

Report from Dewayne, Rita, and Antonio Shappley

Part 1. April 20, 2023.

Dear Brethren, greetings in the precious name of Jesus Christ, praying that you are strong in Him and rejoicing in His bountiful blessings.

I have been compiling data for a report that covers the first three months of this year 2023 and have decided to send portions of it by three or four different E-mails, then mail a printed version of the entire report. Following is Part 1 of the report.

Use of Tracts and Bibles sent to the Dominican Republic in 2022

Fruitful outreach of the Los Mina, Santo Domingo church through WhatsApp and Facebook

Background. In November 2022, we sent 36,338 tracts, 118 booklets, 3 books, 58 compact disks of hymns and 179 hardcover Bibles in Spanish to the Dominican Republic, much of the material designated for 5 specific congregations. The shipment was received by evangelist Pascual Pérez at his house in Santo Domingo. Pascual, now 86 years old and still very active, was converted in the 1970s through a small, 36-page booklet, *“Las Iglesias de Cristo os saludan -The Churches of Christ Salute You,”* printed by us in Puerto Rico. In previous reports, I have noted his outstanding ability as a preacher. Travis and Carlota, of Yantis, TX, have made trips to Santo Domingo to help the churches there. A request by them to us resulted in our preparation of the shipment in November 2022. Recently, they contributed \$1,500.00 to the Tract Fund to cover the cost of the materials and shipping.



The Los Mina Church of Christ at the front of their own meeting place.
Los Mina is a sector of the capital city of Santo Domingo.

Pascual Pérez, in a white shirt, is seated a little to the right of center behind two rows of children and adults.

Translated extracts from a detailed Report in Spanish for the year 2022 by Pascual Pérez sent to Travis and Carlota Aven, dated Feb. 3, 2023.

“During the year, we preached and distributed literature in various public venues such as bus stations, hospitals, and parks; also, in homes.

In a public area, we gave backpacks to 125 needy children, with the participation of their fathers and mothers, to whom we preached, gave refreshments, tracts, and other items, offering them a Bible course.

During the year, there were eight baptisms and several reconciliations.

Working with the church in Ensanche Espaillat [a sector of Santo Domingo where I had the unforgettable experience of preaching for the first time a week-long gospel meeting in the Dominican Republic. DS] we established congregations in Peralvillo and Yamasá.

During the year 2022, we preached 125 subjects on WhatsApp on salvation, doctrine, repentance, and obedience to the truth. Blessings came in other countries, for there were baptisms, restorations in some congregations, and believers were strengthened by means of Facebook on Sundays from our place of transmission. The year long, we spread the gospel of salvation to people in various countries. Toward the end of the year, we were able to set up a camera behind the pulpit so that those who access us from other countries can see the service and hear the message of salvation. Sundays, we preach personally here in the meeting place and also to other countries through Facebook.

We wish to thank you for the Bibles and literature received. We are reserving a part which we will use in our preaching campaign this year. The literature and the Bibles are very useful.”

Rita has a stent placed in her heart.

April 10, I took Rita to our family doctor for a consultation, for she had been feeling light pains, with a couple of sharper ones, on the left side of her chest. He listened to her for about three or four minutes and sent her directly to Northwest Hospital, in Margate, FL, 9 miles from where we live. This hospital is often mentioned as one of the best in the area for the treatment of heart problems. There she underwent a nuclear stress test, then a catheterization whereby the cardiac surgeon discovered that one of the arteries of the left ventricle had a 98% blockage and he proceeded to place one stent. She was in the hospital for 4 days minus 2 hours. Now, Rita has 7 bypasses and one stent! Her recovery here at home is coming along without complications thus far, for which we are very thankful indeed. We were most favorably impressed with the Northwest Hospital, both the facility itself and especially with the medical personnel. Very friendly and helpful in every way. Visiting hours are from 8 am to 8 pm. Normally, family is not allowed to stay overnight, however, an exception was made in my case for the last two nights, due in part to the extremely rainy and windy weather we were having. In the downtown area of Fort Lauderdale, 26 inches of rain fell in one day, most of it in 7 hours! A “thousand-year rain,” they say. The airport was a lake.

Your continued prayers for all of us here, especially for Rita, also for Antonio’s wife, Irelis, with three or four health problems causing her much discomfort, will be most appreciated.

With brotherly love and boundless appreciation,

Dewayne Shappley

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These works are carried out under the oversight of the...

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Treasurer for the Tract and Internet Fund: Lynda Riddick

Contributions to: Cairo Church of Christ, Att. Lynda Riddick, 82 Lee Circle, Alamo, TN 38001

Check to: Cairo Church of Christ and designated for: Tract and Internet Fund.