

## Summer of Love

**You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love (Galatians 5:13)**

The summer has brought the heat as usual here in the Dominican Republic but it has also brought us much **love** from the mission teams we have received from England. It is always wonderful to see God's love at work in the lives of His people. We have had 3 groups of short-term missionaries come to work with us these past 3 months and they brought their **love** for the poor people here in the Dominican Republic. These 3 teams did many things; hospital ministry, children's ministry, attended church services, visited schools and various other activities. But I want to share about the giving of homes. Between the 3 teams they sponsored and gave 10 homes to 10 needy families. This is a huge gift of **love**, for they could never do this for themselves. These families go from a small tin shack that has no bathroom, no water, no power, and is often overrun with rats, snakes and all kinds of insects, to a block constructed home that provides them with the shelter they need. I recently asked several local people

who have received a home "what does it mean to you to receive this house?" The overwhelming response was a threefold answer – 1) They now have a dry place to live because usually when it rains, everything in their house gets soaking wet due to the poor condition of the roofs. 2) They now have a bathroom in their house and they no longer have to go out to the sugar cane field to relieve themselves. 3) They no longer have to worry about rats and snakes entering into their home at night while they sleep. These small shacks are also very hot inside due to the only thing between the people inside and the outside sun and heat is a very thin piece of metal. I try to imagine what it would be like to live in one of these shacks but just find it difficult to believe that anyone can survive those conditions. When mission teams travel here to the Dominican Republic to come and work with us, blessing the people with homes and various other needs, I know that it is God's wonderful and mighty **love** at work.

**To God be the glory for he loved us first....amen!**



## Missions Experiences

**Volunteer Lauren Godin (pictured right) shares about her two week mission trip experience.** I first went on a mission trip to the Dominican Republic in 2009 with my family. We returned this year and the amount of progress we could see in just two years was amazing! I never thought that I would have had such an exciting opportunity to have an impact on so many lives. Originally our trip was a once in a lifetime experience, but when we returned home I knew that one day, I would be back. The main experience that has impacted my life was the people we met in Los Algodones and Esperanza. The children wore some of the biggest smiles I have ever seen, and were desperate to get to know you, even though they have so little. This year I was reunited with a girl I met on our last trip, which was wonderful as the people you meet you never forget, so to be able to catch up with her was a real blessing. I plan to return to the Dominican Republic next year to meet more people, hear more inspiring stories and continue to make a difference for the Kingdom.



## Medical Ministry

Ok, imagine your baby has an abscess on its forehead (**pictured right top**), or has an extra digit on each hand (**pictured right bottom**), or has a high fever with vomiting and diarrhea for many days. Imagine you have the flu, diabetes, cancer, epilepsy or high blood pressure (we get people that come to our clinics with 200/110). Now imagine that you cannot afford to go to the doctor to get treatment for your illness because you are so poor that you can barely feed yourself daily. So, what do you do? **Can you imagine this being your dilemma?** Well this is the reality here in the Dominican Republic for most people who live here. The people who were born into this poverty, did not choose this for themselves, the same as those of us who were born into countries of privilege did not choose this for ourselves either. It brings to mind the scripture **Acts 20:35 which says "In everything I did, I showed you that by this hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: it is more blessed to give than to receive"**. Those of us that live in countries of privilege should reach out and help those in need, and the result is that we will be blessed. Our charge is to both proclaim and embody the gospel so that others can see, hear, and feel God's love in tangible ways. As we are living out our faith with integrity and compassion in the world, God can use us to give others a glimpse of His love and character. We continue our work helping those in need medically and our hope is that as we help them they will see the love of Christ Jesus!



### Prayer Requests :

- 1) Pray with us for local pastors, leaders and our brothers/sisters in Christ.
- 2) Pray that the Lord continues to bless us with good health and strength.
- 3) Pray for lost souls – that the light of Christ would shine through a dark and hopeless view.
- 4) **Pray for funding for the new medical clinic in Paradise Village. Still in need of a sponsor!**



**Willing Servant Ministries** is a non-profit tax-exempt Christian organization established by and for Rob and Tina Iannone to carry out the mission that God has called us to in the Dominican Republic. We will be working to further the gospel and help those in need physically, mentally and spiritually. We are able to continue to touch lives for Christ because of **Faithful Supporters** who generously give to further the Good News! Thank you for your love and support in the past and for the days to come. May God richly bless you!!

Then I heard a voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"  
And I said, "Here am I Lord. Send me!" - Isaiah 6:8

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## Willing Servant Ministries Partnership

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