her head and accept Christ.

It has been such a rewarding experience to serve the Lord as a family on the mission field. It has been a joy to teach my children and watch them blossom and grow into missionaries themselves. Kimberly has been my right-hand in deaf ministry, playing the piano, and teaching SS. It is with joy and sadness that we will soon tell her goodbye as she will be attending Bible College in the States. We ask for your prayers for her (and for her mother too) as she makes the adjustment to living in a "foreign" country.

Once again, we thank you for your love and faithfulness to pray for and support our family as we labor in the harvest field of the Dominican Republic.

Mrs. Joy, Kimberly,
Stephen, Ashlyn, and
Katlyn Wesson



But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel;... and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice. Philippians 1:12;18b



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The Wesson Family

SERVING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

April 2019

Dear Praying Friends:

He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed,
shall doubtless come again with rejoicing,
bringing his sheaves with him. Psalm 126:6

We thank the Lord for the fruit that He gives as we strive to reach people with the Gospel. As we go out on soul-winning and visit in the homes of our deaf people, the Lord has given us opportunities to get to know their families, friends, and neighbors. One of our deaf families has a lot of relatives! Week by week we are getting more and more of their extended family to come to church. Chantal is one of their cousins; she accepted Christ on their front porch with me several weeks ago. In another home, I led to Christ an aunt of one of our teen deaf girls.

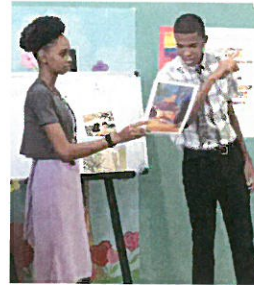


I am thoroughly enjoying working with our deaf children. As I have mentioned in previous letters, up until now, I had only worked with deaf adults. What a sweet little mission field these girls are: Leoani is a handful—but she needs lot of love....She is a “biter” but Edwin (the deaf worker in the picture) comes out pretty good as long as he wears long-sleeves! He is our designated worker to keep her under control.



Gabriela, is so special! She beams with delight as she learns new signs each week. She loves for me to hold her!

When we began to establish this deaf ministry at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, in addition to bringing in the deaf, we began teaching sign language and praying for qualified volunteers to serve in the deaf department who had a heart for this ministry



At this time, we now have 3 Bible Institute students who are training under Pastor Sidler, that are actively working in our deaf ministry. Ronald is one of these students who is studying to be a pastor. I am meeting with him each week and teaching him how to teach Bible stories in sign language. He has a heart for the deaf and is learning quickly. He will be a wonderful deaf pastor and leader of this ministry if the Lord so leads.



With a little help, Ashlyn and Katlyn have recently started a children's choir. Through the years, I have enjoyed using this tool to teach little children about Jesus and hide God's Word in their hearts through the songs we teach them. The children are so excited and have already sung their first special in church—they did a beautiful job!



But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 19:14

What a joy to reach children for Christ—both hearing and deaf! Thank you for investing in our ministry as we invest in the lives of these children and many other people that we minister to from day to day. May the Lord bless you!

Mrs. Joy, Kimberly, Stephen, Ashlyn, and Katlyn Wesson

The Wesson Family

SERVING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

December 2018

Dear Praying Friends:

December 10, I celebrated my 45th birthday. (Yes, I am telling on myself!) My children made the occasion sweet and memorable. The very best gift I received from them was a totally unexpected one. They recited to me (from memory) the entire chapter of Hebrews 11—“The Faith Chapter.” When the Lord called Josh home suddenly three years ago, we began memorizing it, trusting the Lord to increase our faith in Him and His plan, though hard to understand. As we have walked hand in hand following His leading from day to day, He continues to give comfort and joy in our family and in doing the work He has given us to do here in the Dominican Republic.

As we close out the year 2018, may I share with you the testimonies of some precious souls who have been reached for Christ through the deaf ministry of Mount Calvary Baptist Church in Quita Sueno, Dominican Republic, over the last several weeks and months.



Willie is a 21-year-old “hearing” young man that comes to deaf class with his deaf family. He has accepted the Lord as His Savior, has been baptized, and is faithful to church each week.



His mother, **Yaquelin**, is one of our deaf ladies who has very little communication skills in sign language or otherwise. After many weeks of teaching and explaining the Gospel, she too has accepted Christ as her Saviour.



Coraima is one of our newest deaf converts. She was “hearing” until the age of 9 at which time she came down with a high fever and became deaf. Her mother then gave her to her grandmother. She is a precious young adult and soon-to-be “mother”; it was my privilege to lead her to Christ several weeks ago.

My most recent blessing is to have the help of **Luis and Griselda**, a Dominican deaf couple. I led Griselda to the Lord on Thanksgiving Day 11 years ago. Her husband, Luis, was gloriously saved in my living room two years ago shortly after I returned to the mission field following Josh’s death. He comes from a very rough background and is a “walking miracle” of God’s grace and unconditional love. He has been dramatizing stories from chick tracts for our deaf class each week, and our deaf are loving it. He is studying in the Bible institute and has been influential in bringing new deaf to church.



None of these stories would be possible without your faithful support of our family and ministry. Thank you for helping us prayerfully and financially for the harvest of souls here in the Dominican Republic. May the Lord bless you with a joyful Christmas season.

Mrs. Joy, Kimberly, Stephen, Ashlyn, & Katlyn Wesson

The Wesson Family

SERVING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

September 2018

Dear Praying Friends:

And of some have compassion, making a difference: And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh. Jude 22-23

These verses have been on my heart as we celebrate one year of our new deaf ministry in Quita Sueño. We began last fall with a couple of deaf young ladies and now have a growing and faithful group of ladies, men, teen girls, and children. Many of these have made decisions for Christ, and we are working to teach them the "basics" of Christian living and service to Christ.

It is a new challenge to me to try and teach such "simplistic" salvation and discipliship-type lessons. I pray earnestly each week that the Lord would give me insight and ideas of how to relate God's Word to them in a way that they can understand it and put it in practice in their lives.

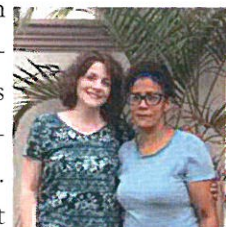
As I have mentioned before, most of these deaf have had very little schooling and are limited in their language abilities. They don't have a good base in sign language and are even more challenged in making sense of a "sentence" in their Spanish language. Their lack of sign language and understanding of words make it very difficult for them to understand the Bible outside of dramatization and use of object lessons and visuals. We ask that you would pray for guidance for me and that the Lord will continue to open their understanding to the things of the Lord.

Pictured below is our deaf group from this past Sunday night's service. We thank the Lord for giving us a new classroom. Brother Sidler divided a large room in half last week and gave our deaf class one of the rooms. We are delighted to have more room to grow!



I have begun training Ashlyn and Katlyn to work with the deaf as well; each week Katlyn is teaching a four-year-old deaf girl her alphabet in sign language as well as basic vocabulary words.

It is a blessing to stay in contact with other deaf that I have taught in previous years. One of these couples is Juan Pablo and Amparo. He has recently been diagnosed with diabetes. His sweet wife, Amparo, walked a great distance and took public transportation to bring some avacados to me from their trees. What a blessing to see them again and recount the Lord's goodness in our lives.



As always we appreciate your faithfulness to pray for and support our family financially as we serve on the mission field of the Dominican Republic.

May the Lord bless you!

Mrs. Joy, Kimberly, Stephen, Ashlyn, and Katlyn Wesson



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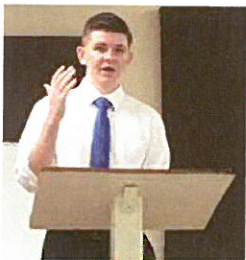
The Wesson Family

SERVING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

July 2018

Dear Praying Friends:

June 12 of this year, marked 18 years ago that Josh and I moved to the Dominican Republic to begin our missions work with Kimberly just a babe in arms. Time has passed so quickly! We congratulate Kimberly on her graduation from high school! She will be returning to the mission field with us where she will continue her Bible institute classes and work among the deaf as she continues to pray about God's Will for her life.



During our visit here in Louisiana, we have been blessed to be a part of the Spanish ministry of Grace Baptist Church where we have ministered on a weekly basis. Stephen has thoroughly enjoyed assisting Bro. Roger Perez by leading the music each Sunday.

