

## DDG MEETING OCTOBER 2013

### REPORT + JULIO C. HOLGUIN

“Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life.” John 5:24 (NIV)

My dear brothers and sisters I'm happy to be once again with you, at this meeting of October 2013, which takes place in the Companion Diocese of Nebraska.

I will now present my report, which will try to share with you a summary of the life and ministry of the Dominican Episcopal Church, since our last meeting on DR in the month of February.

1. Undoubtedly, the greatest impact event experienced by the diocese this year has been the FIRST MEETING IN MISSION WITH IGLEPIDOM, which was held on 12 to April 14 in Santo Domingo. The same was attended and supported by a broad representation of our companion diocese, the DDG and, of course, the clergy and laity of the IGLEPIDOM.

- The workshops were evaluated very positively by the participants. While we recognize that some spaces allocated for workshops, were small for the number of people who participated in them.
- The closing Holy Eucharist was a festival of faith, which was attended by about 4000 people. All honor and glory be to God, in whom we put our faith and hope, in the assurance that He would help us, and so we believe it was.
- Photos taken by Julius Ariail had a profuse flow through the world, via various media, most notably Facebook.

We are extremely grateful for all the support and the support we receive from our companion diocese , the DDG headed by its President, David Morrow , as well as the Executive Director outgoing and incoming , Bob Stevens and Bill Kunkle .

2. The September 7 took place in the Cathedral of the Epiphany, the graduation of 6 students for the Vocational Diaconate and 9 for the presbyterate. One is in the Diocese of Washington. The 8 graduates have been assigned as Lay Pastoral Leaders, while candidates for the diaconate are working in their respective congregations. Some of them are assigned as LPL elsewhere. Other 5 new students began their studies in September. One of them is a candidate of Central Ecuador.

3. As we announced in our last meeting, we received a new priest, from Central Ecuador, the Rev. Raul Guillas, to serve in the Buen Pastor Center in San Pedro de Macoris. The Fr. Guillas has joined his pastoral work with enthusiasm. He is accompanied by his wife Rocio and their two girls.

4. On June 23<sup>rd</sup> I corresponded to preside the Dedication and Consecration of the Temple of the Mission San Pedro Apostol, in the community of Los Conucos , located between Boca Chica and San Pedro de Macoris.

- We have pending for Dedication and Consecration of two other temples in this year 2013 , San Bernabé in Pizarrete and San Miguel in Doña Ana, which they lack some finishing details , such as wiring and plumbing, but now not have funds to finish them. A San Miguel also lacks the pews, altar and pulpit.

5. Other temples and other buildings that need support to continue its construction are:

- Espiritu Santo, in Las Carreras. Requires about \$ 45,000
- Espiritu Consolador in Dajabón . It takes about \$ 70,000: \$ 50,000 to cover a deficit and \$ 20,000 for finishing.
- Completion and equipping the 2nd level, at Camp in Jarabacoa , the Bob Stevens Building , it takes about \$ 20,000.
- First bedroom in Bishop Skilton Center, for 32 people, in Boca Chica, about \$ 100,000 Includes beds and other furniture.

- Termination and equipment of the Paul and Luck Morrow retreat Center, Santana Bani, about \$ 80,000.
- Construction of a new building with 8 classrooms with their equipment, the first two levels, for La Encarnación School in La Romana , which has exceeded its enrollment capacity , and still has a great demand from the community. The approximate cost is U.S. \$ 125,000 .
- It is also building other temples, such as Santa Cruz in Santa Fe, San Simon Apóstol in San Marcos, Puerto Plata, and San Pablo and San Lucas in San Isidro, which have had the financial support and the promise of sponsors, to follow up to see it completed.

6. On July 9 and 10, I participated in a meeting in Santo Domingo, a Commission on Sustainability of Province IX, which was led by the Very Rev. Stacy Sauls and other representatives of Province IX and 815 staff members. The topic was about the best use that could be given to U.S. \$ 1,000,000, which was approved at the last General Convention, to support the financial sustainability of the dioceses that comprise Province IX. Consensus was reached and it was agreed to carry a proposal to the Executive Council meeting of TEC, in the month of October.

7. On Saturday September 28, with Bill Kunkle, represent the DDG and the Dominican Episcopal Church, at the Consecration of the Rev. Wayne M. Hougland , Jr., as the 9th . Bishop of the Diocese of Western Michigan, more than 1000 people attended the Consecration.

8. You have received a copy of the latest report of the FOCA, which covers up to September 30, 2013. If you have questions about it, I hope to be able to respond.

9. Reviewing statistics of the TEC for the past 10 years, I have been able to verify that we had IGLEPIDOM growth in the number of baptisms, equivalent to 23 %. We hope with the help of God to follow up mission work, so that every time we can achieve that more people in the DR, to accept Jesus Christ and his message of salvation.

In conclusion, I reiterate once again our deep gratitude to the DDG, and each of you in particular for your continued support and accompaniment for the development of missionary work in the Dominican Republic.

God continue to shed His grace and blessing upon each of you, today, tomorrow and always. Amen