

Happy Easter, Everyone!

Because He lives, because HE lives- we can continue to carry His gospel and light throughout the world. Praise God! We have so much goodness to share with you as we have been blessed with a busy start to the new year.

In February, we had a team from Pittman Park UMC join us for a medical mission to various bateys in the Dominican Republic. During this trip we visited four different bateys and were able to serve a total of 478 patients and 173 patients seen for eyeglasses.

In March, a number of medical and surgical teams were hosted. In the beginning of March, the Hands of Hope team performed 14 hysterectomies, 6 lipoma removals, 6 sebaceous cyst removals and 2 umbilical hernias. They also performed 4 outpatient cyst removals for a total of 32 surgeries.

We also hosted a group of college students from the Georgia Southern Wesley foundation. These college students assisted in repairing and refreshing a local mission house. While assisting with this task, they were joined by a group of children from the local boys home at the central church in Barahona. Many friendships and cultural gaps were bridged during this time of fellowship.

Another major event in March was the medical/surgical dual team from Dream Ministries. They performed 36 surgeries and saw 523 patients in the clinics in various bateys. Central Methodist Church in Asheboro, NC joined us in serving the medical population as well performing roving clinics in various bateys. They treated a total of 404 patients.

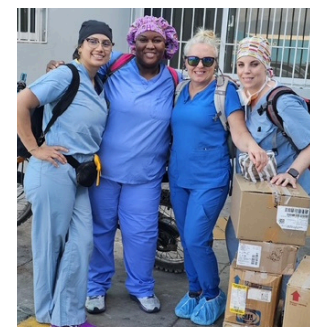
PITTMAN PARK UMC MEDICAL TEAM



GEORGIA SOUTHERN WESLEY FOUNDATION COLLEGE CONSTRUCTION TEAM



DREAM MINISTRIES MEDICAL & SURGICAL TEAM





**AIMEE AFTER HER
HEART SURGERY**



**AIMEE RECOVERED
FROM SURGERY**

Dr. Glory, who is our physician in the clinic brought to our attention in October last year the increasing number of malnourished children coming to be seen. In fact, one of the children needed immediate nutritional support. The child was a year old and only weighed 10 lbs. His condition was rapidly deteriorating. We were able to have him transported to a hospital where he received much needed medical attention. This is a great concern for the clinic staff.

We have elicited help from our daughter, Madison who has a Master's degree in Public Health from Emory University with a focus on nutrition. She, along with the cooperation of the clinic staff and medical teams initiated a program to track malnutrition in this population of children. We are collecting information on mid upper arm circumferences, height and weight in all children being seen either at the Buen Samaritano Clinic or in roving medical clinics.

We have also contacted a local group call MANNA from Fitzgerald, Georgia which will supply us with ready to use therapeutic food (RUFT) and ready to use supplementary food (RUSF). These supplies will be kept at the clinic for the physician to use based on a protocol for malnutrition. God has been so good to provide us with the resources and personnel to carry out His perfect plan in the Dominican Republic.

Update on Aimee: Aimee is doing well. We were able to visit with her and her parents Yeison and Angelica while in the DR in March. She is growing and maturing so much. Her smile brightens the day. She will be reevaluated again in June. She will also need another surgery to fix her heart. We will keep you informed on her health status. Thanks so much for helping us help her get her much needed surgery.

The Beardens

PARTNER WITH US THROUGH MONTHLY DONATIONS

OUR PRAYER IS THAT YOU WOULD PARTNER WITH US BY SETTING UP A RECURRING MONTHLY DONATION. GIVING MONTHLY IS A GREAT WAY TO SUPPORT OUR WORK ON A REGULAR BASIS. VISIT WWW.BIGHOPEMINISTRIES.ORG/GIVING TO SET UP YOUR REOCCURRING GIFT IN ANY AMOUNT OR SCAN THE QR CODE WITH YOUR PHONE.

