

### Iglesia Episcopal Dominicana

# Our History



In 1897 the Dominican Episcopal Church was founded in San Pedro de Marcoris. English-speaking migrants from the British West Indies brought their Anglican faith with them when they arrived in San Pedro to work in the sugar cane industry. They were people profoundly committed to Christ and many arrived with bibles and prayer books under their arms.

Bishop James Theodore Holly, Anglican Bishop of the Apostolic Orthodox Church of Haiti, ordained the Rev. P. Benjamin Isaac Wilson to serve these West Indians. He was ordained on August 8, 1897 and with his ordination the

Anglican Church in the Dominican Republic (DR) was born. Bishop Holly is a historically important figure in the Episcopal Church, because he was the first African-American Bishop.

#### 1913 Join ECUSA

Rev. Wilson founded Holy Trinity Church in San Pedro de Marcoris and many other missions. In 1913 the Dominican church became a part of the United States Episcopal Church (ECUSA) along with the church in Haiti. However, it remained under the supervision of Diocese of Puerto Rico. During its early years, the church actively established itself in this country primarily with the help of missionary priests.

American missionaries William Wiley and James Beer served in the DR beginning in 1918. Fr. Wiley founded the Church of the Epiphany in Santo Domingo and several other churches. Fr. Beer established San Esteban in San Pedro de Macorís and many other missions in sugar cane areas.

Wiley and Beer established a firm foundation for the Anglican Church in the Dominican Republic. However, the Rev. Thomas Basden holds a special place of honor in the hearts of Dominican Episcopalians. Fr. Basden was born in the British West Indies, but was a life-long resident of the Dominican Republic. For 50 years he faithfully served as the spiritual leader and evangelist for the growing Dominican Episcopal Church. He founded churches, wrote music, and encouraged many to become committed followers of Christ.

#### An Episcopal Martyr



In 1936, the Rev. Charles Barnes arrived in the Dominican Republic to serve the people of Epiphany Church, Santo Domingo. In 1937 the armed forces of the dictator Rafael Trujillo were killing hundreds of Haitians along the border. Fr. Barnes was sending information back to the United States in an attempt to end the killings. Some of his messages were intercepted by the Dominican government.

On the night of July 26, 1938 agents took Fr. Barnes to the dictator Trujillo where he was beaten to death and his body deposited in the rectory of the church. A church employee was arrested for the crime and later found hung in his cell.

However, there was proof that Fr. Barnes was probably killed by Trujillo agents. Fr. Barnes is entombed under the floor of Epiphany Church. Every Sunday people take communion above a tablet placed in honor of this Episcopal Church martyr.

### The Church Is Nationalized

During its first 60 years, most Anglican services were conducted in English. However, in the early 1950's American missionaries "nationalized" the Church by instituting services in Spanish. Today Episcopal services are in Spanish with the exception of a service on Sundays at Epiphany.

In 1961 the DR was recognized as its own mission diocese of the United States Episcopal Church, Province IX. The Rt. Rev. Paul Kellogg became the first resident Bishop, and sought to solidify the Church's expansion. In 1972, the Rt. Rev. Telesforo Isaac was elected as the first Dominican-born bishop. Under his leadership the church truly became a church of and for the

Dominican people. He retired as Diocesan Bishop in 1991.

He remains active in the diocese.

The Rt. Rev. Julio C. Holguin Khoury was elected in 1991. He was born in San Francisco de Marcoris. In 2008 Rt. Rev. Bill Skilton, South Carolina, became our first assistant Bishop. Previously he had served here as a missionary deacon and priest.

The Diocese has entered into a significant period of growth, thanks to committed clergy and lay leaders. See "A



Decade of Growth" for more information.

## A Decade of Growth

The Dominican Republic, like most Latin American countries, is Roman Catholic. As a result, the Episcopal Church in its early history focused on establishing its spiritual identity and building an infrastructure that would allow for future growth.

Thanks to Dominican Episcopalians such as Fr. Thomas Basden and Bishop Telesforo Isaac, the Episcopal Church became an integral part of those communities where Episcopal churches were located. The Church also gained a reputation for the quality of education it provided in its Christian schools.

