



Greetings from Middle Georgia!

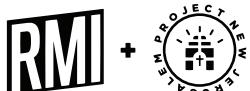
After completing our latest mission's trip introducing 21 people to the ministries in the Dominican Republic, Robin and I left Florida and raced our way back to our home base just a few hours ahead of Hurricane Helene last week. The normally 6-hour drive ended up being a 10-hour struggle through evacuation traffic and rain. God spared us any kind of damage here in Milledgeville, aside from a few branches down and some extra rain that we actually needed badly.

As we watched the hurricane lose its strength and momentum, we were amazed to see the amount of flooding and wind damage so far away from its landfall in the Big Bend area of Florida. This is the first major event that we have not responded to since our ministry has transformed from disaster relief to missions and church support on the island of Hispaniola. As the emails and phone calls began to come in asking for support or looking for ways to get involved in the Helene response, it has been uncomfortable to say that we are not responding. Robin and I already had meetings scheduled in five churches over the next five weeks, and it is clear to us that we were not to respond in our normal way.

If you are interested in donating towards Helene recovery through RMI, we know of several churches with major damage that have reached out for assistance. We also know of several other ministries that are on-sight doing relief work today that need significant funding to complete the work they are doing.

In our last newsletter, I talked about our priority for this year being the gathering of new monthly donors for the pre-school and school we have been developing in New Jerusalem. We began the school as a pre-school with a few children, adding one grade each year. Not only has the school grown numerically because of the addition of a grade each year, it has also grown as word has spread of its existence. We said that the school could possibly have 1000 or more students 12 years after it began, but now it feels like it could be that large much sooner than that. We are currently behind nearly 100 sponsorships and have been working to close that gap for much of this year. The school facilities have dramatically improved over the last 12 months, as well as our staff. It has been exciting to see God bless this ministry in so many different ways.

As the pre-school has developed to include first and second grades, its facilities have become completely overwhelmed. Just down the road, God has continued to provide some of the infrastructure on the elementary school property including a brand new well, provided by Living Wells in Missouri. This well is currently connected to 25 homes in the village and is the only public source of water currently available in New Jerusalem.



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In past newsletters, I've mentioned that we have been going through the approval process for a grant from the Japanese government to further develop our school facilities. Just yesterday I was informed that a date has been set at the end of October for those funds to be deposited and for the school building to begin construction. This \$250,000 elementary school building with 7 classrooms, staff offices and breakroom, and 2 sets of bathrooms should be finished - prayerfully - before the 2025-2026 school year begins next year.

**It is amazing the ways that God chooses to provide for His ministries.**

Think about it - the Japanese government providing school facilities for Haitian refugee children, staffed by Dominican teachers, with Canadian food support, and funded by donations to an American ministry!

Over the next several months, we will be presenting our sponsorship program in churches around the U.S. as well as taking mission trips to the DR and Liberia. We've been excited to see individual ministries in and around New Jerusalem develop, with the first classes graduating from our pre-school, 1st and 2nd grade, literacy program, the Bible Institute, English school, and music school. Not only have souls come to Christ, new converts been baptized, but an amazing amount of discipleship and Bible study has been done on a daily basis in these ministries. With the completion of their two-year Bible Institute studies, 12 graduates have begun their work of reproducing themselves in their local churches. It is anticipated that several of these men will one day plant churches of their own and begin the process again. What began as Pastor Eddyson's missionary journey with only his family has grown into a group of 5 churches with now those churches preparing to send out men. It has been beautiful to watch, and I believe the way God intended us all to do ministry.

As I said in our last newsletter, Robin and I would love to come and share the details of the ministries we are supporting in the Dominican Republic. We would also love to help organize and lead a mission's trip - preferably with 5-20 people - from your ministry. This is something we've been doing for a while now and we feel like it is one of the areas of our ministry that is the most effective - both for those we visit and for those that go. I usually make a trip once every 6 weeks, and I'd love to take you and a group of your friends next year. Feel free to contact me with questions and ideas and I look forward to the possibility of serving together in the DR.

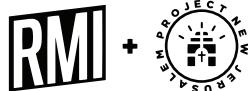
In closing, I want to say a loud **thank you** to each of you that has supported RMI in some way this year. Your prayers, your monthly support for Robin and I, your fund-raising for a Dominican project, and your monthly child sponsorships are vital to our ministry and to the ministries of those we support. We recognize that these are difficult financial times, yet our support has not wavered. Thank you for your partnership and consistency.

For those of you that are interested, check out our re-designed websites at [rmi.care](http://rmi.care) and [pnj.care](http://pnj.care) (Project New Jerusalem).

Talk to ya soon.

**Greg & Robin Rife**

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