



DDG Communications Update

By Julia and Julius Ariail
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic | February 16, 2015

DDG Email: Constant Contact

The DDG has moved its email service from an internal database and desktop computer equipment to Constant Contact, a recognized email management company used by many churches, dioceses, and other organizations within The Episcopal Church. Using Constant Contact will assure the members of our email list that the DDG is following current industry standards regarding secure storage of email addresses and the user's ability to modify an email address or to unsubscribe at any time. Most of the contact list from the former internal database has been uploaded to Constant Contact, but more work needs to be done to refine this list. The DDG website and Facebook page now contain online forms for individuals to subscribe to this new DDG / Constant Contact email list.

Having this new email platform will permit more focused email communications in the future for notices about DDG workshops and exploration trips in addition to messages associated with any future fundraising campaign. This new platform will also accommodate the development of periodic (monthly or bi-weekly during the busy summer months) news briefs highlighting the work of mission teams.

DDG Newsletter (*Compañeros Dominicanos*)

The most recent 14-page issue (#35, January 2015) was published on February 9, and was distributed by Constant Contact email and also by links on the DDG website ("Publications" section), Facebook and Twitter. Older issues from 2010 through the current date are archived on the "Publications" page of the DDG website. The next issue is scheduled for June 2015.

DDG Website: <http://www.dominicandevdevelopmentgroup.org>

Significant resources within the DDG website:

- In the "Mission Teams" section, a current list of incoming mission teams 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, the January 2015 directory of Dominican Episcopal clergy and staff, 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 40 albums of photographs from DDG and DR diocesan events; Five of these albums contain images and GPS locations of all the sites visited by the DDG-sponsored exploration team in November 2014. 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.
- To be placed in a new "Map" section, a project has just begun in partnership with the Communications Committee of the Dominican diocese to update and share an online, interactive map with exact GPS locations and current photos of all of the churches, schools, and other institutions in the Diocese of the Dominican Republic. Patricia Martin, a member of the DR Communications Committee, has been very helpful in getting this cooperative project started.



DDG Communications Update (continued)

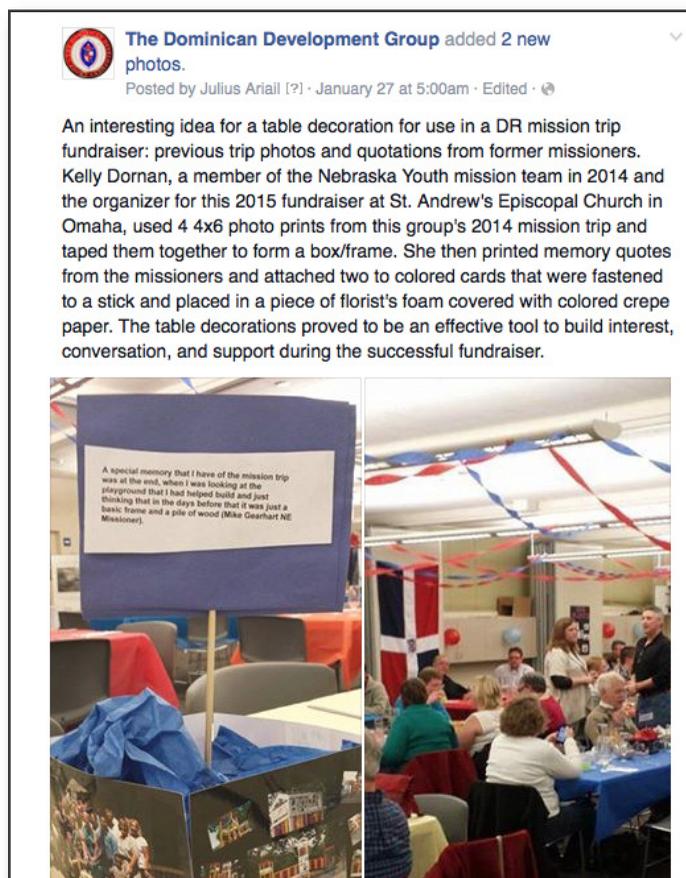
DDG Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/dominicandevdevelopmentgroup>
DDG Twitter: <https://twitter.com/dominicandg>

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.

“Likes” on the DDG Facebook page have increased from 363 (February 2014) to 556 (February 2015). The DDG Twitter followers have increased from 10 (February 2014) to 28 (February 2015).