As we continue working to establish the new deaf ministry at Iglesia Bautista Monte Calvario (Mount Calvary Baptist Church), we recently had a special service where we



invited a Dominican Deaf Evangelist to speak. Monserattte and Maribel Frau are a deaf couple that the Lord brought across my path many years ago when we first arrived in the Dominican. They had been saved as a result of missions efforts in the



1980's. They taught me the Dominican sign language and have been my closest friends all these years on the field. Monserattte has recently graduated

from Bible college and is now an Evangelist. What a blessing to have him and his wife fill in for me in the Dominican during our brief furlough.



As we prepare to return to the Dominican on July 17, we are sending out new prayer cards to our supporting churches. If you do not receive any and would like some, please contact me at joy@wessons.net and I will be glad to have some sent to you.

Also, we have a new updated video presentation on YouTube that you may watch and share in a service if you so desire. You may watch it at the following link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MKqSRSC_IOM

We thank the Lord for each one of you and the part you have in souls being saved and lives changed on the mission field. Thank you for your prayers for our family as we return home and continue our labors for Christ in the Dominican Republic.

For Jesus' Sake,

Mrs. Joy Wesson, Kimberly, Stephen, Ashlyn, and Katlyn

The Wesson Family

SERVING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

April 2018

Dear Praying Friends:

As I attempt to share with you the blessings of the ministry over these past few weeks, I also wish to share the great trepidation that I feel as I minister to these wonderful deaf ladies and teen girls in Quita Sueno. It surprises me that after nearly 18 years of serving here, it is as if I am starting over as a new missionary, learning how to love and minister to a people that I don't understand and feel so far removed



from. At times I feel so inadequate to truly be able to relate to them the way of salvation and what it means to live and be Christ-like.

My consolation is found in the following passage:

And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 2 Cor. 12:9

As I put my trust in the Lord and seek to "love" and show Christ's loving heart to these people, they have responded and opened their hearts to us and in turn are opening their hearts to Christ.

We rejoice to share with you that Stacy, our first convert, has followed the Lord in believers baptism and continues to be our most faithful deaf young person.



Sory is a 16-year-old deaf young lady that I led to Christ several weeks ago. She, like most of them, comes from a very sad situation. Their lives of deep poverty and desperation have led them into undesirable lifestyles. We are trusting the Lord for them to be free from their past, and He will lead them forth into a life of blessing as they follow Christ.

Nigelis is Kimberly's "special project." She is an 18-year-old deaf girl who Kimberly is teaching sign language. At this point she has learned her own name and about 30 more signs in sign language.



She loves coming to church, and we pray that she will soon understand enough to realize her need for Christ.

Thank you for your faithfulness to support us prayerfully and financially as we reach lost souls.

For Jesus' sake,

Mrs. Joy, Kimberly, Stephen, Ashlyn, and Katlyn Wesson

THE Wessons

SERVING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

JANUARY 2018



Dear Praying Friends:

Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing. Psalms 107:21,22

It is with a joyful heart that we share with you how the Lord is blessing in our new ministry endeavors serving with the Sidler family at Iglesia Bautista Monte Calvario.



In addition to ministering to the deaf, the Lord has opened opportunities of service for each member of our family.



Stephen enjoys working in the childrens and music ministries and has had several opportunities to translate for groups visiting the mission field.



We have begun by teaching sign language to the hearing to equip young men and women to work with the deaf. Kimberly and I are currently teaching this sign language class on Thursday evenings before the service and have a good group learning sign language.

We would like to ask you to please make a note of the following change: Our sending church, Windsor Hills Baptist Church, has a **new address and new church name:**

Higher Plain Baptist Church
6810 NW 122nd St
Oklahoma City OK 73142
(405) 702-7715

*Note: this will only affect those who send support to our home church. For those who send support to our BIMI account, you will not need to make any changes.



In these few short months, we have seen six deaf young ladies trust Christ as their Savior. Kimberly led this deaf girl, Stacy, to Christ. She is 14 years old and is our most faithful deaf teenager. I had the

privilege of leading Marian to Christ two weeks ago in her home. Both of these girls are doing discipleship and plan to be baptized in a few weeks.



We thank the Lord for a new year full of opportunities to make our lives count for His glory. We covet your prayers that we may walk worthy of Him as we seek to win souls in the Dominican Republic.

For Jesus' Sake,
Mrs. Joy Wesson, Kimberly, Stephen, Ashlyn, and Katlyn

But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel;... and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice. Philippians 1:12,18b



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THE Wessons

SERVING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

October 2017



Dear Praying Friends:

“And the Lord, he it is that doth go before thee; he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed” (Deuteronomy 31:8).



We thank the Lord for going before us, guiding us, and blessing us, as we seek to follow Him and His leading in our lives. As our loving Shepherd of Psalms 23, He leads

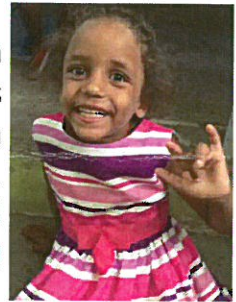
us beside the still waters and leads us in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.

When the Lord took Josh home so suddenly 2 years ago, I was brought to the reality that sometimes God’s will for our lives is different than what we are planning and that sometimes He changes our life’s course when we least expect it, but that it is for His glory and honor.

After much prayer and after seeking counsel from my pastor, the Lord has led us to move from serving in Lighthouse Baptist Church (the church that my husband started) to work with BIMI missionaries Steve and Nohemy Sidler, in their church, Iglesia Bautista Monte Calvario (Mt Calvary Baptist Church) in Quita Sueno, Dominican Republic. They have been dear friends of ours these 17 years that we have been on the field.

What a blessing it is to be a part of their ministry! They have asked our family to serve in the areas of music and deaf ministry.

We have begun teaching sign language classes on Thursday nights to equip a group of leaders that can minister to the deaf in their area. Just this past week, visiting around the church area, we have discovered that there are many deaf people living within a 2 mile radius of the church.



One of my dreams throughout my years on the field has been to work with deaf children. This has been a dream come true. *Just this last Sunday night, we had our first deaf class for them.* How sad it is to hear that some of them had NO IDEA WHO JESUS IS! What an opportunity to

reach “the un-reached”!

We would ask for your prayers for wisdom in this new ministry endeavor. Again, we appreciate your love and support of our family as we seek to win souls to Christ on the mission field of the Dominican Republic.

For Jesus’ sake,

Joy, Kimberly, Stephen, Ashlyn, and Katlyn Wesson

“But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel;...and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice.” Phil. 1:12,18b



Serving with BIM I
since 1996

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THE Wessons

SERVING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



July 2017

Dear Praying Friends:

Greetings from warm, sunny Santo Domingo!!! Summer is upon us in full force here in the tropics! After 17 years, I would think we wouldn't feel the heat anymore!but I guess I need a few more years to acclimate completely!!!

We just came from summer camp last week where we took a group of our teenagers to share in a youth camp with other Dominican Baptist churches. It was a joy to participate in the camp as the piano player and as a counselor. We rejoice with our teens for taking first place overall with Scripture memory, Bible debates, and special music. They went well-prepared and did a great job. We



were blessed with wonderful preaching, and thank the Lord for the decisions our young people have made.

I would like to invite you to watch a 7 minute video presentation that we have made to update you on what the Lord has done through our ministry since returning to the field 12 months ago. This is our newest video presentation. You can go online and watch it and even download it to show in your services if you so desire.

Wesson Family 2017 Missions Video



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U_YI7mjTltg

We praise the Lord for the souls we have seen saved since returning to the field. I have personally had the privilege of leading 18 deaf adults to Christ during this time. The Lord continues to bless our efforts with the deaf. It is a privilege for our family to continue to serve the Lord in this wonderful place.

Thank you for the special part that you have in these souls being saved.



In His Service,

Mrs. Joy Wesson, Kimberly, Stephen, Ashlyn, and Katlyn

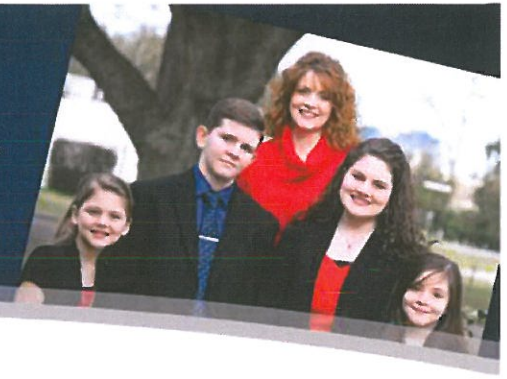
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THE Wessons

SERVING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



Dear Praying Friends:

Psalm 27:13 I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the land of the living.

