



THE LEAST OF THESE  
MINISTRIES  
MATTHEW 25:40

Sharing **HOPE**  
amidst poverty.

April 2022



Melita (2nd from left in back) with her husband (1st from left in back) and children.

## A Healing Visit

**IN EARLY 2020**, Melita developed a disease that her doctors were unable to diagnose. She had gone from having an active life, taking care of her family and her home to being bedridden, with little or no strength.

Melita lives with her husband, Fekiz, and their four children. They have one son, age 17, and three daughters, ranging in age from three to

14. They have lived in Batey 9—where Fekiz works as a tailor—for 17 years.

Melita recalls days when she would fear that she may never walk again, and would question why she—as a Christian—would be faced with this adversity. “But I rebuked any negative thought in my mind, because I believe in God and I know he will heal me from this illness,” Melita told Wilton Gomez, our Director of Evangelism and Social Action. Melita said that her Pastor, Alexandra, would frequently visit her, and would send rice, beans, and eggs from the program. “That was a relief for my family.”

She says that one day when she “felt in my heart” that she would be healed, “a group of missionaries from the food and evangelism program visited me.” The visitors were members of our January 2021 Mission Team. Melita continued, “They entered my house and spoke to me about the word of God, and prayed for my illness. I felt so much faith on their part.... I could feel that God was working in my life.” Melita told Wilton from that day on, she began to improve day by day. “Today I can say thanks to God and to the prayers of my brothers and sisters in Christ, I am healthy.”

Melita continued, “Thank you for your prayers and for your gift of food that reaches many families, especially mine. It is very helpful.”

*"Thank you for  
your prayers  
and for your  
gift of food...  
It is very  
helpful."*

*And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.  
You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.*

—John 14:13-14

## Profile: Angela, Batey Santa Maria

*This is the fourth in a series of profiles on Pastors and church leaders in the bateys served by The Least of These Ministries.*



**ANGELA WAS BORN IN TAMAYO**, the municipality in which Batey Santa Maria is located. She's grown up there with her parents and two older brothers.

The weekly food distribution in Santa Maria is hosted by her church, and she has served as a volunteer with the distribution for several years. She is also a leader in her church and community, organizing Christian and social activities with the goal of sharing God's love with her neighbors.

Angela received Jesus in her life when she was eight years old, and has a heart for introducing young people to Jesus. As she got older, she began participating in bible studies and sports activities led by a missionary in her community. However, when the missionary returned to her home country, no one was left to lead the activities.

Recently, Angela has begun leading studies with the youth in her community, under the direction of a mentor. Marisol, volunteering through the ministry, is discipling Angela on leading the youth group. Marisol has attended some meetings with Angela in person, and continues to mentor her via contact by phone, text, and Zoom.

Angela will soon celebrate her 25th birthday. She is in her sixth semester of studies at UASD university in Barahona, where she is majoring in primary education. Please pray for her as she continues to refine and use her gift of influencing young people in a positive way.



Angela (center) participates in a youth meeting led by Marisol.

## Remembering a Friend

**WE WERE SADDENED** to learn that Pastor Elias Feliz, a longtime friend and supporter of this ministry, passed away in February. Pastor Elias was a friend of Steve Hull's in the formative years of the ministry, and provided engineering support on many projects, including the construction of our warehouse. Many will remember helping to do construction on a church in Barahona led by Elias and his wife. Elias was a friend and a brother in Christ to many of us. Please pray for his wife and family during this time.



Elias (background, right) reviews drawings for Ministry Hub improvements with Mel Arbaugh, Ricardo, and Wilton in September 2019.



Elias (L) discusses warehouse construction plans in 2011 with then-Manager Franklin Feliz.



## Serving our Neighbors

**ROBERTO AND ADONAI HAVE HAD A DREAM** and a call from God to educate and help children in their community of Cacique.

About 10 minutes from our Ministry Hub in Barahona, Cacique is home to many families with young children. Roberto and Adonai identified the need for an after-school and weekend program to offer educational assistance in a Christ-centered, bible-based environment for the local children.

They partner with a local church for a space to offer their activities. Volunteers assist with leading teaching, providing tutoring and homework assistance, bible education, games, and music.

Kids attending the activities were provided a snack of juice & bread, but through their interaction with the children, Roberto and Adonai learned of their families' nutritional needs. Hearing about our ministry through his pastor, Roberto contacted Ricardo to see if we could help.



Children receive food to eat at the activity and some to bring home.



Adonai and Roberto lead an activity with the kids.

We have begun providing rice, beans, and eggs to this ministry to support the needs of these children and their families. Kids are given a prepared meal during their activity, and rice & beans are sent home with them for their families.

The Least of These Ministries is committed to serving our neighbors. We believe in supporting existing programs with the gifts that God has given us, when possible. Please pray for Roberto and Adonai and the kids and families they serve!

## Sharing Hope through Tributes

### Gifts given in Memory of:

**Barry W. Dahl** *by* William Dahl

**Steve Hull**

*by* Max & Gloria Bair, Vicki Borders, Paul & Mary Lou Day,  
Dave & Lois McGinnis, Jason & Donna Myers,  
Art & Joyce Smith, Cynthia Stewart

**Elaine Koontz** *by* Ben & Missouri

**Tom Marenic** *by* Pamela Potter

**Thomas L. Munch**

*by* Jennifer Munch and Larry & Veronica Bohn

**Jean Myers** *by* Howard Myers

**Robert Sawtelle** *by* David & Debbie Sawtelle

**Stephany Seargeant** *by* Woodie & Linda Wood

**Mark Voelker** *by* Katie White

**Mary Lee & Loring B. Yingling**

*by* Crawford Yingling Insurance & Risk Management

### Gifts given in Honor of:

**Mel & Carol Arbaugh** *by* Lia Arbaugh

**Linda Best** *by* Cindy Fuqua

**David & Lina Cahan** *by* Paul & Kathy Jenkins

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**Lee & Janice Hartwig** *by* Bob & Debbie Stewart

**Doyle Hostetter** *by* Kurt Miller

**Ann Hull**

*by* Otho & Dorothy Brown, Max & Gloria Bair, Lynda Lockard

**Brian Hull & Dawn** *by* Ann Hull

**Scott Hull & Martha** *by* Ann Hull

**Ryan Lantzy** *by* Bill & Linda Warehime

**Sharon & John Milne** *by* Bob & Debbie Stewart

**Jennifer C. Munch** *by* J. Christopher Clise

**Cameron White** *by* Bill White

**Extended Family** *by* Don & Jon Winter

*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!*

## January Mission Team



### Food Distribution

### Painting Ministry Hub



### Bible School

### Bathroom Install— Los Robles Church



Visit our website for the full story and more photos!

## SAVE THE DATE!

### 10th Annual Golf Tournament Friday, September 23

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