



DDG Website and Social Media Update

By Julia and Julius Ariail
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DDG Website: <http://www.dominicandevlopmentgroup.org>

Significant resources within the DDG website:

- In the “Mission Teams” section, a list of incoming mission teams (sponsor, name and contact information for leader, destination location and trip dates, type of work) and links to documents and videos about the work of mission teams;
- In the “News” section, a series of detailed articles that contain references to the mission of the DDG as a coordinating agency;
- In the “Publications” section, archived copies of *Compañeros Dominicanos* and other publications relevant to the programs and history of the Diocese of the Dominican Republic and the work of mission teams;
- In the “Photos” section, over 25 albums of photographs from DDG and DR diocesan events as well as images that illustrate news articles. These albums serve as a current awareness resource, as an image archive for the history of the work of the DDG, and also as a handy source for downloadable “stock images” to be used in other online postings and publications by any group or individual working to support the Diocese of the Dominican Republic.

DDG Newsletter (*Compañeros Dominicanos*)

The most recent 8-page issue (#34) was published in October 2014 and distributed by email and links on the DDG website (“Publications” section) and social media. Issue #35 is scheduled for December 2014. English articles are being translated into Spanish by two members of Iglesia Episcopal Dominicana, and are checked by Bishop Skilton. Issues from 2010-date are archived on the “Publications” page of the DDG website.

DDG Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/dominicandevlopmentgroup>

DDG Twitter: <https://twitter.com/dominicandg>

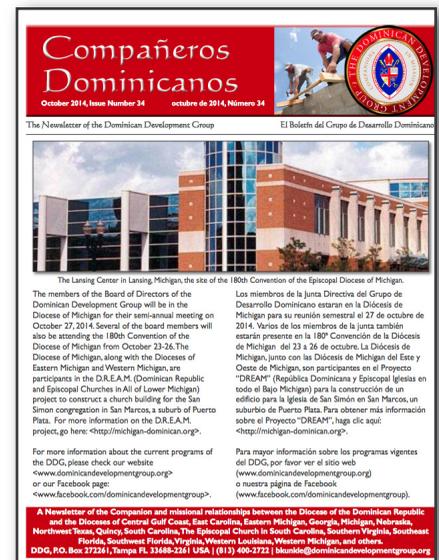
The content is focused on four main areas:

- 1) the work of mission teams from the Companion Dioceses;
- 2) progress on major construction projects;
- 3) significant events in the Diocese of the Dominican Republic;
- 4) significant events in the DDG.

Content comes both from DDG and DR diocesan sources as well as the photographs and mission trip reports from mission teams and their sponsoring churches and dioceses. Significant content continues to come from individual Dominican churches using Facebook to post their own photographs and project updates. Those photographs and updates are then copied onto the DDG Facebook and Twitter and re-published for a second audience.

“Likes” on the DDG Facebook page have increased from 363 (February 2014) to 509 (October 2014).

The DDG Twitter feed is followed by 21 people (up from 10 in February 2014).



How Can You Help?

If you use **Facebook** ~

- ★ “Like” the DDG Facebook page and whatever posts seem relevant to you.
- ★ “Share” some of the DDG posts on your personal Facebook timeline.
- ★ “Share” some of the DDG posts on your church, deanery or diocesan Facebook page.

If you use **Twitter** ~

- ★ “Follow” the DDG Twitter feed and “Retweet” recent tweets.

For the **Website** ~

- ★ **Send in suggestions** about articles for the DDG website and newsletter to the editors (contact information below).
- ★ **Give the links for the DDG website and social media to the leaders of the mission teams** from your area and encourage them to pass the links along to their team members and to sign up for the DDG email list (online form is on the right-hand column of each page in the DDG website). If the leaders would like the DDG social media to post stories and photographs from their mission projects either while they are in-country or immediately thereafter, ask them to get in contact with the editors before their trip (contact information below). The editors will then follow those teams online and collect photographs and progress reports that will be re-posted on the DDG social media platforms.
- ★ **If you work with a deanery or diocesan website, encourage the webmaster to set up a page just for the work of the DR mission teams from that area.** Encourage the use of links to the DDG website and social media. The DDG website has an area on the “Links” page that contains links to diocesan DR project pages to help publicize those projects and to give others examples of what has been done and what is in the planning stages.

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