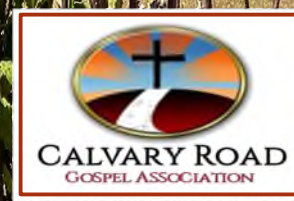




CRGA Newsletter



April | 2023 |

Upcoming Vision Trips

October 13 - 20, 2023 - Cuba (FULL)
Register by June 30 by contacting
Dave Ross - dhnbb@gmail.com

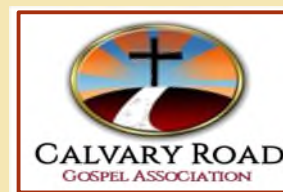
November 17-24, 2023 - (5 Spots)
Register by July 31 by contacting
Werner Peter - werner1950@gmail.com

January 19 - 26, 2024 - Cuba (3 Spots)
Register by August 15 by contacting
Amy Hayden - amyhayden07@gmail.com

March 1 - 8, 2024 - Cuba (2 Spots)
Register by November 30 by contacting
Walt Noordam - waltnoordam@outlook.com



**Read on for more details about
our exciting new partnership
with One22 Ministries.**



Partnership with One22 Ministries

-Pastor Werner Peters



Partnership - When two organizations have the same vision and the same heart for the same people, we have to ask ourselves, "is a partnership appropriate here?" Since 2018, Calvary Road has come to know the Canadian mission organization One22 Ministries who also have been working in

eastern Cuba. We have prayed and they have prayed, and both our organizations have come to the conclusion that we ought to formalize our partnership in the Lord's work in eastern Cuba. Effective January 1, 2023, Calvary Road has taken the lead role in our shared work in eastern Cuba.

Sponsor a Pastor - In 2017 we (i.e., all of you) were supporting 40 pastors monthly. God has continued to bless and use this ministry we share, and as of our most recent vision trip in March, we are now supporting 62 pastors! This is phenomenal and our thanks go to you and the glory goes to our God who has made this possible. In addition, One22 continues to sponsor 20 Cuban pastors, so our combined total is 82 Cuban pastors and missionaries. Praise God for His faithfulness and His supply!

We obviously have a growing number of individuals and churches who are sponsoring pastors at \$70 per month per pastor. This is a substantial matter of faith that we take before the Lord regularly, that he would continue to provide sponsors for this need. The need is ongoing and growing; there are many more Cuban pastors and missionaries who need our support and whom we would love to support. These pastors continue to serve faithfully and very effectively through the hardships all Cubans are experiencing. Right now, the conditions are worse than they have been since Castro's revolution. Would you please pray that the Lord of the harvest would continue to provide? Finding and purchasing food is becoming a time-consuming activity for many pastors who need our support and our prayers. Would you consider becoming a sponsor if you haven't done so yet? Thank you on behalf of our Cuban brothers and sisters, and our Lord God who is over all.

Water filters - Our partnership with One22 also means that we have agreed to lead the water filter manufacturing and distribution project in Cuba. Water contamination is a big problem in Cuba, and these durable, concrete biosand water filters are proving their worth. In our last newsletter we said that cement was nigh unto impossible to find. We have learned that cement is available again, but that the price has risen from \$3 per bag to \$15 per bag. Your donation of \$50 can fully fund the cost of manufacturing and installing one of these impressive filters into a Cuban home with young or old family members who are most susceptible to severe sickness from water-borne disease.

Costa Rica - In our partnership with One22, One22 will retain primary leadership for the work in Costa Rica. This past January, Calvary Road's Werner Peters and Gerry Rupke joined with John Attrell and Joel Cann, board members of One22, to visit Costa Rica where One22 has helped with the building of 3 churches over the past 10 years. We were met with the same joyous nature of the believers there as we always experience in Cuba. We learned that Pastors in Costa Rica all have full time jobs to supplement their income. Of the three churches we visited, they are all incomplete but one in particular stands out as most needing our help with the construction. It is a congregation that is in a very strategic spot to reach some indigenous people that live in the rainforest in Panama and who regularly walk out of their village to attend this church and its events. It takes 3 days of walking! A house is also being built for the pastor there.

