

Sharing HOPE amidst poverty.

### November 2022



## Passing Down the Lessons

WHEN WE LEARN SOMETHING, there is value in the lesson that is so much more than the knowledge we gain. Lives can be impacted when we pass on that knowledge to others.

Our ministry staff recently held an activity with about 70 kids in Batey Santa Maria. The event focused on God's plan of salvation for His children. "It fills me with great joy and emotion to be able to teach that story of the plan of salvation with the children of batey Santa Maria," said Ricardo, our Ministry Manager. He recalls learning this lesson when he was "very little."

Ricardo led the event, along with Wilton, Pastor Ramón, and leaders from the local church. The event included worship, prayer, reading from the bible, and activities. Each child attending the event received an 'Evangelism Bracelet' that has several different colored beads, each representing an element of God's salvation plan. The bracelets were donated by a mission team earlier this year.

"I remember a group of Missionaries that used to come with Steve Hull taught us how to make similar bracelets that symbolized the plan of salvation and told us the meaning of each color," Ricardo said. "It was an effective way to keep that story of salvation in our mind and heart."

The kids were challenged to share the plan of salvation with their parents and neighbors, explaining the meaning of each color. Ricardo reports that by the end of the event, kids were sharing with one another about what they had learned!

Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

—Deuteronomy 11:18-19 NIV



#### The Least of These Ministries · 10th Annual Golf Tournament · September 23, 2022 Thank You to Our Sponsors! Presented By: 2 Anonymous Gold **Sponsors** Sponsors: ASAP Compressors | Catoctin Hemp | Harley-Davidson of Baltimore **Feature** fireplaces & Grills Sponsors: Lytle Construction Corp. | Thomas, Bennett & Hunter, Inc. | Bill & Linda Warehime Barnes-Bollinger Lyn & Susan Dotson Kalbacher Family Skarda and Associates, Inc. Insurance Services, Inc. Feeser's Market "Be joyful in hope..." Lenny Mills Smiley Construction Carroll County -Romans 12:12 The Gideons Chamber of Commerce **NWSB Bank** Staley's Body Shop, Inc. Supporting Hawk Industries, Inc. Sponsors: Carroll Land Services, Inc. ODT Global, LLC-Ann C. Stull Sharing HOPE F. Rusty Elsner Jim & Susan Hively Daniel J. Chilcoat, Patricia Wolf amidst poverty S & S Holdings, Inc. Financial Planner Hoffman, Comfort, Offutt, Scott & Halstad, LLP





Our 10th Annual Golf Tournament was a wonderful success, raising over \$25,000 to support our Food Distribution Program! We are so grateful for the sponsors listed above and the 106 golfers who came and supported the event. For the third year in a row, an anonymous donor generously matched the first \$2,500 in donations received through the event. During the tournament, another donor added \$400 to the matching gift challenge. Tournament participants and other donors stepped up to the challenge, donating over \$3,600 to achieve the match, bringing the total donations to over \$6,500!

In total, the funds raised will help us to serve about 200,000 meals to families served by The Least of These Ministries!

Thank you for your generosity! Help us show appreciation to our sponsors by patronizing them, when possible.





Photos courtesy of Joshua Southern.

### **Pre-Natal Nutrition Outreach**

**AFTER LEARNING OF ONE WOMAN'S** experience of not being able to afford pre-natal vitamins during her pregnancy, our ministry team prayed for God to direct them in providing help to women with this need. Later, a ministry partner in Santo Domingo offered Ricardo the opportunity to receive a supply of pre-natal vitamins for distribution.



With that answer to prayer, the team organized several outreach events for pregnant women in the bateys and in some Barahona communities. During the events, Ricardo's brother, Isaias, led talks about the importance of good nutrition during pregnancy. Isaias is a graduate of the University's Nursing program. Pastor Ramón also attended the events, sharing the gospel message and telling the women about Jesus' love for each of them.

Women attending the event each received a supply of pre-natal vitamins to last her pregnancy. We are investigating opportunities to continue receiving the vitamins as a means to help mothers have the best chances for healthy babies. This will be an important addition to our program, which includes a potato-based food provided by Feed My Starving Children. That food is designed for children between 6-12 months, to help them transition from breast milk or formula to solid foods.



#### **GIFT MATCH OPPORTUNITY FOR GIVING TUESDAY!**

Giving Tuesday falls on November 29 this year (the Tuesday after Thanksgiving). If you plan to participate in this awareness-building event, please consider making a gift to The Least of These Ministries.

We have received a pledge from a supporter to match the first \$4,000 received during this year's Giving Tuesday campaign. If we are successful in raising the full amount, that would provide about 64,000 meals through our Food Distribution program!

TUESDAY

Donations toward the matching gift may be made through December 11. Gifts may be sent via check, using the enclosed form & envelope, or at our website (click the Giving Tuesday link).



### Happy Thanksgiving!

Our Board of Directors extends warm wishes for a very happy Thanksgiving holiday to all of our supporters.

We are grateful for how each of you generously gives throughout the year through your time, talent, prayers, and financial support.



### January 2023 Mission Team!

*It's not too late!* There is still room on our upcoming Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic on January 7–14, 2023. The team will be doing work on our Ministry Hub, as well as conducting a kids' bible school and serving with the Food Distribution. If we have enough team members, we would also like to apply a sealer to the new roof on Pastor Ramón's apartment at the Los Robles church.

Teams are open to anyone 16 and older (13-15 with parent/guardian), and no experience or specific skills are required!

For this team, we are looking for an electrician or someone experienced in electrical work, willing and able to work on a high ladder (to install exterior lighting on the Ministry Hub). We are also hoping for 2-4 people with experience in applying concrete sealer.

Of course, we always need people who love to work with kids and people with a servant's heart to help keep the team well-fed and hydrated.

Information and registration is available on our website (leastofthesemin.org). Contact us if you have any questions!

### Sharing Hope through Tributes

#### Gifts given in Memory of:

**Steve Hull** *by* Max & Gloria Bair, Dan & Jutta Hypes, and Charlene & Bob Jones

Jean Myers by Howard Myers

Stephen J. Sabol, Jr. by Suzanna Erdley

### Gifts given in Honor of:

Mel Arbaugh by Dan & Carol Pfoutz

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by Wang Xueting and Karina Collins

Linda Wood by Rev. Dr. 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!



# The Least of These Ministries (almost) Annual Banquet

Make plans now to join us on Sunday afternoon, April 16, 2023, for a celebration of 25 years of ministry in the Dominican Republic!

More details and registration are coming soon!

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