



Saludos

Rev. Barclay*

Greetings, My friends...or as our Cuban brothers and sisters would say, "Saludos, mis amigos". There is a lot of wonderful news from the Cuban Mission in this newsletter. Bishop Willians reports on the amazing ministry happening at Casa Cranmer in Moa. Thank you, Brian for the graduation pictures. Pablo and Meleisi tell us how they are privileged to equip each member to evangelize their parents, children, grandchildren. Canon Boonzaaijer was excited to report on his very first trip to central Cuba. And last, but not least Brian & Diane McVitty speak of their time in Holguin & Moa with our Cuban partners.

Many thanks to all the parishes and individuals who donated funds for water filters and medicines that went into the ton of hockey bags and suitcases taken so far this year. Also, a big "Bravo Zulu" to Brian & Diane McVitty, Diane's sister, Jude Hodson, and to Nelson & Allison Buffet for packing hundreds of pounds of medical supplies down on their "holidays." Things are still very difficult for the Cuban communities and churches, and they need your prayers and support.



Alexei and Aniet with Lauren Alexa.



Tito's wife, Yamilet with worship material in Ciego de Avila.

“A Dream Come True God’s Way”

Cranmer House Seminary Moa, Cuba
by Bishop Raul Willians Suarez

Cranmer House is one of those dreams that God allowed to come true. It is the seminary where we work with different age groups; where our children grow up happily under the protection of biblical knowledge in a world where there is so much loss and lack of control in the education of the new generations. It is undoubtedly the healthiest way to walk with God and lead others along the path of truth.

Our Cranmer House opened its doors in 2020, filling our small town with satisfaction, saving lives, consecrating them to the glory of God. It started with a small group of young people that is now growing and radiating its light to the entire community. We have been able to see the hand of God in our Evangelism course, where we have already graduated five of our seminarians and started again with an enrollment of nine brothers willing to serve and evangelize.

Every Saturday we welcome a beautiful group of around 27 children who develop in the light of the Word and with the perennial help of the Most High. Also on Saturdays, learning and consecration workshops are offered, so that the church, the community and the leaders are given appropriate tools that allow them to grow and bring the gospel of Jesus Christ to this lost world.

We cannot fail to mention the training course for Pastors. It is a renewing experience, where men of God consolidate their knowledge and discover new ways to bring the truth of Christ to the world and do it with dignity and biblical confidence. We can affirm with joy that “up to now the Lord has helped us” and he will perfect us every day so that our Cranmer House will always



Graduation, March 2023.

be an instrument of God to fulfill his purposes on earth.

With the graduation in the month of March, of the interdenominational Evangelism Course, based in our seminary, the entire population and sister Churches were impacted and were able to appreciate our work. It was undoubtedly a beautiful and inspiring way to bring the light of the Master to the community and to show the world that when we place ourselves in God’s hands, great deeds can be accomplished for the glory of our heavenly Father.

Let us pray for the preparation of leaders and teachers and that God put in our students, whether they are children, young people or adults, all the love and dedication necessary to serve, offering our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to our God. Let us thank our Father every day for the opportunity he has given us to serve him and teach others the truth of the Gospel. Let our seminary always be a place where Christ occupies the center of our teachings and where the food of sound doctrine is guaranteed to the souls who need it.



Delivering much-needed medicine

Canon Brian McVitty – March 2023

Dear Doctors, Pharmacists & REC/ANiC Mission Partners,
We wanted to express our heart felt thanks to you for co-signing our application to Health Partners International Canada so that we would be able to take medicine down to our church partners in Cuba. Attached is the documentation from HPIC. Please be assured that many people will benefit from your act of generosity.

The Cuba Mission Society has been active in church planting and supporting clergy for about 15 years and we have been personally involved for almost 9 years. With these trips to Cuba we always seem to be walking a fine line between doing as much as possible for our partners but not provoking the communist authorities. For instance, prior to Covid, when our last team landed in Cuba, one of the team members had his luggage searched and the medicine he was carrying confiscated because it exceeded the 20 pound limit. When that same group departed Cuba, two members of the team were taken aside for interrogation. They were asked why they had travelled so extensively. They were told that they were in Cuba on a tourist visa but had “not behaved as tourists”. The first team back to Cuba after Covid took limited supplies and only traveled locally but suffered with both Covid and a gastro infection!



Bishop Willian with Brian and Diane McVitty.

As we prepared for our recent trip we knew that because of Covid the 20 pound limit for bringing in supplies had been waived. However, we still wondered if taking 100 pounds of medicine from Health Partners International Canada (HPIC) stuffed into two large hockey bags was going to be too much and too obvious? Would a three hour journey to the town of Moa to visit the church leaders for the weekend, be too far and too long? Would there be gasoline for the journey, and what were the risks of Covid, dengue fever, and the kind of gastro infections suffered by the 2022 team?

However, we are pleased to report that everything went smoothly. There were no problems with customs as we arrived at the airport. While some gas stations had no fuel, our driver managed to find sufficient gasoline for our trip inland. We give thanks for God's grace and the prayers of many people. In the Scriptures it says that, "...the valleys will be filled, and the mountains and hills made level. The curves will be straightened, and the rough places made smooth" (Luke 3:5) to create a way forward without obstacles. All of the obstacles we had anticipated had evaporated. God is good....all the time!



Nelson and Allison Buffett with Diane McVitty.