While our trips to Cuba are "vision trips" where you get to meet the people and see the work that is taking place in the churches, the One22 trips to Costa Rica are "mission trips" where trip participants are "hands on", swinging a hammer, laying bricks, or digging a retaining wall.



If you want to be involved in a work project (which we cannot do in Cuba) we will connect you with our One22 partners and Lord willing, you can put your physical skills and energy to work in Costa Rica, for the glory of God! These mission trips generally happen in January, so let us know soon if you're interested.

For all these programs in which we are involved, we give thanks to our God for them and for you, who make these things possible.



January 2024 - Costa Rica

Tentative cost \$2500

Joel Cann - cannman94@yahoo.com

A Note from the President

~Dave Ross

Despite, or perhaps because of the increasing hardships of life in Cuba, the church of Jesus Christ there is growing in amazing numbers, and I still find it hard to grasp that God has so favoured all of us to be supporting His work in an area of the world that now has the 3rd fastest growing evangelical church on this planet. All glory to God, and we thank Him and you for your faithful support in making this happen.



Of course, this is not happening solely due to Calvary Road, and elsewhere in this newsletter we have noted with delight our gratitude for the partnership we now have with One22 Ministries, in both Cuba and Costa Rica. And thanks be to God there are other Canadian mission organizations working in Cuba because the work and the harvest there is great. Praise God that He is in control of all this, and directing supply from Canada to Cuba in a way that is wholly reminiscent of God supplying His early church in Jerusalem from the believers in Macedonia, Corinth and Philippi.

The needs in Cuba are huge - both spiritually and materially. While our top priority is always to support pastors - the shepherds who feed and care for the growing flock under them, we cannot turn away from the great physical needs we see and know is there. Therefore, Calvary Road is again turning its efforts to a container project; in fact, two containers - one of food, that can get there reasonably quickly, and a second with desperately needed goods. We anticipate that these containers will cost \$40,000 and \$110,000 respectively. Clearly, this combined cost is way out of the likely ability of Calvary Road's small support base to supply, but it is equally clearly a simple matter for our God to supply these needs. The food will be bulk rice or beans, and this is our immediate priority, as food insecurity remains a desperate situation in Cuba these days. Once we are able to get our food container under way, we will then update you on the need and cost for other items. Would you be willing to provide an offering towards the cost of a food container for Cuba at this time?



Vision Trip - March 2023

- Walt Noordam - Secretary

Our God is good. The week of March 3 to 10, I was blessed to lead a team to Cuba to visit the pastors in the mountains of Moa.

Travelling to Cuba went very smoothly through customs, and no delays with our flights. On Saturday afternoon we had our briefing with Pastor Josue and Emanuel. We also enjoyed some free time before we began our busy travel schedule to meet pastors and missionaries.

On Sunday we travelled to Holguin where we attended church, and the gospel was shared by Pastor James. One thing that continues to amaze me is hearing the people of Cuba pour out their hearts to God with praise and thanksgiving even though most are living on a meager \$10 to \$30 per month. The spiritual growth in the churches is also amazing as the people are hungry for the Word.

We had very long travel days into the mountains of Moa where we met with many pastors. Their churches are crumbling but that does not deter them from singing praises and worshipping God. After meeting about 20 pastors, we are beginning to support 12 of them. The other 8 are already being supported. For myself it was a special blessing that I could meet with a couple of pastors that our family is personally supporting. It really draws the bond we have closer.

At the end of the week, we walked away blessed. They tell us they are blessed, but we return home realizing how different our material and even our spiritual lives are lived. Of these 12 pastors we are looking for people to step forward to sponsor these families. Please pray how you can make a difference.