The Iglesia Episcopal Dominicana is in an impressive decade of growth. Following are statistics from 1998 and 2008 which illustrate this period of significant growth:

Statistics	1998	2008
Missions/Preaching Stations	26	65
Number of Clergy	19	40
Number of Church Buildings	12	26
Number of Schools	9	24
Numbers of Clinics	2	3
Number of Children's Shelters	2	4
Number of Clergy Homes	11	20
Number of Missionaries	4	10

# Iglesia Episcopal Dominicana Facts

- The diocese has a seminary where most of its priests have been trained.
- The diocese ordained its first group of vocational deacons in 2007. There are currently 7 vocational deacons in the diocese.
- Of our 40 active clergy, we have one bishop, one assistant bishop, one retired Bishop, 7
  vocation deacons and 30 priests.. Thirty of our clergy are Dominicans, one is Mexican, four
  are from Haiti, one from Columbia, and four from the United States.
- Over 5,000 students are educated in Episcopal schools. The schools must be selfsupporting. 785 students whose families could not pay tuition received scholarships from churches and individuals in the USA.
- There are 4 children's shelters in the diocese. These shelters provide education and nutritional programs for the poor.
- The Sisters of Transfiguration, an Episcopal order of nuns, manage a clinic, nutritional, and education program in San Pedro de Marcoris.
- The Bishop Kellogg Conference and Retreat Center was opened in February 2003. The center hosts Christian work and medical teams and other Christian groups.
- Camp Transfiguration, an Episcopal Camp in the mountains near Jarabacoa, can house up 100 people. Other Christian denominations may rent the camp.
- Clínica Esperanza, a regional medical clinic for the poor, was opened in 1998 and provides
  physical rehabilitation, dentistry, cardiology, pediatrics, general medicine, gynecology, and
  pharmacy services.
- Dominican Episcopal Church Women have a micro-business loan program for women. The ECW has been a major force in the church for many years.
- Christian Renewal Groups are active and an important part of diocesan life. Daughters of the King (Hijas del Rey) and Brotherhood of St. Andrews (Hermandad de San Andres) have chapters here. Happenings (Vivencia) and Cursillos add vitality to our spiritual life.

## Dominican Republic Facts

• Size: Twice the size of New Hampshire

Population: 9.5 Million people

Mean Age: 27.4 YearsUnemployment: 15.6 %

• Literacy: 87%

• Major Industry: Tourism

Inflation Rate: 6.1%

• Economy: Is highly dependent on the United States

· 42.2% live below the Poverty Level

• 20% live on one dollar a day or less per person

• 56% living in areas of poverty do not go beyond 8th Grade

• 95 % of Dominicans profess to be Roman Catholics

### Our Churches

In the last 10 years the Diocese of the Dominican Republic has more than doubled the number of its churches. A factor limiting our growth is a lack of clergy. Many of our priests are responsible for two or more churches.

From its inception, the Dominican Republic has been a predominately Roman Catholic country. If you were to do a survey, approximately 95 percent of all Dominicans would say they were Roman Catholic. However, 25 percent of these people are active members of their church.

If you were to survey our churches, we estimate that 75% of our members were raised in the Roman Catholic tradition. The vast majority of these people were not active in the Roman church when they entered an Episcopal Church for the first time. The Episcopal Church is a

comfortable alternative for those Dominicans who for one reason or another are no longer active Roman Catholics.

In its early history, all services were in English. In the 1950's the Episcopal Church became truly the "Dominican Episcopal Church" when services in Spanish became the norm. Today, only Epiphany Church in Santo Domingo has Sunday services in English. However, even at Epiphany the best attended services are in Spanish.

Church services in every part of the world reflect the culture. High church with the "smells and bells" is appreciated by Dominicans, but is reserved for special occasions. Sunday services are lively with hand-clapping and the music often features instruments of the culture. Sermons tend to be longer than would be appreciated in the United States. Passing the peace is a time filled

with laughter and music and everyone attending the service is areeted.

