

Dear friends,

Do you remember the question I posed in our January prayer letter?

I asked how we might learn from each other as members of the global body of Christ. In January I posed the question this way: Could pastors and churches in both North America and Nicaragua learn from each other?

But perhaps the question is relevant to more than Nicaragua and North America and to more than pastors and churches.

In February I visited Honduras. I spent some time with Carlos Hernandez. Some of you may know Carlos from the campaign of ASJ (Association for a More Just Society) to bring to justice those who assassinated a human rights attorney over a year ago.

Carlos is also the director of a successful Christian school in an urban community of Tegucigalpa. He has many skills in the area of organizational development and strategic planning. Recently, at the request of CRWM and Worldwide Christian Schools, Carlos has been using these skills to consult with Christian schools linked to CRC churches in Honduras and the Dominican Republic.

In March I traveled to the Dominican Republic. I had the privilege of meeting with Mario Matos. Mario is a gifted young leader who has returned to the Dominican Republic after completing his studies at Calvin Seminary. Mario is directing a ministry to equip churches to reach youth at risk and also serving as the president of the board of the CRC schools in the Dominican Republic. Mario has a vision that youth from North America would travel to the Dominican Republic for a "hands-on" learning experience of reaching out to youth at risk.

Do you see what is happening? This is more than the old model of North American missionaries going to Latin America to teach and preach. It is a leader from Honduras going to the Dominican Republic to help Christian schools started by North American missionaries. It is a Dominican leader studying in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and then returning to the Dominican Republic with a vision that includes ministry to youth from North America.

Could this be part of the fulfillment of the Easter message as the resurrected Lord breathes his life into and through his people? "Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it." (1 Corinthians 12:27)

*Note on our summer plans.* This summer Jeannie and I will have an opportunity to play a role in what God is doing to build the global body of Christ. Lord willing, we will travel to Grand Rapids on June 9 to prepare for a visit to Nigeria from June 20 to July 5. Our visit will take us to Abuja, Nigeria, where the Daniel Center is working on a similar model to that of the Nehemiah Center in

Nicaragua. We are excited about what the Daniel Center can learn from the Nehemiah Center and the Nehemiah Center from the Daniel Center.

After our visit to Nigeria, we return to Grand Rapids for our annual meeting with other CRWM regional leaders. From July 20 to August 3 we will be in the Pella, Iowa, area. Finally, from August 4 through 17 we will be in Denver and New Mexico. On our way back to Managua we will stop in Dallas to visit Chris, David and Micah.

Because He lives,

Joel for the Huyser family