We thank the Lord for His continued mercy and His GOODNESS that we experience daily through His provision for our family and His blessings upon our labors for Him with the Dominican people.

A few weeks ago, we celebrated the 10th anniversary of Lighthouse Baptist Church. What a blessing it is for our family to be back "home" and to continue to serve in this ministry!



Ladies Ministry

We have had good results from our monthly ladies meetings. Recently, we had 11 first time visitors on a Saturday afternoon!!

Youth ministry:

It is a joy to host the youth group in my home from time to time. During Holy Week, we had a great group of teenagers here. Brother Jordan preached to them, and he and Mrs. Samantha had some exciting games. What a blessing to have a part in molding these lives for Christ!



Deaf ministry

This deaf man, Luis, recently followed the Lord in baptism. He personally brings new deaf to church weekly. We have seen five of his visitors come to Christ, and are now doing discipleship classes with them. What a blessing to see these dear people, saved from a life of deep sin, turn to Christ with all their hearts!



Thank you for your continued love, prayers, and support, that enable our family to continue serving in the Dominican Republic.

For Jesus' sake,

Mrs. Joy Wesson and children

But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel;... and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice.

Philippians 1:12;18b



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THE Wessons

SERVING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



January/February 2017

Dear Praying Friends:

Over the past several weeks, I have been pondering a missionary motto that had a great impact in my life as I prayed about becoming a missionary years ago. The quote is by Missionary C.T. Studd:

*"Some want to live within the sound
Of church or chapel bell;
I want to run a rescue shop,
Within a yard of hell."*



Our joy is indescribable as we live day to day striving to make a difference through sharing the love of Christ.

Yohanna is a 19-year-old girl whom I led to the Lord about five years ago. Through some wrong decisions, she finds herself with a new baby and unmarried. It has been a joy to renew my relationship with her and see her coming back to church seeking to get her life right with the Lord.

Junior is a 22-year-old young man--the oldest in a family of seven children. I led two of his siblings to the Lord two years ago. All of them are in our youth group except for one.

Yesterday evening I took the opportunity to witness to him at length, and I pray that he will soon be ready to give his life to the Lord.

Suzi is a 13-year-old girl who lost her mother suddenly several years ago. Her mother, Enilda, was one of our faithful deaf ladies and a very dear friend.



Her brother, Abel, was one of the boys that Josh saved from drowning. They have a special place in our hearts. It's a joy to have them visit our home, and we encourage them in their walk with the Lord.

Jose Peralta is a dear deaf man in our church who is sickly and nearly dying of malnutrition. As we encourage him in the Lord, it's a blessing to reach out to him in helping to provide food for him and his 5-year-old son.

I have mentioned just a few people that we minister to. What a blessing it is to live in such a wonderful place where we are surrounded by: lost souls needing Christ, new Christians needing guidance, and wounded hearts needing love and compassion. Thank you for your faithful financial support and earnest prayers for our family that make it possible for us to live out Christ's love among our people.

For Jesus' sake,

Mrs. Joy Wesson and children

"But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel;...and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice." Phil. 1:12,18b



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THE Wessons

SERVING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



November/December 2016

Dear Praying Friends:

Psalms 40:3 And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD.

Several weeks ago as I finished my devotions one morning, Kimberly came into my room and said, "Mom, I have a new favorite verse." As she read this passage to me, I realized how true this verse has become in our lives. The Lord HAS put a new song in our mouths and in our hearts....and yes, MANY have come and will come to know the Lord!

Recently I mentioned in a prayer letter that we have been praying for the salvation of several of our new deaf adults. What a blessing it is to share that four of them have accepted the Lord as their Savior.



In addition to seeing these souls saved, the Lord has allowed me to lead several children to Christ in the past few weeks. There are others that the Lord has laid on my heart, and I am praying daily that the Lord will give me an opportunity to share Christ with them.



As we approached the holiday season, we were thankful to be "home" this year for Christmas! Though it



was sad celebrating without Josh, the Lord filled our hearts with His love and joy as we

focused on our blessings and on those around us. We took the opportunity to spend extra time with our church teens, having them in our home on several occasions and taking them to the zoo.



Along with these activities, we ministered in our church through our Christmas cantata and our annual Christmas dinner. We praise the Lord for the visitors who came and for the sweet time we shared among God's people. We look forward with great anticipation to what the Lord has in store for us this new year! What a joy to serve Him and make our lives "count" for His honor and glory!!

For Jesus' sake,

Mrs. Joy Wesson and children

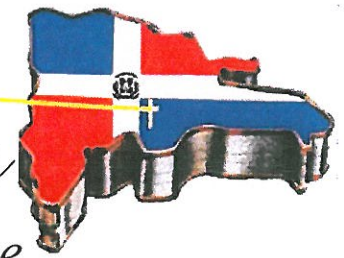
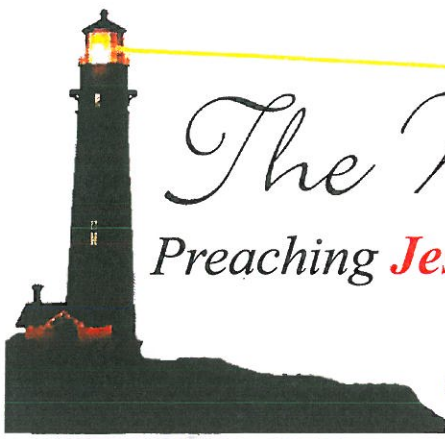
"But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel;...and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice." Phil. 1:12,18b



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The Wesson Family

Preaching **Jesus**, the **light** of the world in the

Dominican Republic

September/October 2016

Dear Praying Friends:

We thank each and every one of you for lifting us up in prayer as we labor and strive to be faithful in the Lord's work. These last weeks and months have brought about new ministry opportunities, and it is exciting to be a part of what the Lord is doing!



We had the privilege of having Brother Justin Watters (deaf pastor of Windsor Hills Baptist Church in Oklahoma City) and his sister, Andrea, visit our deaf

ministry here. What a blessing it was to see him lead a deaf man to Christ here in our home!



Through Luis' salvation, we have discovered a new group of deaf that I have started picking up on Sunday mornings. They have a very limited understanding of the Bible, and we are trusting the Lord to give us wisdom as we share with them their need to accept Christ as their Savior.

I am encouraged to see the commitment among our teenagers and college-age young people. They are faithfully working in the church: running van routes, teaching Sunday School, interpreting for the deaf, leading the music, and attending Bible Institute. It is a blessing to have a part in hosting their youth activities, as well as counseling and encouraging them in their walk with the Lord.



As we prepare for the Christmas holidays, we have many different events scheduled that we will use as an evangelistic outreach. One of these activities is our annual Christmas cantata, which Stephen will be directing in Josh's place. We are praying for a good turnout and for souls to be saved. Stephen is in physical therapy for a back injury and already has several of his "therapists" lined up to come that evening.

We trust the Lord will continue to use us for His glory in the days ahead. "...that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God" Acts 20:14.

For Jesus' sake,
Mrs. Joy Wesson and children

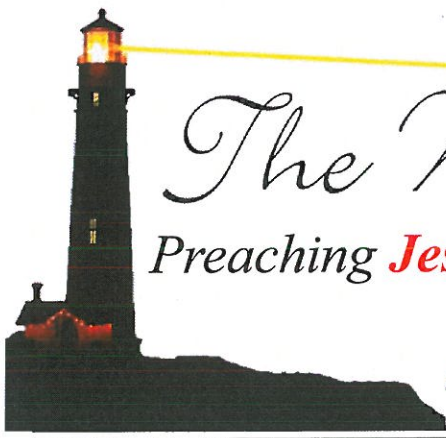


Sending Church

Windsor Hills Baptist Church
5517 NW 23rd
Oklahoma City OK 73127

Mission

Baptist International Missions Inc.
P.O. Box 9
Harrison, TN 37341



The Wesson Family

Preaching **Jesus**, the **light** of the world in the

Dominican Republic



July/August 2016

Dear Praying Friends:

As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country. Proverbs 25:25

Even better than “news from afar”...is BEING there in that far country! It is SO wonderful to finally be home. Many people have asked me how the children are doing. I have to reply that they are thrilled to be home—and so am I!