Churches in Iglesia Episcopal Dominicana are missions, because they can not financially support themselves. There are three assisted parishes. Therefore, the Bishop is "rector" of all churches and the local priest serves as "vicar". Therefore, a church does not select its priest, but rather the Bishop assigns a priest to a church.

To aid in the administration of our churches, the Bishop has divided in the country into four regions, each with an arch deacons who oversees activities in their area.

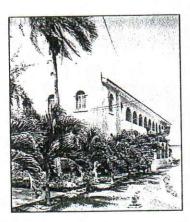


"I was sick and you looked after me." -Matthew: 25:36

Jubilee Ministry in San Pedro de Marcoris

Health care is essential to life and happiness. Life decisions become difficult, because many families in the DR have household incomes that only allow them to buy food. If there is a choice between buying necessary medicines or food to feed a family, food is purchased and the medicines are not. As a result, minor health problems often become more serious.

In 1995 Bishop Holguin decided to convert an abandoned Episcopal school in San Pedro into a medical clinic for the poor. The diocese owned the building, but did not have the funds to remodel the deteriorated building nor purchase the necessary medical equipment. The Bishop was convinced that the clinic was God's will, and somehow the funds would be provided. He was right, but it took three years of planning, hard work, and a series of miracles. God's timing is always perfect. The clinic opened a week after Hurricane George devastated the San Pedro area in September of 1998.



**Helping Hands** 

Many churches, organizations, and individuals have supported and continue to support Clínica Esperanza. However, the foundation Esperanza International was and is an essential partner in the growth and development of the clinic. The foundation, founded by former baseball star David Valle, has from the beginning provided hope, encouragement and financial support to a diocese whose dreams have always exceeded its financial ability.

The clinic charges for its services based on a patient's ability to pay. Through experience the diocese has learned that people place greater value on services when they pay for them, even though the cost may be minimal. However, no patient is turned away, because of

their personal economic condition.

Services offered by the clinic include: general medicine; physical rehabilitation; dentistry, cardiology, pediatrics, gynecology, mental health counseling, pharmacy, and a medical laboratory.

A foundation of former President Bill Clinton provided the necessary funds to expand the Clinic's AIDS program. This program is considered on of the best in the country. United Thank Offering provided fund to expand the clinic and provided a parish hall for St. Stephen's Church. The UTO grant allowed the clinic to provide addition services and to expand it physical rehabilitation

The clinic also focuses on health education. In the Dominican Republic, many children under the age of 5 are malnourished and, therefore, susceptible to preventable diseases. Mothers in rural and inner-city regions in the San Pedro area have little access to health education or medical treatment. These regions also have severe sanitation problems and children frequently contract intestinal parasites which can increase their risk of infection and other more severe problems. The focus of the ministry of missionaries Drs. Michael and Anita Dohn is health education. The results of their work have been very positive.

#### Physical Rehabilitation

The clinics rehabilitation program is underwritten by the Asociacion Dominicana de Rehabilitacion, Inc. This national organization oversees several rehabilitation programs in the country. Until the clinic's program was founded in 1999, those people who could not afford private rehabilitation services had to travel by bus to Santo Domingo or La Romana. Therefore, rehabilitation problems among the poor often went unattended, because they could not afford the bus fare.

Though physical therapy is the heart of the program, the clinic also provides psychological counseling, orthopedics workshops and instituted an occupational therapy program. Rotary Clubs International plays an important role in the clinic by providing equipment.

## **Buen Pastor**

Sisters of Transfiguration

In the Barrio Los Flores (Neighborhood of the Flowers) Buen Pastor is an oasis of hope in one of the poorest barrios in the San Pedro de Marcoris area. Buen Past is a nutrition, education, health, and spiritual center managed by the Sisters of Transfiguration, an Episcopal order of sisters.

The Sisters of Transfiguration initially came to the Dominican Republic after Hurricane David devastated the island 1979. Their stay was temporary and their purpose was to help hurricane victims. In May 1984 they returned to study the social needs of DR. Based on this investigation, they made a commitment to help the children and families in the Barrio Los Flores.

