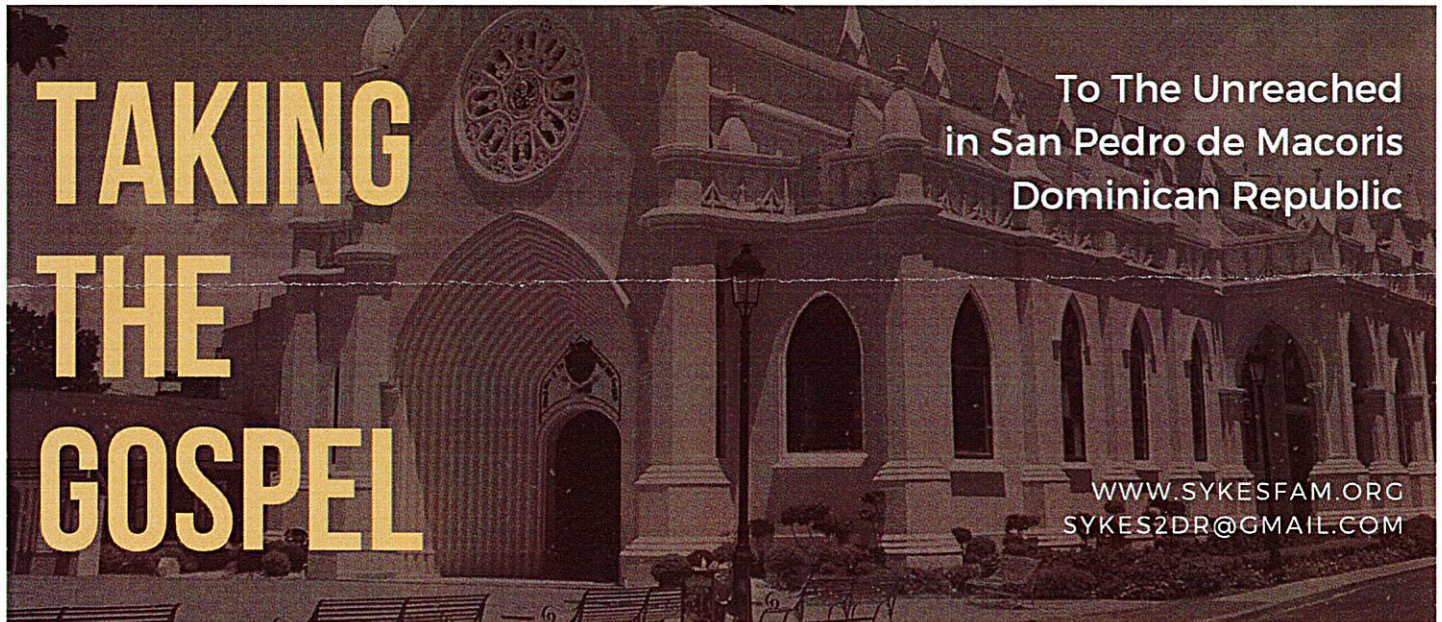


# THE SYKES MISSIONARY TIMES

Missionaries to the Dominican Republic



## THIRD QUARTER UPDATE!

### GREETINGS FROM THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC!

We wanted to take a few moments to update you on what God is doing here. We are excited to see Him work and humbled to be part of it. Your support and prayers are integral to our mission, and we are truly grateful for your partnership.

### A MONTH IN PENNSYLVANIA

On September 4th, we returned home after spending over a month in the United States. One of our supporting churches invited us to spend time with them to get to know us better and for us to get to know them.

We are so thankful to Graceway for the incredible opportunity to connect with many people within the church. We are also excited for them to come to the Dominican Republic to spiritually meet those they are investing in! We sincerely appreciate the beautiful time you shared and your sacrifice in bringing us to Pennsylvania. Your support means the world to us.

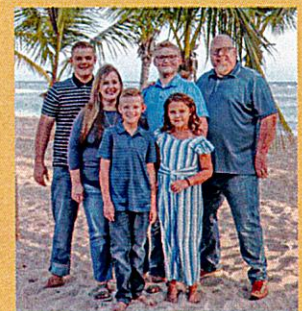
### UNIVERSITY STUDENT MINISTRY

Although we couldn't meet with our university students while we were in the U.S., we were thrilled to hear how God worked in their hearts during our absence. It is incredible to see God do what He can do. One instance that stood out was when Angel shared how, in our absence, he realized his reliance on our weekly meetings for spiritual growth and took steps to deepen his walk with God on his own. This is clear evidence of spiritual growth in his life, and it's incredible to see God working so tangibly.

*"Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it."*

1 THESSALONIANS 5:24

We count it a privilege to be able to serve the people of the Dominican Republic. We are amazed by God's transforming power and love being a part of expanding His Kingdom!





## POTENTIAL NEW PARTNERSHIPS

On September 1st, we visited Victory Baptist in Maryville, TN. Pastor Steve Craft has been an incredible blessing to our family over the years. When we returned from Venezuela, the church graciously took us under their wing and invested deeply in our family. They even sponsored our kids to go to summer camp with their youth group, which was a huge blessing. At the time, we didn't realize how much we needed to decompress after our time in Venezuela, and Victory played an integral role in that healing process. Thank you, Victory, for your generosity and love!

## OUR TRANSITIONING HOME DYNAMIC

Both Sarah and I would greatly appreciate your prayers. We've reached a new season in life as our two oldest children prepare to transition out of the home and into the real world. Samuel will start a business apprenticeship, while Luke is strongly considering joining the Marine Corps. It's bittersweet with both boys leaving the nest, but we are also excited to see how God will use them.

## CHAPEL CHURCH PLANT

Tonight, Sarah and I will return to our church plant ministry. I have missed interacting with the youth there. About twenty young baseball players faithfully attend every week (except when it rains). They are the most attentive group of young men I've taught in a long time, especially given their ages range from twelve to nineteen or twenty. Over the past few months, some have surrendered their lives to Christ. Please pray for us as we work alongside their coaches (who attend our main church) to disciple and help them grow in their faith.

## A COMMON QUESTION WE RECEIVE

We are often asked how we are doing with our support level. I want to explain briefly. Since leaving Venezuela, we haven't been able to actively pursue new support, primarily because we haven't returned to the States for an extended period. God has graciously brought individuals and churches alongside us to partner with us; most of the time, we can break even. However, we do need more support. If you would like to partner with us, please don't hesitate to reach out, and we will gladly answer any questions you may have.

## THANK YOU!

I always like to end each letter with gratitude. So many of you have faithfully prayed for us and given sacrificially for years. Your sacrifice does not go unnoticed, and spiritual fruit is being harvested for your account! God is actively transforming lives here; you are an integral part of that process.

*San Pedro is nicknamed "the city of the Holy Spirit." There is a strong Pentecostal and charismatic influence, along with 7th Day Adventists and cults such as Jehovah's Witnesses and Mormonism. All of these religions, coupled with traditional Catholicism, have left people confused and still spiritually lost. Many have been part of multiple religions and churches with this in common — either trying to "earn" salvation or trying to "maintain" salvation by their works. It's in this darkness that there is a great opportunity to shine the light of the gospel - the message of salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ*

- Missionary Gary Hale

# PRAYER REQUESTS...

- Please pray that we can raise additional support as soon as possible
- Pray for a new believers we are discipling...it is wonderful to see them growing!
- Pray for the new chapel ministry as it continues to grow!
- Pray for mom as she deals with the loss of Dad. Please keep our whole family in your prayers.