



By Julia and Julius Ariail  
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

Activity as of February 13, 2017

## Asset Map Project with The Episcopal Church

- Using the GPS location data that has been compiled since February 2015, coded the online asset map of The Episcopal Church to reflect accurate locations for the churches, schools, and other Episcopal facilities. There are some small “house” churches that still need GPS locations. Julius will work with Patricia Martin and the Dominican Deans to complete the additional information required by The Episcopal Church.



## Websites:

<http://dominicandevlopmentgroup.org> and  
<https://iglepidom.org>

- Redesigned the Dominican Development Group website
- Continued to maintain and enhance the websites of the DDG and the Diocese of the Dominican Republic (in coordination with the Iglepidom Communication Committee).



## Companion News and Compañeros Dominicanos

- In 2016 published eleven issues of *DDG Companion News*, the DDG’s monthly newsletter in English.
- Published four issues (January, May, September, December) of *Compañeros Dominicanos*, the DDG’s bilingual magazine. We reached our goal of having four issues of our signature publication this year. Four issues are also planned for 2017.

- Both publications are distributed by email and posted on DDG Facebook and Twitter, and are archived on the DDG website. They are also posted on Iglepidom social media.
- We have two new translators for *Compañeros Dominicanos*: Patricia Seco Cordova (Valdosta, Georgia) and Ruth Sanchez (Diocese of the Dominican Republic). Other translators include the Rev. Guillermo Arboleda (Diocese of Georgia), Patricia Martin (Diocese of the Dominican Republic) and Luis Enrique (Diocese of New York), who continue to volunteer their services to translate English articles into Spanish. Their translations are then edited by The Rt. Rev. William Skilton. The work of these volunteer translators is much appreciated by the editors.

## Social Media Campaign

- Developed a social media fact sheet to be distributed to all mission team leaders online and in print that encourages the mission teams to share their group photos and other photographs to be used online and in *Compañeros*. “Help us tell your mission team story” is the theme of the document.

## Dominican Development Group Program List

- Developed a list of the programs and services of the DDG to help answer the question, “What does the DDG do?” Posted the document on the DDG website and social media pages.

## Mission Team Information Form

- Working with Karen Carroll and Bill Kunkle, developed a draft copy of a mission team form to be made available to future mission teams. The form will have all relevant information and reservations so that the mission teams office as well as the leaders can see what has been confirmed, ordered, and submitted before the team arrives.

**Facebook:** <https://facebook.com/dominicandevlopmentgroup>

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

**Instagram:** <https://instagram.com/dominicandevlopmentgroup>

- New content is posted daily focusing on the work of mission teams in the Dominican Republic and significant developments in both the Dominican Republic and the Companion Dioceses. Only a few mission teams have arrived in the DR since October, but the new year will bring mission teams that will be highlighted in at least one of the daily Facebook posts. The social media campaign will hopefully increase the availability of photographs of all the teams.

## Constant Contact Email Service

- Continued the use of Constant Contact to manage our email database and to send out messages about new issues of the DDG publications and other news.
- The database currently has 1,018 individuals who are receiving DDG email messages, Those messages have an average open rate of 33%, higher than the overall non-profit organization average of 25%.

## Challenges for the Future

- Moving the DDG website and organizational email services to a new host company.
- Posting at least one photograph of each incoming mission team and maintaining those images in an online album to be publicized regularly through DDG social media.

### Contact information for DDG communication editors:

Julia and Julius Ariail  
5802 Long Pond Road  
Lake Park GA 31636-2712  
(229) 563-0209

julius.ariail@gmail.com  
juliacariail@gmail.com  
communications@dominicandevlopmentgroup.org