Coming into our home definitely brought into reality that “daddy” isn’t here anymore. Along with that came the “peace that passes understanding” and God’s promise that “*Lo, I am with you always, even unto the ends of the earth.*” God’s presence is with us, and we do not feel alone!

Arriving the end of June, we got here just in time to jump right in and help in our church’s summer activities. We had a great week of Bible School where we had an average attendance of 130 kids each day with around 25 workers and leaders. It was my privilege to personally give the Gospel and lead many of them to Christ that week.

Stephen had the opportunity go to another part of the island during the month of July and help another missionary in their Bible School as well. He also had the opportunity to share the Gospel with many Dominican children.



Kimberly participated in youth camp this summer playing the piano for special music. She had the opportunity to lead two children to Christ this last week here in our home and has begun discipleship with two teen girls in our church.

In addition to taking my place again as church pianist, it is exciting to be back again in the deaf ministry. Our deaf people had somewhat “scattered,” but little by little, we have been able to contact them and are seeing them come again faithfully. We are preparing for some special services for them next week with the arrival of Brother Justin Watters, our deaf pastor at Windsor Hills. We pray the Lord will encourage our deaf through these special efforts.

It has been so encouraging to see spiritual growth in the lives of our people here. It’s been my privilege these last weeks to visit them in their homes and have many of them visit in our home.



We look for the Lord to continue to do great things. We thank you so much for the love and support you have shown to our family as we strive to be “*steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.*”

Mrs. Joy Wesson and children

Sending Church

Windsor Hills Baptist Church
5517 NW 23rd
Oklahoma City OK 73127

Mission

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P.O. Box 9
Harrison, TN 37341



The Wesson Family

Preaching *Jesus*, the *light* of the world in the

Dominican Republic



May/June 2016

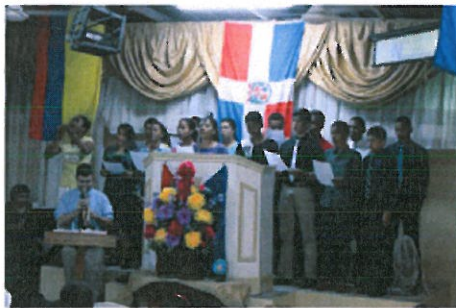
But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

Acts 20:24

It is with a thankful heart that I can share with you that our family will be departing for the Dominican Republic in just three short weeks! Our date of travel is June 30. We cannot begin to express our gratitude and thankfulness to all of God's people who have reached out to us in love and sacrifice during our time of sorrow as we have been stateside. Thank you for allowing our family this time to heal and regain our strength both physically and emotionally, so that we can return to the field refreshed to face the challenges and blessings that await us there.



We are excited to hear how the Lord continues to bless the work, and we look forward to getting back in time to help with VBS, youth camp, etc.



Though our hearts have been on the mission field these past months, we have enjoyed the ministry opportunities the Lord has given us here. In May, we visited two of our supporting churches and were invited to two new churches. We have especially



enjoyed working in the new Spanish ministry of Grace Baptist Church. In our last letter I shared how Enrique and Lizette accepted the Lord as their Savior. This past Monday, Memorial

Day, I had the privilege of leading their two sons to Christ. We appreciate Brother Enrique and his willingness to serve in the church as a mechanic, chef, and do whatever is needed. They have been an encouragement to me as I see their faithfulness and desire for the things of the Lord.

Earlier this spring, my son Stephen and I met a Spanish gentleman named Cesar and invited him to church. He had already been saved many years ago, but was not in church. He has become a very vital part of the Spanish ministry. We thank the Lord for his cheerful



spirit in serving—never missing a service, using his music talents for the Lord, and gladly volunteering his services as a mechanic repairing the church bus.

We appreciate your continued prayers for our family as we make this transition back to the field.

In His Service,

Mrs. Joy Wesson and children

Sending Church

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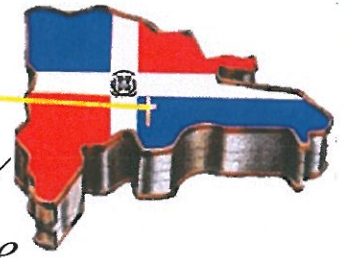
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The Wesson Family

Preaching **Jesus**, the **light** of the world in the

Dominican Republic



March/April 2016

What a joy it is to share with you how the Lord continues to encourage our hearts and give us the strength and courage to “press on” for His glory. My children and I have just returned from the Dominican Republic where we were blessed to spend three wonderful weeks with our Dominican people and missionary family. It was a delight to my heart to see how quickly our children adapted to being “home” again. They were excited to resume their places in the ministry and look forward to getting back down there in June to continue the ministries that have been placed in their hands.

During our visit, we celebrated the 9th anniversary of “Iglesia Bautista El Faro.” We had the privilege of having veteran missionaries Chris and Dawn Phillips present with us. It was a beautiful service where we reflected on the Lord’s blessings and also remembered Josh as our founding pastor. A plaque was presented to me in honor of his sacrificial love and service to them.



Another special event was a youth service where our young men preached, led the music, and directed the service. It was a blessing to hear from two of the young men that were saved from drowning last year as they preached to the church that night. We thank the Lord for the leadership of Bro. Ben Jordan and his family and rejoice to see what



the Lord is doing. We look forward with great anticipation to continuing on in the work with them.

We are continuing to minister in the Spanish ministry of Grace Baptist Church while we are here in Louisiana. It has been amazing to see how the Lord has worked through us even at a time when we haven’t felt very “useful.” Lizette and Enrique Gomez accepted Christ as their Savior after we met them in a local grocery store and invited them to come to church. They are faithful to church now and growing in their faith.



We appreciate your continued prayers for our family.

Mrs. Joy Wesson and children

CD's now available on-line

Many people have been asking where they can purchase the CD's that Josh and I recorded years ago when we first went on deputation. You may now purchase them online at:

clarkfamilymusic.com

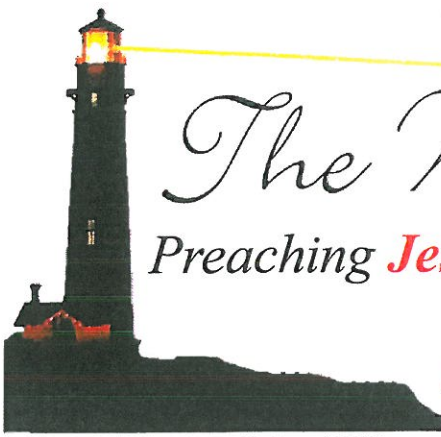
We appreciate the kindness of the Clark Family of Solid Rock Baptist Church in Berlin, NJ, for allowing us to list them on their website.

Sending Church

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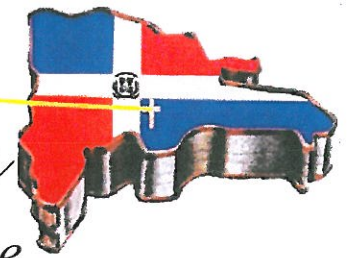
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The Wesson Family

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Dominican Republic



January/February 2016

We want to thank you for your continued prayers and words of encouragement during the holiday season. It was a difficult month for the family, as we celebrated two birthdays, Christmas, and what would have been our 19th wedding anniversary. In the midst of our sadness, the Lord gave us joy through His presence and through the presence of our loved ones. He has filled our lives with so many good things. We are thankful that He never leaves us or forsakes us; His presence and strength are real!



We took advantage of the opportunity of being in the US to send little Christmas gifts to the children in our church in Santo Domingo as well as for another church that was started out of our church. It was a fun

project for our family to shop for them. We appreciate the donations from the Spanish Ministry of Grace Baptist Church who helped make this project possible. The children were delighted to receive their gifts.



While we are stateside, we are attending Grace Baptist Church in Sulphur, Louisiana, and are actively involved in the Spanish Ministry. It has been a "taste of home" to be in Spanish services each week, and our family is enjoying the opportunity to serve. Stephen enjoys leading the song services, and Kimberly and I help with the special

music. We have met new Hispanic families that we are working with and are praying for their salvation.



