

## *Pathway to Jesus—Caminito de Jesus Santiago, Dominican Republic*

Greetings from the Dominican  
Republic in the name of our Lord and  
Savior Jesus Christ!

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### **END OF YEAR /GRADUATION**

Our staff and students worked very hard at the end of last school year to finish well. Their hard work paid off. All our students passed to the next level. A beautiful graduation ceremony was held to celebrate the 38 students graduating from Kindergarten and the 16 students graduating from Sixth grade. I was even able to send a video message congratulating everyone and encouraging the 6<sup>th</sup> graders to be lights wherever the Lord would take them this next school year. I was glad I had the opportunity to do that.

### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Our staff lead 4 days of Vacation Bible School this summer once the school year ended. These days were spent sharing the gospel message, singing, playing, doing crafts and just having fun. We had a very good turn out:

Day One: 112 students

Day Two: 134 students

Day Three: 104 students

Day Four: 116 students

Overall, everything went well. We praise God for the opportunities he gives us to share His love with others.

### **PREPARATIONS FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR**

The staff has been working together these past couple of weeks to get ready for the new school year. They have had some very special devotional times, praising God and praying for the year, the students and their families. Our psychologists on staff spent a few days leading workshops on "Positive Discipline" and "Classroom Management". Important information was shared by the administrators. Plus, lots of time was spent on decorating the classrooms and planning for the first couple weeks of school.

We are VERY excited for the new school year to begin. The first day of school is Monday, August 21. We don't have an official count yet of how many students will be with us this year. But, as of right now, we are very close to the amount we had last year, which was 272 students. We are also VERY excited to see what God has in store for us this year.

### **TEXTBOOK CAMPAIGN**

I would like to take a moment to express an urgent need we have and give you the opportunity to become involved. In the past, we have received donated textbooks from public schools and the government. Unfortunately, this year they weren't able to donate as many books. The cost difference between the books donated and the books that still need to be purchased is covered each year by the parents. Because of low donation levels this year the cost is simply too high. Would you prayerfully consider helping with a donation to lower the out of pocket costs for our parents and ensure each child has the books that they need?

The cost of books for each child this year is USD \$63. This provides them the 3 textbooks that they are still lacking. If you are able to contribute ANY amount, large or small, please send a check payable to Pathway to Jesus to the following address to Peace CRC, 833 E. 168<sup>th</sup> Street, South Holland, IL 60473. This would be a tax-deductible donation. Make sure you write "textbooks" in the memo so we know your donation is being designated for that.

It is something we need to act on quickly since the new school year is already starting. We apologize for this time urgency, but we were waiting to hear back from the government to see how many books we would receive from them. Please think about this and pray about it in the next few days. Then, if you are willing to help, it would be good to respond to this email letting us know you will be sending a check and for what amount, so we can plan accordingly. It would be great to hear from you via email no later than Thursday, August 24, and your check can be sent in after that no problem. If you are unable to help financially at this time, please consider keeping this in your prayers. We trust our God will provide!

Please respond to this email or call 630-329-4380 (Shelley) with any questions that you have!

## HEALTH UPDATE

It is hard to believe I have been on this journey almost two years already. A lot has happened in those two years: 18 cycles of chemo, a rod put in my leg to strengthen my femur bone and a stem cell transplant, just to name a few. WOW! This past week I had some tests run, including a bone marrow biopsy, for my upcoming appointment with my doctors. On Monday, August 21, I will be receiving a PET scan (which is something new for me) and I will be meeting with my doctors to see where I am at and find out what my next step is. Lord willing, if the doctors are pleased with my progress I will be transitioning to what they call the maintenance stage. I will know more after my doctor's appointment.

## Prayer Requests

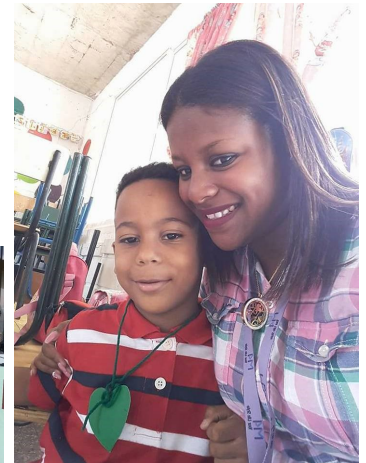
Praise God for the kids that attended Vacation Bible School this summer

Pray the school year will get off to a great start

Pray that God would continue to meet all our needs at the school, including receiving some donations for the students' textbooks and finding the sponsors we still need

Pray for wisdom for our administrative team

Pray that I will receive positive results from all my tests and the doctors will be able to make wise decisions about what is next for me



Donations to Pathway to Jesus—Pathway to Jesus, Peace Christian Ref Church, 833 E 168th Street, South Holland, IL 60473  
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