



April 2011

Short-term mission . . . but not short-term vision!

By Colleen Padilla

It was my great privilege recently to spend about a week with Island Light Ministries in the Dominican Republic. Jim and Debra are faithful and relentless in their work and their vision to serve God fully by ministering to one small village of about 600. People's lives are being changed and positively affected every day by people like Jim and Debra who have heard God's call and are charging ahead to obey Him.

During my stay, Island Light Ministries coordinated a 3-day outdoor revival event at Iglesia Paraiso with guest speakers and guest musicians. While the event was successful with more than thirty coming forward to receive Christ, the road there was not quite so seamless and at times greatly discouraging. A stage had to be built, lighting via generator had to be arranged last minute, equipment had to be



found and then transported to the village, and several musicians simply didn't show up. Yet God was glorified!

Jim & Debra are serving faithfully with little support. They serve as pastors in a small mountainous village, work endlessly to meet the basic needs of many with food and clothing, and will direct the forthcoming trade school that will teach sewing, woodworking, life skills, and English. In addition, they must also oversee their books, communicate with supporters, and ask for financial support and donations. They are a two-person staff.

It is easy to be far removed from the work of missionaries serving abroad, especially as Americans. We have abundant wealth; most of the world has abundant need.

Island Light Ministries is reaching people who have little hope of ever making much more than a few hundred dollars a month. Many go hungry for days which can make it particularly difficult to focus on anything more than that next meal.

While my visit was a short-term mission, I have not returned with short-term vision. My vision is two-fold: to help Island Light Ministries acquire a second vehicle (an amazing deal is sitting right now in their driveway), and to help them staff up by taking a few administrative tasks off their shoulders which can be managed long distance. God has called me to help now. Unlike those musicians earlier this month that did not make their commitment, I plan to show up.

The campaña in Paraiso



The Month of March

The events of March were a testimony to the truth of Romans 8:28,

“And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.”



Pastor Kim Pensinger and the new family in Christ

This month ILM planned the outdoor revival or campaña. As Colleen stated, we had to find a generator at the last minute to provide electricity. This was because just days before the campaña our children’s church was broken into and robbed. The main item stolen was the Inverter. This is a device that converts 12 volt battery power into 110 volt power. It is powered by a group of batteries hooked in series. This gives several hours of power when the street electricity goes out. Normally, we have power every other day in Paraiso, so the inverter is very important. We have been using a borrowed generator to provide power for the services and the children have been using candles in their church during Debra’s teaching.

But... what the enemy intended for harm God has turned to victory. The campaña was successful with lives changed. This is a picture of one entire family that came forward to receive Christ.

There was also our first “movie night” in Iglesia Paraiso. Thank you, Lord, for giving us electricity for this night. We showed the movie, **Faith Like Potatoes**. It was a great success. The church was packed, about 200 attended, and at the end four came forward to receive Christ. We are planning to have Paraiso Movie Night once a month.

ILM has two areas of immediate need:

First, ILM must replace the stolen inverter and 8 batteries.

Second, ILM needs to purchase a small portable generator capacity about 4-5KW. This unit will act as a backup to the inverter, when power is off for long enough to drain the batteries, and will permit ILM to continue doing outreach ministry in villages and with the youth at Playa Encuentro.

To help with these purchases click here:

[one time donation](#)

Or mail a check to Island Light Ministries, PO Box 1387, Medford, OR 97501. Please include a note that identifies the donation as Inverter/generator.

All donations are tax deductible. Island Light Ministries is a registered 501c3 nonprofit organization.

A Call for Missionaries

Island Light Ministries has an immediate opening for a short or long term missionary/missionaries. Specifically, we are interested in an individual or family that has the gift of leading and teaching worship. Responsibilities would be to lead and teach worship in Iglesia Paraiso and assist in other areas of the ongoing ministry. Much of the work would be with both youth and adults. If you can teach English- all the better!

The ideal candidate would be able to raise their own support, work well alongside the present members of the ILM team and have a reasonable fluency in Spanish. We are looking for a 3 month to 1 year initial commitment.

Interested? Please contact Islandlightministries@gmail.com attn: Jim

Mark 16:15 “Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation”

Island Light Ministries is a registered 501c3nonprofit corporation.

All donations are tax deductible. Donations can be sent to:

Island Light Ministries, P.O. Box 1387, Medford, OR 97501

Or online at:

www.IslandLightMinistries.org/donate