We will be in a missions conference in January here in Louisiana and plan to visit some of our supporting churches in the area.

We are making preparations for our trip back to the Dominican in February and March. We are looking forward to this trip as we will have special meetings at our church and will be celebrating the 9th anniversary of Iglesia Bautista El Faro (Lighthouse Baptist Church) during our visit. Our plans are to be back on the field on a permanent basis when the school year is over.

Again, we appreciate the love and support you have given our family through these difficult days. We are **"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith" Heb. 12:2.**

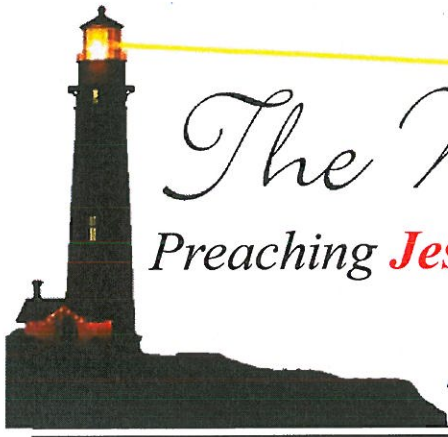
Mrs. Joy Wesson and children

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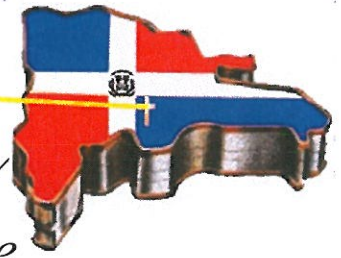
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The Wesson Family

Preaching **Jesus**, the **light** of the world in the



Dominican Republic

November 2015

Dear Friends:

My children and I just returned from the Dominican Republic. We had expected it would be difficult being there in our home again not having "daddy" there. There were tears shed, but the sadness was overcome with the joy of being "home" again...there are no words to describe the sweetness and peace of being with our fellow Dominican believers and other missionary families.



Our children are also very involved in the ministry and look forward to continuing in their areas of service.

Ladies meeting during our recent trip



My heart's prayer for this trip was for the Holy Spirit to confirm in me what I already knew was His leading in our lives. As I prayed each day for complete assurance and peace, the Lord confirmed that and opened "wide" the door for me to see His provision, protection, and peace in continuing in the work there. As far as the children are concerned, we are in 100% agreement to continue on and carry on in the work that their daddy has done. In these many years on the field, Josh never turned back when times were hard...he just pushed ahead "harder." We are prepared to do just that.

Brother Ben and Mrs. Samantha Jordan are currently in charge of the work and would like for me to stay and carry on my usual church ministries. (In addition to helping my husband in his areas of ministry)...I have worked in:

1. the deaf ministry: interpreting and teaching sign language to the hearing
2. Church and choir pianist
3. Counseling our ladies and teen girls
4. Sunday school classes
5. Visitation/Discipleship
6. Children's Bible clubs
7. Hosting groups
8. Running bus routes

With the counsel of our sending pastor and directors of our mission, we are making plans to return to the field next year. There are still many things lacking to have Josh's affairs in order. I will need to be stateside for awhile to handle these things, and I know it would be good for the children as well. We are planning to make a trip to the Dominican during the months of February and March for our church's 9th anniversary services. Lord-willing, we plan to be able to return to the field on a permanent basis when our children finish out this school year.

We thank you for your prayers and for the special love offerings you have sent to help us through these difficult times. We are amazed and humbled at God's provision and thank you for encouraging our hearts through your sacrificial love and generosity. We count it an honor and privilege to serve as your "missionaries" on the mission field of the Dominican Republic.

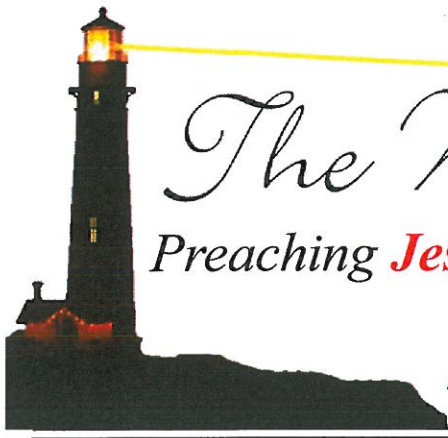
Sincerely in Christ,
Mrs. Joy Wesson and children

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The Wesson Family

Preaching **Jesus**, the **light** of the world in the



Dominican Republic

September 13, 2015

Dear Friends,

It is with a heart filled with gratitude that I take this opportunity to express our **sincere appreciation** to each of you who have reached out to our family during our time of great loss and sorrow. Your many expressions of love by way of financial gifts, flowers, cards, care packages, etc., have encouraged my heart and the hearts of our children. The financial help received has been a tremendous blessing to take care of all the expenses for everything that took place so suddenly.

I had hoped to thank each person and each church individually through a personal note, but I soon realized it would be nearly an impossible task due to the magnitude of people that have reached out to us and comforted us during this time. We thank the Lord for you; we are humbled at God's provision and the comfort He has given us through His people.

As the Scripture says in Psalm 91:4 *"He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust; his truth shall be thy shield and buckler."*

We can honestly say that He has comforted us as only His Holy Spirit can do and that we

are daily experiencing His "peace that passes understanding" as we seek to trust Him and lean not to our own understanding, Proverbs 3:5,6.

As we look to the Lord for guidance into His perfect Will for our lives, my children and I will be returning to the Dominican Republic for two weeks during the month of October. We are looking forward to spending time with our people as we had very little time to grieve together since we had to leave the country so quickly. We ask for your continued prayers for the ministry there and for our dear people who are grieving the loss of their beloved pastor.

Thank you again for ALL you have given and everything you have done to minister to our hearts and needs. We thank the Lord upon every remembrance of you!

We will be in touch with you following our trip to the Dominican in October. We would appreciate your prayers for our travels.

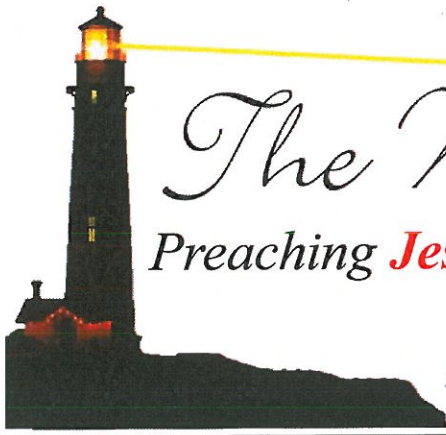
For Jesus' sake,
Mrs. Joy Wesson and children

Sending Church

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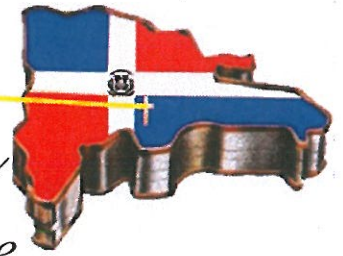
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March / April 2015

March 1, 2015, Iglesia Bautista El Faro celebrated its 8th anniversary. We thank the Lord for the many souls that have been saved during these 8 years and for the solid group of people that the Lord has given us.



We are praying that the Lord would provide property for us to build. We are constantly looking, praying, and working towards that goal. We recently had two fund raising projects. The Lord blessed us in helping us to raise around \$1,500 US. It is exciting to see our people work hard and participate in these activities. We are doing what we can to come up with funds and are trusting the Lord to provide in a miraculous way for what we cannot do.

April 17 and 18, we had a men's retreat in Jarabacoa, a beautiful little town in the mountains. Brother Wes Lane is a missionary up there and allowed us to use the camp that he is developing. God has given them a great location, and we appreciate them letting us use their facilities. We had a wonderful time hiking to the waterfalls, swimming in the river, and playing paintball. (It kind of reminded me of going to camp



as we had to change a tire on our way there.) The best part of our trip was sharing God's Word with the men. It was encouraging to see their participation. God blessed in a special way, and we pray that our men will remain

faithful to the decisions they made.

In April, we had our annual mission's conference. This year we decided to have our own missionaries that our church supports come and present their work

each night. These are Dominican men that have gone out and started new works throughout the country. Each night was a special treat as we were challenged with the need to reach the world starting right here in Santo Domingo. Our ladies made gift baskets for our missionaries with items donated by our church members. Our people really enjoyed having a part in giving to our missionaries. Also our faith promise offering pledge has gone up considerably. Our people have pledged to give over \$3,000 US to missions this year. We pray that our people will be faithful to their commitment and trust the Lord for His provision. This would allow us to take on some new missionaries. We are very excited about that.



