
The Sidler Family

Serving Christ in the Dominican Republic



Dear Pastor and Church family:

October 31, 2024

We send you warm greetings from the Dominican Republic. While to doing my prayer letter today, I saw that it is a month late. I am sorry. I have had a terrible health issue that caused me to get behind. On September 17th I flew into the states for the birth of our first grandbaby from my son, Michael, and my daughter-in-law, Brynne. The baby is a handsome boy named Ronan Michael Sidler. The night I flew in I got the worse headache I have had in my life. Then I continued to get them one or twice a day, most days for three weeks. They lasted from 5-16 hours. After being hospitalized three times I found out that I have a disease called “Reversible Cerebral Vasoconstriction Syndrome” (RCVS). The veins in my brain are constricting or shrinking so that the blood is not circulating in my brain the way it should. According to my neurologist, this causes the worse headaches that you can get. I carry around medicine in my pocket in case that headache comes on, as it only takes 5-10 seconds for it to come on full blast and it absolutely decapitates me. The headaches are so serious that every time I have one, the doctors are afraid I will have a stroke, a brain aneurysm, a brain hemorrhage, or bleeding on the brain. The headaches are called “thunderclap” headaches. There are different things that trigger the headaches that the doctor has prohibited I do. I cannot get on an airplane until January, and I cannot drive. The doctor told me that usually after around 3 months, most people will be ok. However, she said that some people have it off and on for the rest of their life. I have had this problem now for 2 years, so I am concerned that I may be one of the ones that has it long term. For those who already knew about this, thank you for your prayers. And thank you for those who will begin to pray now. Presently I have minor headaches every day, my head feels like it is in the clouds, and extreme exhaustion. The doctor told me that the best thing for me is to get a lot of rest.

In my last prayer letter, I mentioned that I was writing my letter from camp. Thank you to those who were praying for camp and for those who helped pay for some campers. This year God used Pastor Eugene Nichols as our special speaker, we had 207 in attendance, 5 saved, 10 baptized, and 43 surrendered their lives to serve the Lord full-time. God used Pastor Nichols in a great way. God also gave us a great church anniversary on September 15 with 530 in attendance, 152 saved and 2 baptized. Then for 3 weeks the Lord gave us baptisms each week.

Since I am in the states, and not able to travel yet because of my RCVS, there are some activities that our church will be doing in my absence. We have a ordination service scheduled for 3 of our men – Francisco, Ronald, and Santos for this Sunday, November 3rd. Six months ago Santos started a church in an area called Carrizal, in Restauracion. He is having an attendance of around 50 and seeing people saved each week. We are also thankful that two of our deaf people will be getting married in December.

I praise the Lord that as things have happened with my health, and I literally thought I was going to die, that – the Lord is my shepherd, He restoreth my soul, He continues to lead me, He is with me, He comforts me, He provides for me, and He continues to follow me with His goodness and mercy. Hallelujah!

*Your friends and servants in the Dominican Republic,
Missionaries Steve and Nohemy Sidler*

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