Amazing Grace, Amazing Mercy

Dr Lissandra Navarro

My Dear Friends: We have been working on the delivery of medicines to the members of the church, plus we can say that the community has also benefited a lot. It is a pity that you are not around so that you can enjoy the relief and joy of so many people! It gives pleasure and ennobles the soul to do good to others.

All our congregation, around 82 families, received vitamins, painkillers, antibiotics and other medicines according to the pathologies they present. Brothers and sisters from other Churches were also helped with vitamins and antibiotics, with a prior analysis of each need and their diagnosis. Patients from the community have been helped to whom, along with the treatments, the Word of God is brought, as is the case of sister Loli (Dolores), who suffers from Rheumatoid Arthritis. In addition to the medical treatment, she is fed with the refreshment of the Most High on each visit.

On our way to take the Dexamethasone treatment to an asthmatic patient, we found a desperate wife and her bedridden husband who also needed Dexamethasone, and we were able to share it with him. It is so comforting when we ease the pain of cancer patients who also allow us to pray and offer them spiritual relief. They are surprised and grateful for the free offer of these medicines.

Each medicine we received was shared with the congregations of the Western Convocation. We also sent medicine to the extensions of our Parish: Sagua de Tanamo, in Holguín with its two extensions and also to the church in Guantánamo. The sister

who needed Medroxyprogesterone is very grateful and is seeing steady improvement. There are many patients in treatment who appreciate the care they now receive.

We also offered help to an orphanage. We sent them medicines and a water filter that brought tears of emotion to the director. Each of these little ones will be offered antipyretic and antibiotic medicines



Dr Lissandra Navarro, Nurse, Bishop Willians & Canon Brian McVitty.

and they all received one of the stuffed animals. We have not finished distributing the children's medicine, since many of those who attend our children's ministry do not come with their parents and for safety reasons we do not give it to the children but to the parents.

We have no words to thank you for your tenderness, concern and sacrifice. We know that it was God who put in your hearts the desire to help so many in need and God will reward you for your effort. Below is the medicine delivery report.

With gratitude,
— Dr Lissandra Navarro (San Marcos, Moa, Cuba)

Life Testimony of the San Lucas Parish

The Reverend Pablo Ulloa Caballero

My name is Rev Pablo Ulloa Caballero and I am the Rector of the San Lucas parish in Venezuela, Cuba. I minister with the wonderful help of my wife Mileisi González Licor, to whom I have been happily married for 17 years.



Pablo San Lucas on Sunday.

Our church began in 2010 in my house. We began as a small group with the desire to worship God. I was already a theologically trained pastor graduated from a seminary. Now I needed God's help to establish this new community of faith. Through an acquaintance, we contacted Bishop Charles Dorrington and his beloved wife Claudia. They treated us with much love and care, as their children in Christ, and introduced us to the Reformed Episcopal Anglican faith. They taught us how to walk in this Church and I have come to love Bishop Charles very much for both his commitment to the gospel and his lifestyle.

With the interaction and help of Bishop Charles we were soon confirming new brothers in the faith and San Lucas have been blessed to build a considerable congregation. The work of our parish has been multi-faceted. We serve many dysfunctional families. Based

on data from the housing population census in Cuba, where every 8 out of 10 families are run by single mothers, we seek to restore the family based on the on God's promise to Abraham in Genesis 12:3, **"...and in you all the families of the earth will be blessed."** The idea is that each family evangelizes its own family. The missionary role of the parish, therefore, is to equip each member to evangelize their parents, children, grandchildren, etc.

We also work with small cell-groups reaching children for Christ and thus are able to reach their parents and other family members. Our ministry has also been blessed to serve children with special care needs & orphans, with resources provided by our REC Diocese in the USA and locally donated funds. We also provide chaplaincy care to a local nursing home. San Lucas is hosting an extension of the Casa Cranmer Seminary with 7 students. Our vision is to establish new parishes

in the future in the municipality where we live. At the same time, we seek to serve the purpose of the Great Commission and be beneficial where needed both inside and outside the Church.



San Lucas Sunday School with Meleisi.

A strategy to bless

Canon John Boonzaaijer

Spending time with God's faithful, resourceful, and trusting children in Cuba inspired much thanksgiving during our trip to central Cuba in late February. In spite of weather delays for Canon Barclay and Canadian reluctance to allow Canon John into Cuba, we both arrived safely. Bishop Willians and the clergy surrounding Florida, where Archdeacon Alexei now serves, first met with us in their new Christian Center, where we were able to receive reports, discuss plans, and deliver thirty-five water filters, along with vestments, chalices, and medicines.

This trip adopted a new REC/ANiC commitment to travel in small groups, and restrict them to regional travel. The strategy worked well—both for being less noticeable, and also to spend a higher quality and quantity of time with the clergy and



Raudel and his family.



Lunch with Bishop and clergy.

their families and congregations. Enjoying a meal together, and several hours of substantial discussion was a real blessing to them and to us. A translator had been engaged to travel with us the entire week, taxis were arranged, and accommodations booked. Archdeacon Alexei's capable hand was evident in each place.

While supplies were desperately short, courage and generosity were commensurately long—and humbling. Further, creative church members continue to launch new ministries, with several Saturday schools, daily online prayer groups, and plans for new and expanded construction. Our brothers and sisters are banding together, forming a deeper identity, and making plans for their own mission endeavors. God be praised.

How You Can Give to the Cuba Mission

Canadian donations should now be made out and sent to: or in the USA

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To explore how you can become more involved, please contact:

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