Walt Noordam-Secretary

Pastor Profile: Carlos Terrero

When Carlos was young he was a singer and felt lost in the streets. He knew about God but he was not a Christian. During a gig, a woman asked him to come to Church. He and his girlfriend at the time went to the Church and accepted Christ. He began working in the Church, taking on more and more responsibilities until he became a leader in the Church.



The Casa Sobre La Roca mission post began 3 years ago when Carlos Terrero and his wife Daylis came to serve in this community. There are 30 members and 35-37 attendees.

During the first service there were only 8 people in attendance and then Covid shut the meetings down. Carlos began to visit homes in the neighbourhood and shared the gospel with those who would listen. Seven people chose to be baptized, and Carlos worked closely with those new members, mentoring them in their new faith.

Carlos oversees the small groups, mission, discipleship, and evangelism. Daylis leads the children's ministry. In addition to leading this mission post he collaborates with 3 smaller churches and serves as the interim Pastor at First Baptist Church Cayo Mombi as they are without one at this time.

The biggest obstacles facing the church today are alcoholism and gambling, there is a lot of both in the community.



Vision Trip - March 2023

~ Ellen Dark

Early on March 3rd, eight people from five different churches in Ontario and New Brunswick began a week-long visit to Cuba. The team was led by Walt Noordam. The main objective for the trip was to meet with twelve pastors and missionaries, part of the Eastern Baptist Convention, who had been recommended for financial support from Calvary Road Gospel Association. Over three days we met seventeen pastors and missionaries. We saw a lot of eastern Cuba, and we met some amazing brothers and sisters in Christ. Travelling with the Canadian team were Pastor Josue Rodriguez, Calvary Road's Cuban Director, and his son, Emanuel, who was our interpreter.

At each stop Walt interviewed the candidates, learning about their congregation, challenges they are facing, and personal needs. Each man, and his wife if she was present, gave a brief testimony. Following the interview, Pastor James would speak a Bible verse over them, pray for them, and take their picture. (James was the "official" photographer.). Then we would bring in the gift bag and suitcase of donated clothing. One family had been robbed recently, when even their shoes were stolen. Family friends had planned on visiting the family to replace some of their things, but the friends couldn't come. When we brought in the suitcase of donations the pastor's wife burst into tears. There were shoes in her size in the suitcase! Through the interpreter she told us, "God can bring help from anywhere."

The last church we visited was in a heavily polluted industrial area. The soil there was orange. The pastor told us that at the height of the pandemic COVID killed many people in other parts of the city. In their neighbourhood no one died! Government representatives came to investigate. I was reminded of when the Israelites were in Goshen. While Egypt was in total darkness, the Israelites had light.



*There were shoes in her size in the suitcase!
Through the interpreter she told us, "God can bring help from anywhere."*

Ways You Can Support CRGA

Pray for our pastors

Sponsor a pastor and his family

For just \$70 per month, or \$840 per year, you can sponsor a pastor and his family. This provides them with much needed money for groceries, clothing and basic necessities.

Join us on one of our upcoming Vision Trips!

Vision trip cost is \$1,600; this includes airfare from Pearson Toronto and accommodations, food and local travel in Cuba. We have limited capacity for our Vision Trips; first to sign up and pay the \$1,000 deposit are the first to be confirmed for the Vision Trip team. Come join us and experience the real Cuba and a beautiful change in your heart and life - blessings are guaranteed!



Pictures of Cuba

~ Pastor James Bekkers, Temple Baptist Church,
Sarnia, ON



Pastor Alain Marzo Linares along with his wife
Mirianne Parada Paroz

Ways to Give

Send a cheque to:

Calvary Road Gospel Association
PO Box 571
Moncton, NB E1C 8L9

E-transfer:

CalvaryRoadGospelAssociation@gmail.com
(Please indicate your name and email address in the
transfer message)

Via Canada Helps:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/4454>



If you no longer wish to receive this
newsletter, please advise us by way of email:
waltnoordam@outlook.com

