

Sunday, June 26, 2016

Dear friends & family in support of our DR mission trip,
This morning we join our Dominican brothers and sisters in cozy celebratory worship. Our hearts are “strangely warmed” by melodies we know, but with lyrics foreign to us Americanos. In return, we offer the church a package



deal: (1) a guest speaker, namely Doug of Crossroads Church; along with (2) our interpreter Daniel (*in blue, at right*). Pastor Richard (*below, center*) and extended family embrace Doug & wife Vicki at his side. Richard is also on the staff of Hands of Hope, setting up our week of mission and cultivating the seeds we plant.



After a leisurely, luscious lunch of the “best chicken in the city” (*at right*), the community warmly receives us.



The El Amirante community is a dirt-poor *barrio* of Santo Domingo, long neglected by civic leaders until recently. New schools, new sewer & septic systems are in place since our teams first came to town 6 years ago. Plus a new hospital clinic is going in. Though poor by our material standards,

the people are rich in hospitality & affection. Which we return, as the love of Christ compels!

The love and affection goes both ways and takes on many forms.... Casey Zynda is greeted by a sign of affection (literally) from the mom of the child she & Rick sponsor.... Marisa Gordon



is fanned and fawned over (*at left*), as the kids love braiding hair—especially blonde hair....



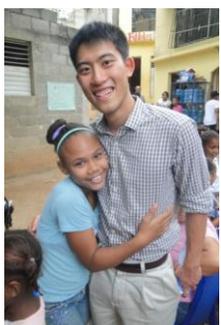
Codi Halbur (*at left*) and Femi Sokoya (*right*)

become human jungle gyms, giving last year’s child-lifting champ, Doug Ready (*above*), a run for his money.... Others, such as Val Ready (*below, center*) and Kevin Huang (*bottom, far left*),



draw kids who love to mug or to hug.

Tonight, leaders of El Amirante (*left*) walk us thru their neighborhood and talk of partnership in sharing God’s love.



No more room,...
So hasta mañana,
i.e., until tomorrow!