



**THE LEAST OF THESE
MINISTRIES**
MATTHEW 25:40

Sharing **HOPE**
amidst poverty.

October 2025

Encouraging

Wellness

INSPIRED BY THE PREVALENCE OF chronic health problems, our ministry staff in the Dominican Republic has begun offering seminars on nutrition and healthy living. Ricardo Beltre, ministry manager for Ministerio Amor y Esperanza, has observed that many community members complain of pain and breathing difficulty. Ricardo has assisted in medical clinics offered by organizations such as Brown Horse Projects (brownhorseprojects.org) and has witnessed many patients with high blood pressure or diabetes.

The seminars are designed to provide very basic nutrition and wellness information, and are not intended to address community members' specific health needs. Much of the information presented centers around the Manna Pack–Rice product that our team distributes to these communities. The Manna Pack product is donated by Feed My Starving Children (fmsc.org).

Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) provides the nutrition information pages, written in Spanish, to their partners for purposes such as these seminars. The one-page card presents graphic illustrations of proper handling and preparation of the food product, including the importance of using product before its expiration date. Ricardo recommended that attendees use older product left from an earlier distribution before using newly received packs.



Participants reviewing material during seminar.



Happy winner of a Manna Pack Cookbook!

The value of eating a balanced diet is also presented in the talks. Suggestions are provided to include vegetables and proteins along with the Manna Pack product. The team awarded several of the participants with a Caribbean-themed cookbook for preparing the Manna Pack–Rice. The cookbook was developed by FMSC with input from a trained chef, and provides recipes for local favorites using the Manna Pack product in place of rice.

The team also stresses the importance of staying hydrated by drinking plenty of water. People frequently complain of headaches only to find out it is because they are dehydrated. And finally, participants are discouraged from burning their trash because of potential physical harm from the fumes generated by the fires.

Community members have responded positively to the talks, expressing their appreciation for the opportunity to learn new ways to live their life well!



Pastors' Retreat

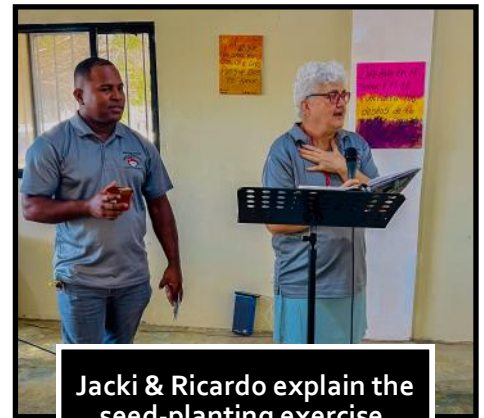
NEARLY TWENTY PASTORS from communities served by The Least of These Ministries gathered earlier this year for a day-long retreat to focus on spiritual growth and development. The theme of the retreat, which was held at the Ears To Hear Ministries Mission Base, was "Listening to the Voice of God."



Educational and inspirational talks were given by Pastors Ramón and Samuel, Wilton, Jacki Stranathan, and Ricardo. As always, the sessions were very interactive, with plenty of opportunity for discussion among and between the attendees. Several Pastors in the group were first-time participants!

The elders who are good leaders are to be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching.
—1 Timothy 5:17 (CSB)

Jacki, our Board Member who is serving this year as a Missionary in Barahona, led an activity to illustrate personal evangelism. Participants were each given a small pot with soil and a sunflower seed. Jacki led them in planting their seeds in the pots, and explained that planting the seeds is like talking with someone about Jesus and the bible. As you nurture those persons, just as with the sunflower plant, they will grow in their faith in God.



Jacki & Ricardo explain the seed-planting exercise.



Watering the sunflower seeds!

After a morning of teaching, worship, and prayer, the group enjoyed lunch at a Barahona restaurant, followed by an afternoon at the beach and river.



Several devotional books were awarded as door prizes during the retreat.
Pictured: Ricardo (L), Pastor Euri from Batey Mena Abajo (C), Pastor Ramón (R)

It is an honor and privilege to be able to encourage and uplift these men and women who are so dedicated and passionate about serving God in their communities. Please pray that they would continue to teach and minister with wisdom and peace!



Participants enjoy a meal before an afternoon at the beach & river!

Ministry Hub Progress

THE MINISTRY HUB IN BARAHONA was bustling with activity this summer!