We ask that you would consider praying and helping us with a particular need that we have for a 12 passenger van. There is a 2006 F-350 van available from another church. This van will be used to take our teens out on Saturdays to hold neighborhood Bible clubs, for soul winning, visitation, and for one of the routes that we run every service bringing people to church. It is around \$8,000. Up to this point we have been using Brother Stu Scheper's van to meet this need, but he is returning to the field in June and will need it for the new work he will be starting in Puerto Plata. We are trusting the Lord to provide for this need as a van is vital to our ministry. We are grateful for your investment in souls here in the Dominican Republic.



Your servants, *Joshua and Joy Wesson*

Sending Church

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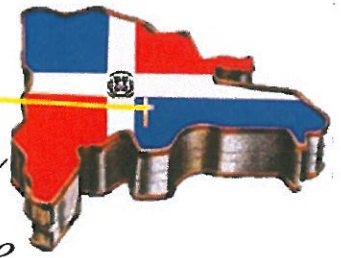
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The Wesson Family

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January/February 2015

We are excited about what the Lord has in store for us this year at Iglesia Bautista El Faro. Our theme for 2015 is "Taking Care of the Things of God." We are teaching on stewardship and the real value of things. Our goal is to improve our level of stewardship for our Lord. As we try to lead by example, I have begun taking a refresher course with my language school teacher from Costa Rica via Skype. As I work to achieve a higher level in Spanish, it is hard to believe that I have forgotten so much over the past 15 years! They say "the memory is the first thing to go" or is it the hair? I can't remember.

At our first men's meeting this year, many of our men expressed their desires to be leaders in their homes, church, and community. We pray that they will be faithful to those commitments.

We were very grateful to have Brother and Mrs. Bob Kyner with us. He preached in the church services and taught in our institute. His class on I Corinthians was very practical. It was enlightening to our people to see how the Apostle Paul dealt with the issues and problems in the church of his day. I wanted to send Brother Kyner a picture of my van since he enjoyed riding in it so much. I think he really wanted to take one home with him!



Personal evangelism is another class that we are teaching this semester in our Bible institute. We are praying that these students will get a burden for winning the lost and make this a part of their daily lives.

It was an encouragement to my whole family to have my parents come and spend two weeks with us in February. Though it was still a busy time, we treasured each day and were sad to see them go.

We enjoy doing things together as a church family. We recently went on an outing to the zoo. We had a good time of fellowship and shared a devotion during the course of the day.



On February 8 we had a youth service. The young people directed the service and did the song leading and preaching. We appreciate Brother Ben Jordan and the great job he did in helping them get prepared. We are excited to see what the Lord has in store for our youth in the years to come.



On February 14 we had a Valentine's activity with our married couples. Our prayer is that the Lord will strengthen our family units in this day and age when the devil is so strongly attacking our homes.

This last week, we had the privilege of baptizing Yohanna. She and her husband are both now saved and baptized. We pray they will be faithful and grow in the Lord.

Thank you for your love and concern for the Dominican people. We are grateful for your prayers and support.



Joshua and Joy Wesson

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December 2014

We wish each of you a wonderful Christmas Season! It is one of our favorite times of the year for many reasons—most of all because of what we celebrate—Jesus’ birth! On the lighter side, we enjoy the relief that we have from constant hot, humid weather. We are also thankful



for a few days off to spend with family and friends. We have been behind schedule this year since coming back on furlough. We have kept up with our responsibilities

here, but we have fallen behind on communicating to our churches and prayer warriors. We apologize for that and will be back on our bimonthly schedule in January.

We are excited about some new students that have enrolled in our Bible institute. The Lord has called some of our young people into full-time service. They have graduated from high school and have begun studying. Pray that the Lord will give them the determination to finish.

This September, in Bible month (as we celebrate it here in the Dominican Republic), we chose to memorize Romans 1. We divided it into four parts and assigned it to the children, young people, the deaf, and the adults. On the last Sunday night, each group shared their part. I must say that we adults had a harder time than the young people. Oh, to have a young mind again!

November is also one of my favorite times because we use it as a time in our church to emphasize our thankfulness. It was a blessing to hear the words of thankfulness and appreciation as our people stood and gave testimonies each service throughout the month. Also in November, we had our first annual men’s conference. We invited other missionaries and national pastors to come on a

Saturday and preach to our men as well as men from area churches. It was a great time of encouragement and fellowship. We are praying that the Lord will help us be the leaders we should be at church and in our homes.



In our last prayer letter we asked prayer for Colombia, a faithful young lady in our church who was battling cancer. We are sad to say that she passed away on November 18. We are thankful for her testimony of faithfulness that she has left for all of us. We witnessed to the family during the funeral services and pray that the Lord will continue to work in their hearts. We also pray for wisdom as we seek to have an influence in the lives of her two children and as we desire to maintain a good relationship with the lost family members. This has been one of our most challenging years emotionally. Three people very dear to us have gone to their home in heaven. Two of them were faithful ladies who served in our church, and also my father-in-law who passed away in April. We miss them very much, but we are thankful that they are with the Lord.

We love each of you and are thankful for your prayers and concern for our ministry and family. A special thanks to all who sent a Christmas offering; it is very much appreciated. Thank you for allowing us to do some extra things this Christmas. May the Lord fill your lives with joy during the celebration of Christ’s coming to earth.

Sincerely in Christ,
Joshua Wesson and family

Sending Church

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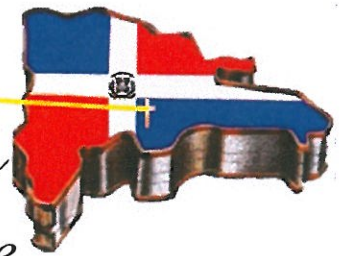
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July /August 2014

We would like to start this letter with our sincere apology for not having communicated during the past few months. We know that there are many that pray for us faithfully for the specific things that are in our newsletters, and for this we are sorry that we have not kept you up to date. This transition time coming off of furlough and getting back into our routine here in the Dominican has been somewhat overwhelming. We are so glad to be home, but are still trying to catch our breath.

We arrived back in the Dominican on July 14, and hit the ground running. We helped the Schepers family as they were finishing up a few things to be able to go home on furlough. They are on furlough at this time and are planning to begin a new work here on the north shore of the Dominican in Puerto Plata. We are excited for them, but will miss having them close by as they have been very good friends and co-laborers here with us in Santo Domingo.

One week after the Schepers left, we had our Vacation Bible School. We had a big group again this year ending up with over 160 the last day. Once again, it was great to see our adults and teens come out and dedicate that week to reaching



the children with the Gospel. In addition to Bible School each morning, we had a Youth Conference each night for the teenagers. We appreciated the extra help from Jose Ivan and Yan Carlos, two young men who came down this year from Neighborhood Bible Time Ministries. They were a tremendous blessing to us. We pray the Lord will use them in a great way as they continue to serve Him. We thank the

Lord for the 40 children and young people who came to know Christ as their Savior during that week.

When we arrived back in the Dominican, one of our faithful young ladies was having some tests done for some physical



problems she was having. After many trips to the doctor and many tests, we found out that she has a cancerous tumor. We have been trying to help her to get the treatment she needs. Lord-willing, she will be receiving her first treatments of chemotherapy and radiation today..

Please pray for **Colombia Valdez** as she also has anemia, which could postpone some of the treatments she needs. We are doing all that we can to help her and trusting the Lord to do what we cannot.

Just before we returned to the field in July, our teens went to teen camp with Brother Steve Sidler's church. It was a blessing to hear the decisions that have been made by many of our young people to be more committed to their walk with the Lord. There was a very tragic end to camp, when one of the young ladies drowned in the swimming pool. We thank the Lord the young lady had been saved. Please continue to pray for her family and Brother Sidler's church.

One other "small" event that has happened during the last month is that we have moved to another house. This has consumed a great amount of our time these last few weeks. When you rent a house in a third world country, many times we have to "un-install" every little fixture, fan, etc., and "re-install" it in our new house. There are also many maintenance issues that are considered the renters responsibility. We thank the Lord for allowing us to live in a safe and secure place where the kids have room to go outside and play! It is a blessing to them and to their parents!! We love and appreciate each of you.