When the Sisters first arrived in the barrio, many young children were dieing of malnutrition or related health problems. In the beginning, most of the Sister's programs revolved



around problems of health and malnutrition. The Sisters quickly realized that there was no end to the medical needs of this community, so they opened a medical dispensary. They also opened a nutrition center to help acutely malnourished infants and children.

In recent years, the number of deaths due to malnutrition has been significantly reduced in Barrio Los Flores, thanks to the Sisters of Transfiguration. Though these programs are still important, the Sisters have expanded their education programs. They offer primary education and adult education classes.

The Sisters of Transfiguration's work goes well beyond meeting the nutritional, health, and educational concerns of those living in the

barrio. They are advocates for the people who live there, regardless of their religious denomination. When hurricanes roar into the San Pedro area, they have provided food, clothing, and shelter to storm refugees. They have purchased and distributed building materials to repair and rebuilt homes. The Sisters have appeared in Dominican courts on the behalf of the unrepresented. Children with critical health problems have received the care they need in the United States. They have cared for the dieing and provided support to families in times of tragedy.

A new chapel was constructed across from the education and administrative offices. The vicar of St. Stephen's Church in San Pedro is responsible for the Buen Pastor (The Good Shepard).

### Our Schools

"Whoever welcomes a child like this in my name welcomes me." - Matthew 18:5

Education is an essential ingredient to improving the quality of life in third world countries. Of the 9 million people living in the Dominican Republic (DR), 1.5 million have had less than 3 years of schooling. Education is compulsory through the sixth grade. However 13% of all eligible children in this age group are not enrolled in school.

For over 100 years the Episcopal Church in the DR has nourished the mind and spirit of young people. During the last 10 years, the Diocese has expanded its ministry of education by opening 14 new schools. The only way to change a third-world country is through education.

#### THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

"Nourishing the Mind and the Spirit"

Episcopal schools must be self-supporting, because the diocese does not have the resources to subsidize them.

As a result, our schools depend upon tuition fees to cover their costs. Even so, the diocese is



committed to providing an education to young people, regardless of their ability to pay and their religious affiliation. This program which is supported by individuals and churches in the United States allows the diocese to do so.

Last year 880 students received financial help from sponsors in the United States. Scholarship sponsors receive the name of a student, along with a picture, short biography and thank you letter (or drawing in the case of younger students.)

Unless otherwise noted, the diocesan scholarship coordinator will select a student for each sponsor. However, a sponsor may indicate the school they wish to support. Past sponsors may continue supporting the same student, provided the student is enrolled in the program.

When the scholarship program first started, finding sponsors 200 sponsors seemed like an insurmountable task. This year finding 880 sponsors appears possible, because of a select group of individuals who have answered Christ's call to promote scholarships in their church or diocese.

## Children's Shelters

#### **Buen Samaritano**

San Francisco de Marcoris

In 1997 Fr. Napoleon Brito and his wife Nelly started a Bible study in a very poor, drug-infested barrio on the outskirts of San Francisco de Marcoris. Immediately, they discovered that there were many children who were living with relatives or former neighbors. Their parents were either working in another community, suffering from serious illness such as AIDS, were in prison, or had died. Most of these children were poorly clothed, many were not attending school, and spent their day wandering in the barrio.

Fr. Brito and Nelly felt the Lord was calling them to do something for these children. Taking their own money, they started a program to feed, educate, and cloth the children. Almost immediately, the diocese became involved in the

project and rented a building near the barrio. It became quickly apparent that the diocese needed to construct a building of its own. El Buen Samaritano is an example of how the Lord faithfully takes care of those who are doing His will. St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Akron, Ohio was looking

for a mission project and decided to provide funding to construct the shelter. Other individuals, and dioceses also provided support.

Today the program has 90 children ranging in age from 6 months to 6 years old. The center provides medical attention, clothing if required, and breakfast, lunch, and a snack. The focus is on education and improving reading and other learning skills so that the children can function better within public or private schools.

The Deanery of Naples, Florida, Diocese of Southwest Florida is essential partners in this ministry. The Deanery is supporting the program in many different ways. For example, the physical plant needs upkeep and must be expanded. The Naples Deanery is sending teams to help with these projects.