A local construction crew under the direction of Hilda, the engineer who is managing the major components of the project, completed all the steps necessary to pour the concrete slab that forms the second level within the Ministry Hub. Adding the slab closes in the ground floor area which will become a reception area and a dining/meeting room. A concrete stairway was constructed to provide access to the second level from the dining room. A second access point will eventually be added on the rear of the building, with stairs to be built on the exterior of the building.

Our October mission team will be starting the work to build out the ground floor, constructing drywall to separate the rooms. Later, local crews will complete the concrete block wall that separates the warehouse from the lodging area and make openings in the exterior wall for the lodging area windows.



In January, a mission team will begin the build-out of the second level. Drywall partitions will be built to create several bunk rooms and bathrooms. Wiring will be run for electrical and network connectivity, and plumbing connections will be made.

When complete, the Ministry Hub will be used to house mission teams when visiting, reducing our daily travel time by at least 30 minutes. Additionally, the space will be used for ministry outreach activities like Pastor Training workshops & retreats, youth conferences, and marriage conferences. It will also eventually be made available to local churches for their ministry needs.

We need your help! We still need plenty of team members for our January team (see below!). Experience/skills in drywall construction (metal framing), electrical, plumbing will be very beneficial, but not required. We'll have work for team members of any skill level!

Can't come on a mission trip? You can still help us complete the project! We need financial support for building materials, local laborers, appliances, and equipment for the new space. Please send a gift today, designated for the Ministry Hub Project—every gift will bring us closer to completion!



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

MISSION TRIP

REGISTER NOW!

Scan this code with your phone's camera to access information & registration on our website!



We need team members for our January Mission Team!

No experience is needed—only a desire to serve others. Team members are needed to work on the service project, assist kitchen staff at the mission house with meal prep and clean-up, and plan & coordinate kids' activities.

How is God calling you to serve?

Winter Mission Team
January 10-17, 2026

Service project: Depending on team size, we may work on 2nd floor of Ministry Hub and a service project in a batey simultaneously.

Mission Teams also include opportunities to serve with the daily food distribution ministry, children's activities, and evangelistic outreach!
Mission Team participation is \$725 plus airfare.

Register online at leastofthesemin.org or call 443-918-7105!

Sharing Hope through Tributes

Gifts given in Memory of:

Jane Anderson *by* Sue & David Cummings

Steve Hull *by* Wanda & Dale Valentine

Kate Clark *by* Joyce Bower

Rev. John A. Logan, Jr. *by*

Ralph Dillon *by* Lori Schuessler

Buffalo Mills Christian Church, Don & Pam George,
Valerie & Stuart Kall, Jody Kesslick, Peggy Kidd,
Judy & Al Schmidt, Jan Sensenich, Mark White

Richard Fash *by* Beverly Fash

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Laudine Schmick *by* Sharon & Curt Greenway

Gifts given in Honor of:

Mel Arbaugh *by*

Elizabeth Kalbacher, Dan & Carol Pfoutz

Corinne O'Connor *by* Lyn & Susan Dotson

Jacki Stranathan *by* Lynda Lockard

Dick Clendaniel *by* Bonnie Clendaniel

Linda Wood's Birthday *by* Sue Shorb-Sterling

If you would like to honor or remember a friend or loved one through a donation to The Least of These Ministries, simply provide the information on the enclosed form, or send a note with your gift!

Special Tribute

Rev. John A. Logan, Jr.

In memory of Rev. John Logan, who passed on July 17, 2025. John was a Pastor, who worked with the Least of These Ministries early in the organization's history. John is survived by his wife, Leona, his son, Patrick, daughter-in-law, Jackie, and several siblings. Rev. John had an amazing wit, inner strength, compassion, an infectious laugh, and a love of life. He was smart, funny, and could teach you a lesson without you knowing it. Rest in Peace, Pastor John. *(Submitted by Valerie & Stuart Kall)*



Ricardo leads a workshop on nutrition education.



Jacki provides an information sheet to a seminar participant.

The Least of These Ministries, Inc.
PO Box 2824, Westminster MD 21158

443-918-7105 (voice or text)

info@leastofthesemin.org

Founded by Steve and Ann Hull
www.leastofthesemin.org

Marty Hogan, *Executive Director / Board President*, marty@leastofthesemin.org

Board of Directors: Rev. Bill Warehime, Jr., *Vice-President* • Ted Forman, *Treasurer* • Debbie Stewart, *Secretary*
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