Josh and Joy Wesson and family

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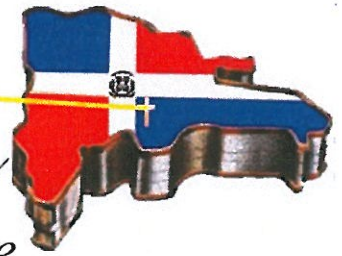
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April/May 2014

We are thankful for the loving kindness and tender mercies of our Heavenly Father these past few weeks and months. As many of you know, Joy's father became very ill and passed away April 26 following a long hospital stay. He had been diagnosed with the beginning stage of liver disease this time last year, and then 12 months later, we were told he was in stage 4 and was having liver failure. We understood that he was a perfect candidate for a liver transplant, but after going through the long testing process, he was turned down because they found that his heart would not survive such a major surgery. At that point, we were told he only had a few weeks to live.

It was a difficult time for our family, but we thank the Lord for making it possible for us to spend his last few days and weeks on this earth with him. It was a very special gift for Joy and me to be at his bedside when the Lord chose to take him home. We can see the Lord's hand in our lives and thank Him for bringing us off the field for our furlough at this particular time and for giving us one last opportunity for our children and Joy to get to spend some time with him. We covet your prayers for Joy and her mother and sisters during this sad time.

It was exciting to hear that our church in the Dominican had their annual mission's conference. It is one of our favorite times of the year. Dr. Pat Creed was there, and



it was encouraging to hear about the excitement and commitment of our people for this new year. They have committed over \$3,000. Praise the Lord for their concern for world evangelism.

We were recently in a mission's conference at Open Door Baptist Church in Clermont, Florida. We were blessed by the fellowship and many kindnesses by the dear people in the church. We also enjoyed being with the Chris Phillips family at their Hispanic church in Charleston, South Carolina. It was a treat for me to get to preach in Spanish again. Their people were such a blessing. It made us all homesick for our church in the Dominican.

We are thankful for the vehicle that the Lord has provided for us to use while back on furlough, although we have begun to have some vehicle trouble as we left South Carolina to head west. We had it in three different mechanic shops that week, and we thought that we had taken care of it, but it seems to be doing the same thing again. Please pray with us for the Lord's wisdom and provision on this matter. We have already spent \$1,300 on repairs.

We praise the Lord also for some more exciting news. We have just heard that a small house has come up for sale on the street of our church. This house is adjacent to one of the pieces of property that we were praying about as the future location for our church. We feel that the Lord is opening the door for us. Please pray with us fervently for the many other details. Pray that the Lord would confirm His will in this situation.

We covet your prayers as we finish our meetings in Oklahoma and Louisiana. We are headed back to the Dominican on July 15.

Sincerely in Christ,

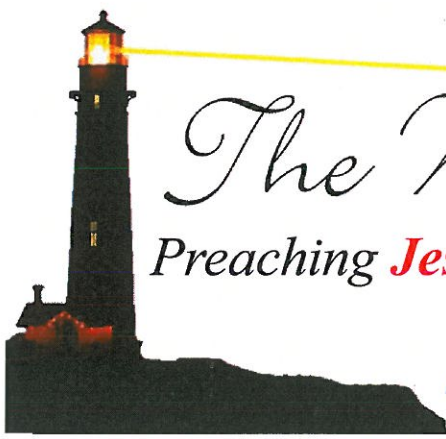
Joshua Wesson and family

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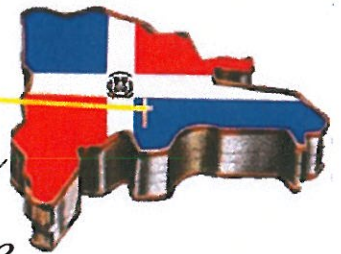
Mission

Baptist International Missions Inc.
P.O. Box 9215
Chattanooga TN 37412



The Wesson Family

Preaching **Jesus**, the **light** of the world in the



Dominican Republic

February 2014

We are very thankful for the Lord's provision over the last year. As we see the Lord's faithfulness throughout the past, it gives us greater faith for the coming year. We wish to say thank you to all of the churches that have helped us during 2013. Your faithful prayers and support have allowed us to continue the Lord's work in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. We are very grateful also for the Christmas offerings for our family. They have been a special blessing to us.

This year has already started out with lots of excitement.

Here in the States, we have seen the Lord work in our own lives during the two mission's conferences of which we have been a part. The Lord has given us a greater vision for the work ahead in the Dominican. We are also thankful for the ones that we have been able to influence along the way. We have seen souls saved and seen the Lord call some into full time service.



It seems that the Lord wanted us to experience some colder weather, because this has been the coldest winter



with the most snow in many years for many of the churches that we have visited. During January and February, we have been in Maryland, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania,

and Illinois. We want to thank all of those that have prayed for us during our travels. We have seen so many accidents. Two specific days (one in Pennsylvania and one in Illinois) we saw over 20 accidents each day. We thank the Lord for His care of us. We will be travelling in the South during the majority of our remaining furlough. We still covet your prayers during this time.

We are planning on heading back to the Dominican mid-July.

We do ask that you join us in prayer for Bro. Stewart Schepers. In November, he had an accident with a head injury. The Lord met his needs and has helped him recover, but it seems that he is suffering some lingering problems (headaches, clarity of thought). Please pray with us that the Lord will give him complete recovery. Since he is currently keeping everything running while we are gone, he has some added stress. We are thankful for the men of our church that are helping with some of the preaching and teaching. We are enjoying the time here as we travel to the churches, but are eagerly awaiting the time to go home, especially when we hear the testimonies of those being saved and of the new visitors.

Pray for us on our project of raising funds for property in our church. The people are giving faithfully each month, and we are praying that the Lord will allow us to achieve our goal of purchasing property in the next couple of years. We are thankful for those that have partnered with us to help us reach that goal sooner.

We also ask your prayers for Ben and Samantha Jordan. They arrived in the Dominican in January of this year. We had helped them with a lot of the preliminary paperwork, but Stewart had to help them with all of the coordination of their arrival. It is a blessing to see their excitement as they have finally arrived where the Lord has called them to serve. Please pray for them as they begin their language studies. May the Lord bless you as we serve Him together in 2014.

Our temporary cell number while we are in the States is (405) 659-5785.

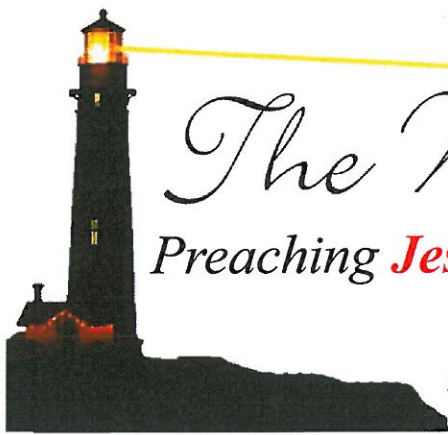
Joshua Wesson and family

Sending Church

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October 2013 Prayer Letter

October Prayer Letter

In August we had a men's camp-out. We did one last year and our men loved it. This year we went to a new part of the island and saw some wonderful parts of our Great God's creation. Even better than that, we that we were able to spend some time away from the hurried pace of Santo Domingo and study some of the marvelous mysteries of God's Word. It was a refreshing time which brought us closer to each other and hopefully strengthened us in our walk with the Lord. Please pray for our men that they would be the Godly leaders they need to be in their homes. The night times seemed to be a little long since we were rained on each night. In that aspect we were ready to get home.

September has been a great month for us in the church we have seen many come to know the Lord as their Saviour and have seen many young people baptized. In the Dominican Republic, we celebrate Bible month during September. In each service, we emphasized the Bible as the Word of God. We had special preachers in each Wednesday, sword drills, and Bible trivia. The top three winners received Bibles; our people worked very hard. We also had a project as a church family of learning Psalms 119. We divided up the verses among those who wanted to participate. The last Sunday of September we said Psalms 119 in its entirety in our evening service. It was an exciting experience for us as a church. Many of our members shared how that the verses of Psalms 119 have made an impact on their life during this month.



Our deaf S.S. class just recently finished up their summer program. They attended church faithfully and brought quite a few first time visitors. Our hearing people were motivated by seeing how many

visitors our deaf people brought in. Joy is teaching through

a salvation series in their class. Our prayer is that these new deaf will come to understand their need to be saved.