#### Jesus Peregrino

Barahona

The Mission Church & Children's Shelter Jesus Peregrino is located in Batey Central on the outskirts of Barahona. Barahona is three hours west and south of Santo Domingo.

The word Peregrino in English means Pilgrim which describes the transit population of this sugar cane "mill town." The Church first held services in Barahona on December 11, 1994. Since then the church has grown and become an active community partner in this poor barrio where many Dominicans and Haitians live.



Batey Central is an area devastated by misery, hunger, water shortages, notorious bad health and hygienic condition. People live in row houses and shacks. The streets are unpaved and dusty. Small nude children play in the streets which are littered with trash. Pigs and chicken wander through the barrio and wallow in muddy potholes.

St. Paul's Akron, Ohio made a commitment to provide nearly half of the needed funding to build the shelter next to the church. The Deanery of Clearwater, Fl. and individuals, and churches provided the rest.

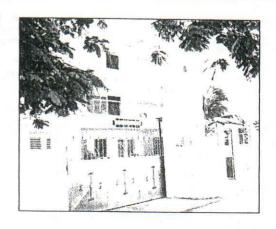
The Jesus Peregrino Children's Shelter and education Center opened in June of 2003. There are currently 90 children who are educated and fed a nutritional during the week.

# Bishop Isaac Home for Seniors

The Bishop Isaac Home is part of the San Jose Church and school complex and is located in San Jose Boca Chica. It is Iglesia Episcopal Domincana's first home for senior citizens. The home was dedicated on September 2, 2006.

The home is named after the first native born Bishop of the Dominican Republic, the Rt. Rev. Telésforo Isaac. The home provides residential programming and lodging for the elderly poor, as well as those who can afford to pay part of their residential living costs.

The three story, main building can house up to 35 people.



The home provides health services and has a small clinic. Missionary Karen Carroll is administrator of the clinic. She is from the Diocese of Southwest Florida.

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Richmond Virginia play an instrumental roll in obtaining funds to construct the building. Members of the church made several trips to assist the painting and construction of the home.

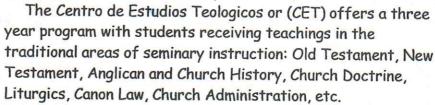
## **Our Seminary**

Santo Domingo

Dean: The Very Rev. Napoleon Brito

The Diocese of the Dominican Republic has its own seminary which is located in Santo Domingo and on the same property of Epiphany Church. The majority of the priests in the diocese have

been educated at this seminary.



Classes are taught by a full-time Dean, and by priests in the diocese who teach classes in their area of specialty. In addition to academic studies students are assigned on the weekends to specific missions in the diocese. Tuesday through

Friday, students attend mass at 7:30 a.m. and 5:00. These services are open to the public.

The Diocese maintains its own seminary, because the cost of sending Dominicans to a seminary in the United States or to seminaries in Latin America is prohibitive. The cost of educating a student in our seminary is approximately \$5,400 per year. This costs includes instruction, lodging and meals, and a stipend for each student.

In addition, CET coordinates a program for the formation of vocational deacons. The Program requires four hours of classroom instruction per week and home study in all the traditional areas of theological study. There are currently 10 candidates enrolled in the program.

The first Dean was the Rev. Aston Brooks. For over twenty years the Rev. Daniel Gonzales has served as either a seminary professor or dean. In the fall of 2001, the Rev. Napoleon Brito assumed the responsibility of dean.

Students from many different countries in Latin America have studied at CET. Contact the Diocesan office for more information on how you can support a seminary student.

## **Camp Transfiguracion**

" I will lift my eyes to the hills from where cometh my help" - Psalm 121:1

Jarabacoa

This Psalm describes our goal for Mount Transfiguration Episcopal Camp located in the mountains near Jarabacoa. We want this piece of God's creation to provide spiritual renewal to all who visit here. The camp offers ample opportunities to refresh the body, mind, and spirit.

