



Nicole Scarberry Soriano

serving Christ by sharing the Gospel with the Haitian-Dominican people of the Dominican Republic

Memorial Missions Worldwide

a ministry of memorial baptist church

2435 Eakin Rd. Columbus, OH 43204 ☎ phone: 614-274-7551 ✉ email: mbc@mbconline.org 🌐 www.mbconline.org

Dear Supporters,

We hope this letter finds you well! Richard and I want to give you, our supporters, a little bit more detailed update on our ministry and his role in it, as well as present you with a need that we have.

First and foremost, we are so thankful for you and your partnership with us in the ministry that God has entrusted to us. Your prayers have been and always will be what we covet most; they were essential to everything God has done in and through us in 2023, and will continue to be so in the years to come. Additionally, we thank you for your financial generosity: the Lord used you to provide everything we needed this past year both for life and ministry. And I would be amiss if I failed to mention what a blessing your communication and encouragement has been as well. The past year has brought a lot of changes in our personal lives (marriage, new house, baby - we packed a lot into one year!), but we were blessed to receive encouragement from you all along the way. From the bottom of our hearts we say, "Thank you!"

Richard is anxious to be able to travel to the US to meet each of you and visit our supporting churches in person. Currently we are waiting to hear back from the USCIS about his visa. They have agreed to "expedite" it, but we don't yet know what that means or how much it will speed up this process. In the meantime, we are doing training via Zoom with the lead pastor at my church, Pastor Jeff Beckley. This training will continue until we are able to travel to the States, at which point the plan is for the training to culminate in Richard a) applying for membership with Memorial Baptist Church, b) being interviewed and examined by the MMW board and then c) being recommended for acceptance and sent out by them as I am.

Richard is already heavily involved in the ministry here, taking turns with Pastor Francis leading worship, preaching, and discipling men. One thing that has been so evident every step of the way during the process is how the Lord has gone before us in everything. We don't know the details or the timing of how everything is going to "work out," but we have seen time and again how the Lord was putting things into place even before we met. Richard has been trained for ministry well by his local church and has already been preaching, teaching, discipling, leading worship, etc. in that context for some time. From his teen years, the Lord placed in him a desire to go to the bateyes and preach the Gospel, which he has been doing in various ways on his own and through the church. Us marrying and joining in ministry has opened the door for him to do things that God has been calling him to and preparing him for. The Lord has even been in so many small details like the fact that, due to a previous job, he already had a license to drive a manual transmission vehicle (not super common here, but essential for ministry as the truck we use is a stick shift).

We ask that you would continue to pray for us in the process. There have been lots of transitions and there will continue to be more as we follow the Lord one day at a time, one step at a time. Pray for patience – we don't want to run ahead of His timing! Pray for wisdom, discernment, and most of all sensitivity to His leading.

We also ask that you would pray for our financial situation. Cost of living has increased here, as it has in the US. Additionally, there are three of us now, with Zoe's arrival in December which obviously adds more expenses. Richard is currently working as a teacher at Freedom Christian School, but for ministry purposes will probably need to step down from that within the next few months. He plans to open a workshop from the house where he will build and repair furniture part time, allowing him to have more flexibility for