

25
YEARS
1998
2023



THE LEAST OF THESE
MINISTRIES
MATTHEW 25:40

Sharing **HOPE**
amidst poverty.

July 2023

Grateful for God's Provision



FOR OVER 10 YEARS, Eligia has been a participant in our Food Distribution Program. At a recent distribution, Ricardo, our Ministry Manager, asked Eligia how she was doing. “Very well right now, thank God,” she responded, with a smile lighting up her face. “Thank God we will have food after the message.”

Eligia lives in the community of Los Block Mena and is a widow. At 90 years young, Eligia spends her days with her three grandchildren, aged 15, 10, and 5. Her son moved to the capital, Santo Domingo, to find employment.

“I always hope to see the blue truck arrive in my community with the food,” she told Ricardo and Wilton, Director of Evangelism and Social Action, during their recent visit. “I don’t know what would become of me at my age without the food; it helps me a lot. May God bless those who make this meal possible.”

Please pray for Eligia, her family, and our staff in the Dominican Republic who faithfully serve in the ministry every week.

The Least of These Ministries operates a year-round Food Distribution program in the southwest region of the Dominican Republic. Uncooked rice, beans, and eggs are provided each week to residents of 14 communities outside of Barahona. Food is provided through a local church in each community.

Recipients include young families, single mothers and their children, elderly couples, widows, and widowers.

God makes this important work possible through the generous gifts of individuals, churches, and businesses. Please consider sending a gift today to support this and our other outreach programs to people in these communities.



Wilton & Ricardo pray for Eligia during a recent visit.

Encouraging **GOD CENTERED** Marriages

CONTINUING OUR PROGRAM aimed at strengthening marriages, our ministry staff recently held two conferences in Batey 7. Wilton, Pastor Ramón, and Ricardo led teachings on “Letting God be the Center of My Marriage and Family” and “The Power of Communication in Marriage.”



Ricardo prays for a couple during a conference in Batey 7.

Response to the conferences has been positive. Couples often split up when faced with a challenge, but many of the couples who attended these conferences gave feedback that they understand now the importance of trying to work through those challenges.

Wilton leads an activity to engage participants during one of the conferences.



As was done in Batey Mena Abajo, our team will mentor and encourage Pastor Wilson of Batey 7 to conduct the conferences through his church. We will continue to offer our support on this important initiative.

See & Experience Our Ministry Work Firsthand on a Sharing Hope Vision Trip!

- ◆ *Learn more about our work in the Dominican Republic*
 - ◆ *Meet our local leadership & staff*
 - ◆ *Visit our Ministry Hub & Attend Food Distributions*
 - ◆ *Meet Pastors and families in communities we serve*

Sharing **HOPE** VISION TRIP

October 17–21, 2023

Trip cost is \$450, which includes 4 nights lodging & meals, transportation while in the DR, and travel medical insurance. *Airfare is not included.*

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

Couples' Retreat Held for Pastors

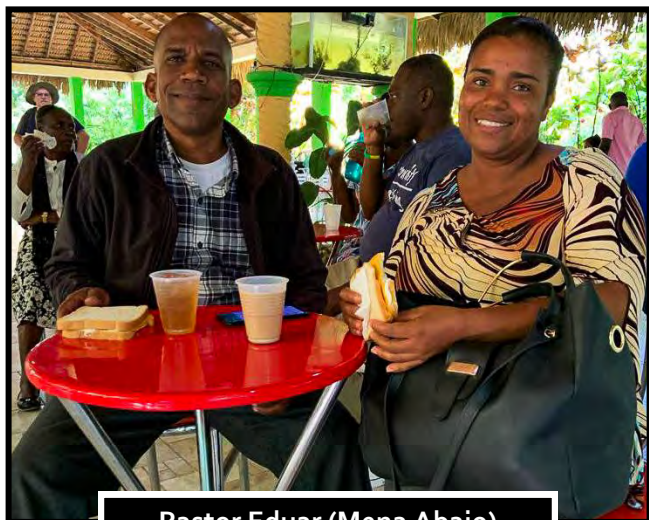
AS WE STRIVE TO ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT the Pastors in the communities we serve, we know it is important for their family relationships to be healthy. With that in mind, our ministry team in Barahona held a one-day retreat earlier this year for Pastors and their spouses.

