The Bemenderfer Family

JARABACOA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC | SPRING 2022 NEWSLETTER



DEAR FAITHFUL PARTNERS,

MINISTRY NEWS

The past few months at CMA have been filled with joys and challenges. And God's been so faithful through them all!

SOME HAPPY POINTS INCLUDE:

- A student's baptism before he left in May. His dad called the change in his life here a miracle! He's the student we wrote about in our last letter.
- Another student applying Mark's sermon about Paul's steadfastness in trial to a daily life situation when the Boys' van stalled on an outing.
- Improvement in many students' relationships with their families.
- Male students and staff periodically joining our evening Family Worship and participating in Bible reading and sharing.
- Helping with three summer
 Missions Teams from the States.
- Special care packages from those teams and others! :-)
- Driving students to various doctor and dental appointments or to the airport for a Home Visit. (Mark)
- Coming alongside struggling coworkers
- And finally, hosting several single American staff and friends for meals and working toward hospitality with the Dominicans.





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AS FOR CHALLENGES:

- Relating with another staff family. Living in such close community brings opportunities for misunderstanding. :-(
- Figuring out the best way to spiritually influence staff and students.
- Stuck students who aren't progressing well in the program. One actually ran away from campus but thankfully was found and brought back the same day.
- Tim and George dealing with young men whose misbehavior they can't correct because they're peers.
- And lastly, the hill and the heat. While morning temps are cool, late morning and afternoons are blazing hot and humid, especially in Mark's office and in our home, with no AC. Getting up the mountain to our triplex can also be exhausting.

PRAYER BOX

- Reconciliation and growth in the difficult staff relationship.
- Clarity as to how to best help staff grow spiritually
- Endurance through the summer heat
- More interaction and hospitality with Dominican staff



FAMILY UPDATE

In early May Joshua took vacation time and visited us with Micah, who had one week between the school years' end and his summer counselor position at School of the Ozarks. We had a delightful time showing them around campus and introducing them to staff and students. A lovely hike to a waterfall and a few days at the beach rounded out our experience and made for many happy memories. And I treasured the digital picture frame Josh made me for Mother's Day! Now every day we enjoy pictures of our years in China and Texas, special people, and our many adventures together.

Tim and George have a new job on campus helping the Maintenance Crew. They're learning skills like painting and repairing all kinds of broken items. The two will soon be joining a five day hike up and down the tallest mountain in the Caribbean, Pico Duarte, with CMA boys and staff (July 11-15).

Thank you so much for your faithful prayers for our ministry and family! God is strengthening us daily through the highs and lows and growing us more like Christ.

LOVE IN HIM, Rachel, for Mark, Tim, and George