Mount Transfiguration is located near Jarabacoa and along the river Jimenoa. The Camp includes approximately 6.25 acres of land. If it were not for the palm trees among the pines, and

a lack of snow on the mountain tops, you could easily imagine that you were in the Rocky Mountains.

The camp is in a state of constant transformation. Our goal is to make this camp even more comfortable for our visitors, so that they can truly be refreshed both spiritually and physically.

Though Episcopal groups have a priority, the camp accepts reservations from all Christian denominations. The camp can house about 100 people in three buildings, Mount Transfiguration camp has its own generator, water purification system, and hot water for showers.

The camp's kitchen staff has been trained to provide safe and good food to visiting groups. They offer both typical Dominican fare, as well as food familiar to North Americans. With many different varieties of fruit trees on the property, meals often feature a variety of fresh fruits and juices.

The camp offers many different activities. However, this is a vacation spot for Dominicans, so the area features everything from horseback riding to river-rafting. A favorite of Mount Transfiguration visitors is the walk to a nearby waterfall.



A new chapel and school for the community were recently completed. This project, like most other projects at the camp, are funded by churches and individuals. Much of the maintenance and construction is done by work teams. During July, the camp hosts the diocesan summer bible camp program.

### Mission Teams

Mission Coordinator: Ellen Snow

Work and medical teams play an essential role in the life and development of Iglesia Episcopal Dominicana. Teams have provided the sweat equity and financial resources to build new churches, schools, and children's shelters. Medical teams have treated thousands of people in some of the poorest areas of the country.

These accomplishments are important. However, the greatest benefit comes from the relationships developed between Christians from two different cultures. It is through these opportunities that Dominicans and our visitors have discovered that our faith and commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ has been strengthened.

To encourage visits by foreign Christians, the Diocese has an office to coordinate arrangements for all visiting groups. The office is managed by Ellen Snow, an English and Spanish-speaking missionary from the United States. Ellen's major responsibility is to serve as a bridge between two cultures whose languages might be different but who share a commitment to the same Lord Jesus Christ.

The types of teams coming into the diocese fall into one of the following categories.

- \* <u>Work teams</u> Groups interested in doing maintenance jobs, painting, minor or major construction projects, etc.
- \* <u>Field Medical Teams</u> Teams of medical professionals are assigned to work in areas of poverty where there is a church.

#### **DDG** Initiatives

Dr. Bob Stevens, working with church leaders in the Diocese of Southwest Florida, developed a new approach to mission development. Southwest Florida is divided into deaneries. The idea was a simple one. Often it is difficult for one church to obtain resources for a significant mission project. However, a deanery by combining the resources and talent of all its churches, could undertake a significant mission project.

In 2000, the Tampa deanery initiated this idea by agreeing to build Divina Garcia Church in a remote sugar cane village near Puerto Plata. The deanery sent five teams, representing 9 congregations to construct the church. These churches raised \$32,000 for construction materials, plus the cost of airline tickets, lodging, food, and ground transportation costs.

The following year, Tampa sent 58 persons in five teams to build El Nino Jesus, a preschool also in the Puerto Plata area. The idea caught on and in 2002, Clearwater and Venice deaneries developed their own projects. Other deaneries and diocese have since done likewise.

The Dominican Church has a companion relationship with the <u>Dioceses of Western Louisiana</u>, <u>Southwest Florida</u>, <u>South Carolina</u>, <u>Georgia</u>, and the <u>Diocese of Southeast Florida</u>. The DDG also serves as a clearinghouse in maintaining these relationships.

### Our Missionaries

Rev. Bob and Ellen Snow— Bob and Ellen Snow are from the Diocese of Nebraska and have served in the Dominican Republic since 1995. Bob is the assistant to Bishop Julio Cesar Holguin. As a deacon he also serves the people of Epiphany Church. Ellen is the coordinator of all work and medical teams coming into the country and also helps coordinate visits of other group visiting the DR. The Snows are appointed missionaries for The Episcopal Church.