The event was held at a local venue, offering a quiet and relaxed setting outside of their communities. This was an opportunity for each Pastor to “recharge” spiritually, with a focus on their spouse and family.

In addition to prayer and praise, the retreat featured two main lectures. The first was given by Ricardo, with the theme, “Taking care of the first ministry given to us by God: our marriage and family.”



Pastor Abel Apolinar provides one of the retreat lectures.



Pastor Eduar (Mena Abajo) and his wife, Najaris.

The second lecture, “How to be a team in marriage and pastoral ministry,” was given by guest Pastor Abel Apolinar.

Each Pastor was given a new bible, donated by Pastor Robert Dekker, a special guest visiting from New Covenant Presbyterian Church in Lewes, Delaware.

Fourteen couples participated in the event, which included a delicious luncheon, swimming pool time, and good fellowship. These Pastors who serve their communities every day left the retreat blessed to share the blessing with their churches.

This is why a man leaves his father and mother and bonds with his wife, and they become one flesh.

—Genesis 2:24 CSB

Pastor Sponsorship Program

WILL YOU HELP US BLESS the Pastors that faithfully serve their communities in the Dominican Republic?

In our last newsletter (May 2023), we announced a new giving program in which donors can send monthly gifts directed to support the Pastor in one of the communities we serve. Many of these Pastors receive little, if any, financial support from their church. Working outside the church may require a commitment of up to six days a week, leaving a Pastor little time to devote to their community.

The Sponsorship Program seeks to alleviate some of the personal financial burden on the Pastor’s family, while also helping with needs of individual churches.

A full sponsorship is \$200 monthly, and partial sponsorships are also available. Use the enclosed form to sign up or donate online at leastofthesemin.org (click the “Sponsor a Pastor!” link).



Registration
Now Open!

Presented by



11th Annual
GOLF TOURNAMENT
Friday, September 22, 2023



Register now for this year's Golf Tournament!

Plenty of sponsorship opportunities are available, and are a great way to promote your business while supporting our work in the Dominican Republic.

Complete details and registration information provided in the enclosed flyer and on our website.

Golf Tournament Matching Gift

For the fourth consecutive year, an anonymous donor has generously pledged to match all gifts, dollar for dollar, made through this year's Golf Tournament!

For 2023, that generous donor has increased their matching gift pledge from \$2,500 to \$3,000!

To contribute toward the matching gift, write 'GT Match' on your check or use the Matching Gift link on our website.

**NEW
DATES!**

SIGN UP AT:

leastofthesemin.org

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

MISSION TRIP

JANUARY 13-20, 2024

Sharing Hope through Tributes

Gifts given in Memory of:

Barry W. Dahl *by* Michelle Dahl & Carolene Will

Steve Hull *by* Alice Philp & Bradford Yates

Bob Jones *by* Charlene Jones

Howard Myers *by* Jane P. Bennighof, Jim Boyce, Bonnie & Dick Clendaniel, Family of Lyman C. Daughtrey, Jr., Sarah Davis, John & Susan Harbold, Ann Hull, George & Linda Mundy, Brenda Myers, John & Ellen Nicodemus, Mary Louise Poole

Howard & Jean Myers
by Robert Brenneman & Bertie Pond

George B. Reimer *by* Barbara Nye

Deanna Sies *by* John Sies

Bill Stonseifer *by* Deborah Chaney

Gifts given in Honor of:

Nathaniel & Patricia Gadsden *by* Bill White

Marty Hogan *by* John & Terry Eason

Ron Lytle *by* Ben & Missouri Wolff

Alice Phelps *by* Robert & Traci Goodfellow

Etla Simmons *by* Idalia Craig

Madeline Jean Vought *by* Jerry & Jean Watson

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, Inc.
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Founded by Steve and Ann Hull
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The Least of These Ministries, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization incorporated in the State of Maryland; FEIN 52-2220216. A copy of our current financial statement is available by writing us at the above address. Documents and information submitted under the Maryland Solicitations Act are also available, for the cost of postage and copies, from the Maryland Secretary of State, State House, Annapolis MD 21401, 410-974-5534.