

The Bemenderfer Family

JARABACOA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC | SPRING 2022 NEWSLETTER



HOLA, PRAYING FRIENDS!

We're at CMA now and busily settling into our campus home and life. This looks different for each of us.

As Staff Support Coordinator, among his many practical responsibilities, Mark's most enjoying the spiritual aspects of his work. He joins a men's Bible Study once a week. He has preached the first Sunday of each month at the campus chapel, and facilitated small group discussion about the sermon the second week. We've also twice hosted a home church the third week of each month just for staff. In addition, he's been spending an hour in prayer for CMA four times a week in the chapel. It's an honor to support those working the front lines with the students and those who tirelessly serve in all sorts of roles behind the scenes.

Rachel's having fun keeping our home, overseeing boys' homeschooling, getting to know staff and students, cooking less because we eat two meals a day in the campus pavilion; studying Spanish and practicing with a sweet Dominican youth coach, attending a weekly ladies Bible study, and last, but certainly not least, dressing up and having tea parties with the many little girls of staff families that show up at our door. Playing Auntie B is a surprise delight she very much enjoys!

Thank you for praying for Tim and George's role in our new ministry. God has kindly answered with many opportunities to serve. Tim helps leads worship on piano or guitar while George plays drums. They also attend the men's Bible study and engage students in conversation over meals. Additionally they participate in Young Life with students each week and join guys' sports activities and weekend outings, seeking to be a positive influence and example. Composing the music for a student who wrote song lyrics gave Tim a unique chance to bless him. This young man spent an afternoon in our home on a Saturday and bonded with Tim



Tim's worship crew



Tea with staff kids

CHECK OUT OUR
BIO PAGE!



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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over music immediately.

We're all transitioning well and appreciating the family feel at CMA. It's a treasure to interact daily with coworkers who share the vision of helping troubled teens and their families find hope and transformation through Christ.

With this in mind, an encouraging testimony from a 17-year-old student illustrates why we're here. He shared with us and a visiting missions team,

"Before I came to CMA, I hated my family.

Now I love them.

I cheated people all the time.

Now I want to give.

I was a Christian hypocrite.

Now I'm the real deal.

I felt dirty and unworthy.

Now I'm a clean, accepted Child of God."

He will be baptized sometime soon and says it's the least he could do for the One who gave His life for him.

Thanking God for your partnership and rejoicing over the good He's doing at CMA,

Mark, Rachel, Tim, and George

DR CULTURE CORNER

- Cockfighting is a popular weekly moneymaking event.
- Driving offensively on narrow roads with pedestrians on roadsides and motorcycles weaving in and out—chaos—best describes transportation
- Unlike China, the DR is laid back. People love to laugh, relax, and take it easy.
- Catholicism is the national religion but many are nominal or not practicing.
- Like China, family is extremely important.
- Our town almost completely shuts down on Sunday.

OUR ADDRESS IS:

**Mark and Rachel Bemenderfer
(or Timothy or George)
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Fort George



On a hike with the girls house, who left us in the dust

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Learn more about what Crosswinds' Caribbean Mountain Academy (CMA) is doing to help struggling teens get a fresh start!

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