Michael and Anita Dohn - The Dohns come to the Dominican Republic from Ohio. The Dohns have four daughters - Rebecca (born 4/13/85), Tracy (1/21/87), Natalia (10/13/90) and Elizabeth (10/1/94). The Dohns primary mission is to develop health education programs in the area of San Pedro de Marcoris. However, Michael is medical director for Clinics Esperanza and they both work in the clinic's AIDS program. The Dohns are missionaries of the South American Missionary Society (SAMS).

Bob Stevens - Bob has served Christ in many different ways in Latin America. Currently, he is executive director of the Dominican Development Group (DDG) whose offices are located Florida. Even though he lives in Florida, he is a mission for The Episcopal Church. His experiences in Latin America began when he was with the Peace Corp. He worked with Habitat for Humanity when the organization first ventured in Latin countries. Bob makes several trips a year to the DR and plays an instrumental role in the development of the Dominican Episcopal Church

Sisters of Transfiguration - Sisters Gabriela and Priscilla are committed to serving the poor in San Pedro de Marcoris. Their Mother House is located in Ohio. Though part of the diocese, the Sisters must raise the support required for their programs.

Karen Carroll - Karen is from the diocese of Southwest Florida and was the leader of a Bible School team when she heard a call to serve as a full-time missionary. Karen is the administrator of the Bishop Isaac Home for Seniors. She is a missionary for The Episcopal Church.

Cathy Donahue – Cathy is a SAM's missionary and is a Coloradan. She heard the call to mission after a visit to the Dominican Republic. Cathy is a physical therapist and works in the Clínica Esperanza. But she also provides physical therapy workshops in all parts of the country.

Dr. David Johnson - David served as a missionary for The Episcopal Church in Pakistan when safety concerns make it necessary for him to leave. David wanted to continue his ministry and he accepted an invitation to serve in the DR. He is a pediatrician and is working in Batey Central where he has focused on clean water and health education. David is a missionary for The Episcopal Church.

The Rev. Dr. Michael and April Floyd – For 25 years Michael was a professor at the Episcopal Seminary in Austin. The Floyds arrived in Santo Domingo in 2007 where Michael is teaching at the seminary and serving as administrator of Epiphany Church and April is assisting with the church's day care program.

## Mission Opportunities

"Here am I; Send me." Isaiah 6:8

Missionaries play an important role in the growth and development of the Diocese of the Dominican Republic. The opportunities are diverse and the work gratifying. The Diocese is seeking individuals who are willing to serve for a minimum of one year.

Some mission opportunities don't require Spanish, while others will require an ability to converse in Spanish.

#### Mission Opportunities

English Teachers: All Episcopal schools have classes in English. The Diocese is also developing language schools which will teach English, French, and Spanish to adults and young people. Ability to speak Spanish is not required but helpful. *Minimum Length of Service* - 10-month school year.

Elementary/Secondary Teachers: Teachers are needed at all our 17 schools. Spanish is required. Missionaries can determine grade level and also subject areas for our high school programs. *Minimum Length of Service* - 10-month school year.

Child Care Specialists, Nutritionists and/or Administrators: Child care professionals are desired to assist Dominican staff at our Children's Shelters. Some Spanish required. *Minimum Length of Service* - One year, but a 3-year commitment is desired.

Lay Ministers - Seeking individuals with some seminary training to assist local congregations. Experience in Christian education is helpful. Conversational Spanish required. *Minimum Length of Service* - One year

Deacons/Priests - Additional clergy needed to continue growth. Clergy will be provided housing, and a stipend or salary equal to other diocesan clergy. *Minimum Length of Service* - Three years

Construction Supervisor - Supervise all diocesan construction projects. Work with local priests in determining and purchasing materials for work teams. Survey diocesan facilities to identify needed repairs. Some Spanish required. *Minimum Length of Service* - One year

Medical Team Supervisor - Coordinate medical teams coming into the diocese. Coordinator works with local church community and coordinates all team details including housing and transportation needs. Also, this person would handle all details concerning Dominican government requirements. Spanish required. Minimum Length of Service - Two years.

#### DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

The map below shows the location of several agricultural products and other resources in the Dominican Republic. The lines between cities ( ) show the major roads and highways.