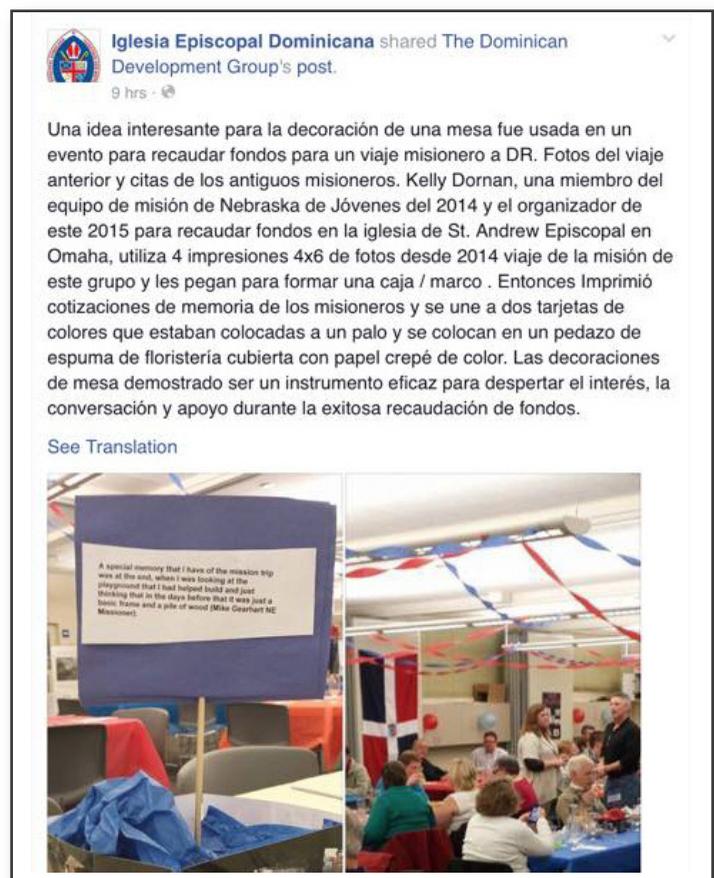
New content is posted on the Facebook page at least once daily, and almost that often on Twitter. Content comes both from DDG and DR diocesan sources as well as newsletters, photographs and mission trip reports from mission teams and their sponsoring churches and dioceses. One significant new development has been the “parallel posting” of content by the managers of the DDG Facebook page and the DR diocesan Facebook page (<https://facebook.com/iglepidom>). The managers of one page take posts from the other page, translate the text, and then re-post it. An example from a fundraising event in the Diocese of Nebraska is below:



The Dominican Development Group added 2 new photos.

Posted by Julius Ariail [?] · January 27 at 5:00am · Edited ·

An interesting idea for a table decoration for use in a DR mission trip fundraiser: previous trip photos and quotations from former missionaries. Kelly Dornan, a member of the Nebraska Youth mission team in 2014 and the organizer for this 2015 fundraiser at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Omaha, used 4 4x6 photo prints from this group's 2014 mission trip and taped them together to form a box/frame. She then printed memory quotes from the missionaries and attached two to colored cards that were fastened to a stick and placed in a piece of florist's foam covered with colored crepe paper. The table decorations proved to be an effective tool to build interest, conversation, and support during the successful fundraiser.



Iglesia Episcopal Dominicana shared The Dominican Development Group's post.

9 hrs ·

Una idea interesante para la decoración de una mesa fue usada en un evento para recaudar fondos para un viaje misionero a DR. Fotos del viaje anterior y citas de los antiguos misioneros. Kelly Dornan, una miembro del equipo de misión de Nebraska de Jóvenes del 2014 y el organizador de este 2015 para recaudar fondos en la iglesia de St. Andrew Episcopal en Omaha, utiliza 4 impresiones 4x6 de fotos desde 2014 viaje de la misión de este grupo y les pegan para formar una caja / marco . Entonces Imprimió cotizaciones de memoria de los misioneros y se une a dos tarjetas de colores que estaban colocadas a un palo y se colocan en un pedazo de espuma de floristería cubierta con papel crepé de color. Las decoraciones de mesa demostrado ser un instrumento eficaz para despertar el interés, la conversación y apoyo durante la exitosa recaudación de fondos.

[See Translation](#)



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