



The Bells

Team Church Planting in the Dominican Republic



May 2021

Writing from Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic

In the past, cruise ships were a normal sight here in Puerto Plata, DR. Yet, due to COVID-19, it has been a long time since we have seen one here. However, while we were visiting family in Cape Canaveral, Florida, in March, we saw something very interesting: three or four giant cruise ships anchored not far off from the beach. Now, it is common to see cruise ships in the Cape Canaveral cruise port, but not so common to see several of them together out in the water. Due to COVID restrictions and being unable to operate, these ships would leave port to go and sit just off the coast, apparently to avoid port fees and also to avoid sitting inoperative for long periods of time. There were times over the past year and a half that we felt a little like these cruise ships...unable to continue with business as usual because of restrictions, doing services through ZOOM, but unable to move forward in the way that we might have hoped. Yet we are happy to report that things are beginning to open up here in the DR and the Lord has been providing more and more opportunities for ministry.

In April, our church held a Friday evening evangelistic service. We have been teaching on personal evangelism recently in our Wednesday evening services and wanted to give our church members an opportunity to invite their unsaved friends and family members to hear the Gospel presented. We had around 40 in attendance, with 4 new visitors and several returning visitors. We also continue to have visitors at most of our regular services. **Please pray for the Holy Spirit to continue to work in these individuals that have heard the Gospel presented and that, in due season, we might see a reaping of what has been sown. Pray also for our church members as they have opportunities to witness to others.**

Thank you again to those who were praying for our trip back to the U.S. in February. We had a great trip, and all of Zoe's appointments went smoothly. We are thankful that Zoe is continuing to grow and progress normally.

As things continue to open up here, we are looking forward to an eventful summer. Our teammates, the Pittmans, are planning to return home for furlough at the beginning of June. The Faria family will be returning in early July. **We would appreciate your prayers for this transition for each of the families. Please continue to pray for our teammates, the Peavys, as they continue to raise additional support as well.** Since 2013, Grace Baptist Bible College in Winston-Salem, NC, was able to send a short-term missions team to the Dominican Republic during the summer. This past year was the exception due to COVID. **We are looking forward to having the Grace in the Vineyard team with us in July for about two weeks. They will be helping with our adolescent day camp, as well as a four-day teen retreat. We would appreciate your prayers for these upcoming events.**

Thank you once again for your prayers for us, our team, and the ministry here in Puerto Plata, DR. If we can ever be of service to you in anyway, please let us know.

Looking to Him,
Brandon, Regina, Anthony, Patrick and Zoe Bell
Heb. 12:1-3
Bells4DR.org



From left: Declan Pittman, Anthony, Zoe, and Elena Pittman waiting for church to start.



Group photo, after Sunday service, courtesy of our teammate (and resident photographer), Joy DeWald.

If you would like to be added to our email list, please send us an email at Bells4missions@gmail.com or send a text to (336) 794-6861.

Contact Info: 117 Ocean Garden Ln. Cape Canaveral, FL 32920 *E-mail:* Bells4Missions@gmail.com *Phone:* (336) 794-6861

Sending Church: *Heritage Hills Baptist Church* Winston-Salem, NC *Email:* heritagehills@hhbewinston.com

Mission Board: *Baptist World Mission* PO Box 2149 Decatur, AL 35602 *Phone:* 256-353-2221