

Dear friends and family in support of our DR mission trip,

On the dirt roads of El Almirante we get our hands, feet & clothes covered in the dust of this volcanic island, even the mud of a cement project. Despite showers (at hotel, or from heaven above), hand sanitizer, change of clothes, or pool dip, we sweat & stink in the heat.

When Jesus and his disciples walked this earth with his radical message and were rebuffed in their travels and travails, they simply wiped the dust off their feet and moved on (Luke 9:1-6). Where this Good News was accepted and fleshed out, following the example of their Master (John 13), a different kind of wiping or washing of feet was called for—one that humbles the self and lifts up the Lord Jesus.

This second kind of foot washing puts others first, serves others at the table, takes on the lowliest of jobs—something Pastor Doug preached on the first day of week. In keeping with this tradition of biblical import and of recent DR mission trips, we humbly wash another's feet. No small deal with 100+ kids, teens & their parents.

Foot-washing, in Jesus' name, impacts the lives of those we hold so dearly. The foot-washing also allows us to connect on a different level before and after the event. This was the privilege of 13 of us, with just a few pictured here (from L to R, top to bottom): **Nellie Cejpek, Doug Ready, Jeff Jankowski, Dietrich Gruen, and Lynn**

Rawhouser. We literally hold their little feet in our big hands.... Or we hold hands.

... Or hug.... Or talk at length... about where the Bible meets life.

Apart from this church-based event, **Codi Halbur** (far left) and **Marisa Gordon** were laying on hands in yet a different way—as physical therapists and guest professionals at the local medical clinic. In seeing 10 patients a day, they will be equally busy on Tuesday, Wednesday, and half of Thursday, while the rest of us begin Vacation Bible School (for kids) and Bible Study (for teens) on those days.



Not to be outdone by all this spiritual and medical work, many **Dominicans & Americanos** engage in the trenches of building a home. This one is for a family of seven who lost theirs in a fire; the mom



Carmen also puts in some sweat equity! This first day, we take great care of how we lay the foundation.

We engage kids in fun & games when the skilled workers take over. Such trust building is as important to this community as truss building.

We have a battle on our hands, not just a building project. That battle can be within ourselves, or external—in the oppression that beats down this community. Appreciate your prayers on both fronts. We are the Lord's builders.

All for now; all for Christ. *Hasta mañana.*

