

# Southwest District Mission Program, Inc.

## Here They Are!

"Just because it's never been done does not mean it cannot be done. It only means God is waiting for you to take the first step."

God placed a challenge in front of the Southwest District one afternoon in November 2013. In a nonchalant conversation He introduced con-taminated water to a group of naïve and sheltered Americans. I can remember that today like it was yesterday. Why, how, yuck were just a few of the words that I heard that afternoon. Pastor Ernesto said, "that's just the way it is and we have no other option but to use this water."

That started a three year quest to bring clean water to the Holguin Norte District. I soon found out this was going to be much more difficult than I expected. It's Cuba you should not expect anything different. I had highs and lows, many more lows than highs. It would have been easy to say, "It's bigger than me and just let it go."

I have a note on my desk that says, "Nothing ahead of you is bigger or

**CUBA**

**SO**

**CLOSE.....**

**BUT, A**

**WORLD**

**AWAY!**

**stronger than the power of God behind you." It is and was bigger than "me" but it is not bigger than my God.**

**All of a sudden Bishop Pereira of the Methodist church in Cuba attends an open house at Water One World Solutions in Fort Myers, Florida. I receive word he liked the systems. I go to check them out. From that moment it has catapulted into nothing but amazing door openings one after the other.**

**Agape Flights in Venice, Florida gets approval to fly into Cuba. A private donor pays for all freight cost for the first flight.**

**On August 23<sup>rd</sup> there will be 26 water systems delivered to Havana, Cuba. Bishop Pereira of the Methodist Church in Cuba, District Super-intendent Isel Acanda of the Holguin Norte District, Kenn Visser of Water One World Solutions and I will be present to accept delivery of the units.**

**I ask for your prayers dealing with Cuban customs, it's in God's hands. I have a very good feeling about this project.**

**In Christ,**

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## Another First!

I have told this story before about the formation of "The Foundation." This cause was formed out of "shame." On a recent trip we were standing and talking with a Cuban pastor in a remote church in the Guantanamo mountain range where the conditions were very bad. The pastor said, "With \$300 or a little more he could put a floor down and fix the roof so when it rained it would not drip on the people in church." We did not have \$300 extra dollars to assist this pastor. We were the first American's to ever visit this church.

**CUBA**

**SO**

**CLOSE.....**

For just \$300 we could have made a lasting impression, shame on us we had to walk

# BUT, A WORLD AWAY!

away. On the way down that mountain side three Southwest District Board members made the pledge; this would not happen again. "The Foundation" was formed and all funds are for repairs, or to relocate churches to a better location to enhance the growth of the membership of the church. This is for churches that do not have Sister Church support.

Here is an update: I have since returned to Cuba and presented the District Superintendent of Guantanamo with the funds to make the repairs in the church mentioned. The pastor was totally speechless that we would help their church. The work has begun at Manguito Church in Guantanamo.

If you want to give to a "Foundation" where one hundred percent of your funds are going to be used to repair churches or relocate churches, this is for you. We are not looking to grow this account to a large amount because we are going to be using the funds as they are needed to help our brothers and sisters in Cuba.

Call or email me if you have any questions.

**In Christ,**

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