Just a few days ago we had to deal with a vehicle issue. My little run-a-round vehicle, a Daihatsu Hijet, (which is like driving a glorified go-kart) broke the timing belt which caused 6 bent valves. We ended up having to replace the engine with another used one. The engine is just a three cylinder and fairly common so it was not too difficult to replace. For an engine it was relatively inexpensive (under \$400 dollars), but it was not set aside in the budget. Please pray for the Lord's provision.

We are very excited about the work the Lord has allowed us to be involved in here in the Dominican. We know that it is the Lord's work and we have seen His blessing in many areas. **We are preparing for a furlough from January through June of 2014.** We are trying to schedule our meetings with the churches that we have not been to in a very long time. If you would like us to be a part of your mission's conference, or in a single meeting, please let us know as soon as possible. We are also needing to raise some additional support so we will be scheduling those meetings also. Please pray for us that the Lord would provide His protection and blessing as we will be on the road. Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

Contact Info:

Skype # 1(337) 214-4124 – good through furlough

Dominican (through the first part of December)

Home 1(809) 620-3378,

Cell 1(809)610-3266

Email – josh@wessons.net

*We will give you a cell phone number once we are in the US.

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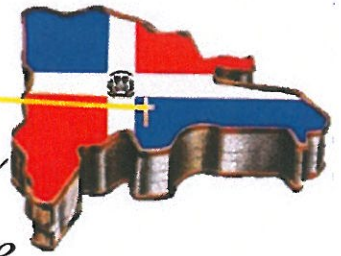
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August Prayer Letter 2013

What an exciting summer it has been! Although we cannot say it has not been hot, the Lord has shown us much grace in sending a lot of rain that has made it more bearable.

The first week of July we took our teens to camp with another missionary and his church. There were about one hundred young people there; our special speaker was Brother Jose Santos, a Puerto Rican man who pastors in the U.S. He was a tremendous blessing to our young people. Many of them made decisions to be committed to the Lord's Will and to live a holy life. Several of them followed the Lord in baptism.

The day after we finished camp, we hosted a missions trip from Charlie Clark's church in Berlin New Jersey. They brought down a group of 29 teens and adults. We had a tropical storm while they were here, which limited some of our plans but in spite of the rain, they distributed tracts, visited national churches, shared testimonies in our church services, did some sight-seeing, and had a question and answer time with the missionaries. Our Dominican young people were very encouraged, seeing the good example of the teenagers from New Jersey. We know that the week spent with them will long be remembered by our teens.



On July 14 in our Sunday night service, Brother Samuel Ovalle came and preached for us. He brought a group from his church and used our baptistry to baptize



five new converts. It was a blessing to hear the testimonies they each shared as they followed the Lord in baptism.

The last week of July we held our Vacation Bible School. It was great to see the participation and enthusiasm on the part of our people as we prayed and prepared for Bible School. We thank the Lord for the fruit that He gave as we saw 16 children come to know Christ as their Saviour. We had four teams each headed up by our teens. (Pictured here is the yellow team.) The teenagers did a good job this year helping by motivating their teams and teaching the songs and Scripture memory. The following Sunday we invited the parents to come see their children receive their awards from the work they did during the week. The kids were excited to share the songs and Scriptures they learned in VBS, and their parents were able to hear a clear presentation of the Gospel. We pray that these parents will come to Christ. Once again, we thank you for your faithful support for our ministry.



Sincerely in Christ
Joshua Wesson

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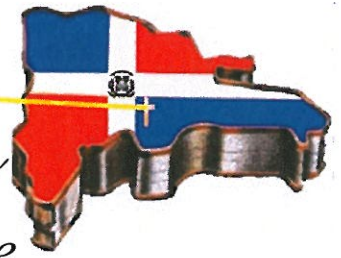
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June Prayer Letter 2013

We have traditionally heard that April showers bring May flowers. That is not the case here in the Dominican Republic. The month of May is our rainy season and boy has it been true this year. The first part of the year we were in a drought, but we have made up for it already.

This year, May has been one of our busy months. We had another modular class for our institute the second week of May. Brother Jon Rediger, a pastor in Maryland, came and taught on the book of Acts. It was truly refreshing for our people to hear about the first churches and how they were involved in the work of God. I believe that some of our people have a renewed vision to serve the Lord.

Our next big event was a mother-daughter banquet. Mother's Day is at the end of May in the Dominican, so our banquet was on the 24th. Some of our men recommended that we serve the ladies that night. We had a menu with options for two appetizers,



three main dishes, and two desserts. Many of the men helped with the preparation and all were involved with the serving.

I have to confess I leaned heavily on Joy for the last minute details. Don't tell, because I wasn't supposed to do that. It was a great time, and we had a good crowd of about 70 ladies and daughters. We hope that our mothers know how much we appreciate them.

Since last year we have been working with Brother Terry Trippe, a preacher out of a church in Georgia, who is a faithful layman in his church and has a great burden for the Dominican Republic. He came down and met with a group of ten missionaries and pastors to coordinate an evangelistic campaign. We chose to have it in Los Guaricanos, where Pastor Samuel Ovalle, a man from our church, has started a new work. This is a very needy area. It is an area of about two and a half square miles that according to the last census has about 200,000 people.

As we got closer to the starting date, we were met with many complications and adjustments that seemed to be the devil fighting each step of the way.

The building that we had secured for the adults had to be renegotiated. We moved the adults to



an open basketball court for the first night, and it rained halfway through our meeting. Electricity was a constant battle to keep things running. One of the gymnasium lights had a bird's nest in it that caught fire and rained fire and ashes beside the platform. We about had a riot with the children's meeting over a small prize. But in spite of all of the obstacles, the Lord worked in a very special way and there were over two hundred people that trusted Christ as their Saviour. We are so thankful for the opportunity to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ that changes lives. Pray that the people that made decisions will be faithful to church and grow in grace.

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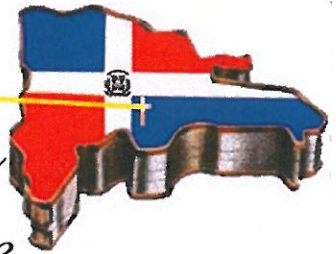
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April Prayer Letter 2013

We are thankful for the 13 years that the Lord has given us working here in the Dominican Republic. For the last six years we have been serving at Lighthouse Baptist Church in Maximo Gomez. We just celebrated our 6th anniversary of the church on



the 3rd of March. The Lord blessed with an attendance of 227. We are very grateful for the three people that accepted Christ as their Saviour that morning. Brother and Mrs. Shaver were a tremendous blessing to us and our church during their stay here. Please pray for the young lady on the right (Nancy) as she is currently taking chemo and

radiation for breast cancer. We thank the Lord that her soul is secure in Jesus.

We are excited about the spiritual growth and interest that we have seen in our people, especially in our institute students. We had a pastor who came and taught "Methods of Bible Study," which was readily received and has produced a renewed eagerness to study the Bible in our students.

Easter Sunday has always been a special day for me as I look forward to celebrating the resurrection of our Saviour. Here in the Latin culture, "Holy Week" (the week before Easter) is their spring break, and many people take the opportunity to leave the capital and go visit their families during this time. Despite not having an overcrowded service, we had a sweet time of fellowship and also celebrated the Lord's Supper in our evening service. Praise the Lord we can fellowship with our resurrected Saviour.

One of our favorite times of the year is our annual mission's conference. Each year near the end of April we have special speakers come and share with us about the need to evangelize the world. Our planned speaker for this year was Brother Bob Johnson who is a missionary here in the Dominican working with the Haitian community. Unfortunately, because of a family emergency, he

was unable to be here. Please pray for them. We had a wonderful time, and in spite of having to change our plans, God moved in a special way. Our people have been involved



in giving for the past few years, but we feel that this year we really needed to do a better job reaching our "Jerusalem." Please pray with us that the Lord will keep this burden before us.

We are thankful that the Lord allowed us to give around \$2,264 to missions this past year. The Lord has increased our faith, and our church has committed to give \$4,694 US to missions for this coming year. Praise the Lord! He is able to use whoever is available and willing. We had a Jewish man that is working with Hope of Israel Baptist Mission with us for our conference. We are praying about how to reach out to the Jews here in the Dominican Republic and around the world.

Sincerely, Joshua and Joy Wesson

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