

What God has done through our partnership. What God is doing through our partnership





What God will do to bring His Kingdom to bear on Earth through our partnership in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

# 2020 Vision-2nd Quarter Update



#### ACTS 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes in your, and you will be my writnesses in Jorusalina, and so all Judge and Sumeria, and to the orde of the parth."

# Previously @ Ancient Path/Senda Antigua

As our March 2020 team departed, Cuba announced its first cases of COVID-19.



Friday, March 20, 2020

A message from Pastors Jose & Yamy to the La Senda Antigua network of churches/missions.

We announce to all members of Ancient Path (La Senda Antigua) in Jovellanos and missions, that worship services are suspended until further announcement as a preventive measures against all that we are experiencing. Isolation is one of the most effective ways to prevent virus from spreading. We encourage you to have your faith lifted more than ever. God is faithful and merciful. He has given us promises for 2020 and will surely keep them.

We ask you to join prayer chains at the same times of our services. Wednesday & Saturday (8:15 pm) and Sunday (10 am). Worship with your family each day to keep the fire burning, We Pastors and leaders are here for you, and we are already taking steps to take care for the elderly. If you are in need, let us know. It will be a great blessing to be able to help. Remember ... your burden is my burden, we are a great family, together in good times and bad ...

Our prayers at this time are driven by:

- May our God stop this pandemic and save our city, nation and the world
- For the spiritual life of the Church
- For new converts
- For all those infected and those who have suffered losses worldwide
- Because we are aware of Jesus coming soon.

The Psalmist said, I will lift my eyes to the mountains, where will my help come from? My help comes from Jehovah who made heaven and earth !!!

Let us trust our Lord. This is something temporary. We remain firm, None of this is comparable to the Glory to come.

God bless and keep you, Pastors Jose Santiago and Yamile Cruz

# How Is Cuba During the Pandemic?

By far, the most often asked question of the last three months. Here is a little bit of what we know. It may not look like what you've read in the official media, and things change quickly. So, as of **June 25, 2020...** 

Within days after our last mission team left Cuba, the entire nation was on an strictly enforced lock down.



The various modes of transport on which the Cubanos rely were ordered stopped. This includes buses, rental cars, taxicabs, bici-taxis, railways, private automobiles, passenger trucks, and boats.

Cuba's airports were closed to international flights at the end of March and entries were largely sealed as part of efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19.

As of this writing, the government has declared COVID to be under control on the island





Public gatherings were forbidden, including church worship. Cubans, who normally live largely outdoors were pushed to stay home. There's even a Facebook page to remind them.

Children, youth, and young adults were confined to their homes and fines began to be assessed for those who went out.

Face masks became obligatory, even in their scarcity. Cuba's national television network broadcast hearings in which citizens were sentenced to 1-1.5 years in prison for failure to wear a mask in public.



With 65% of food and much petroleum normally imported, the border closures led to widespread food, propane gas, and machine fuel shortages. News of the availability of any product caused hundreds to line up in hopes of obtaining necessities.

# Working It Out Here in the USA. Pt. 1

Jesus talked more about money than almost anything and much of our work in the US is connecting friends in support of ministry to expand Kingdom on Earth. Let's start there. It's been interesting.

During our March mission, Pastor Kevin & Jose laid out a bunch of plans (see 1st Quarter Update). Though COVID has set things awry, the vision remains. We will simply need other paths to tread and we remain certain that God has the plan in hand that won't be shaken by so small as a world-wide pandemic. In this context then, here is a little of the effect for now.

#### 100/20/20 Financial Covenant Partnerships

Are the base of our ministry in the US and Cuba. Monthly covenant Goal (2020-21) = \$21,600 +/-

Jan 1, 2020 monthly covenant = \$6334 (29.3%) 47 individuals, families, churches March 31, 2020 monthly= \$6000 (27.7%)- 43 43 individuals, families and churches The well-laid plan was for events and personal touches this Spring to bring on another 12-15 covenant partners. COVID cancelled events and person to person meetings. So, June 30, 2020 monthly = \$6000 (27.7%)- 44 We lost 1 partnership to the virus, but brought on 2 more. NET LOSS in 2020 remains \$334 monthly In this season, we are grateful for a break even. In the next there so much work left to do.

**2020 Goal =** \$15,000 +/- (70%)-100 partners WE NEED YOUR KINGDOM PARTNERSHIP.



#### 2020 Mission Team Travel

Each non– staff traveling mission team member brings +/-\$400 directly to the work of APM/LSA

2019 Team Members (Jan, Mar, May, Sept) = 35 or \$14,000 2020 Team Members (Jan, Mar) = 16 \$6,400

#### As of today, June 25, 2020

Cuba's airports and entries remain closed. When opened August 1, it will be only for tourists allowed no contact with Cuban citizens.

Plans for summer Mercy Mission & a team of 20+ in Sept/Oct are postponed into 2021. Though we hope for a Nov team, we have no idea when we will be allowed to travel again.

Dur Pastor's Seminary for Fall sessions also look doubtful.

#### The time is now! The Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe the good news! - Jesus



Bringing Good News. Connecting In Christ. Building The Kingdom.

# When the Going Gets Tough... (USA Pt.2)

The work of the Spirit to build Kingdom continues even as plans, routines, and financial projections are shaken.

Here at home, we started to realign things when we fasted alongside our church family in Cuba during Holy Week. Many of you reading this were likely a part of that experience. Then we waited (placed our hope in God), looked ahead, and went to work.



This week, we humbly received a deepening of partnership with Four Corners Church. 4C now provides the channel/infrastructure for our reception of online donations/partnerships. This is huge.

This service will eliminate upwards of \$2,000 in annual ministry cost for bank and merchant service fees. We can now place these funds in support of our churches and missions and the people to whom they offer the love of Christ and life of the Kingdom of God.

We humbly thank our friends for this further investment.





Looking ahead, we were able to procure a small Paycheck Protection Loan in late April to both keep us solvent and allow for uninterrupted support for our current work in Cuba. All of our mission outposts are cared for through the end of 2020.



Did I mention waiting? It seems like the world has done a lot of that lately. Here at home we prayed for and waited on Pastors Jose & Yami as they sought the Lord in prayer. We prayed alongside them for a path forward in the mission for which we have been anointed by the Spirit of the Sovereign Lord.

In the coming pages, you'll see the work of the people of La Senda during the pandemic and read a bit of our vision for the road ahead. God is always worth the wait.

### The Kingdom Is Still Growing

After what seemed like a long time, I finally got news from Jose & Yamy. What they had to tell me is amazing.



In this unusual season, God has fed us an unusual helping of His favor. Through family connection, we got one of a few special auto registrations which allowed our La Senda van to continue to be used for ministry even as 98% of other vehicles sit parked. The faithful of La Senda have taken full advantage of the opportunity to serve.



info

Churches didn't close during this current season, we simply left the building.

"Go and make disciples", said Jesus.

To be the church completely, we have to go and make. This is what La Senda is doing. Now.



Remember the account of the miraculous catch of fish? Well, Jesus has been pointing our folks in the right direction over and over again. As shortage grips the entire nation, La Senda has worked hard to find and bring forth an abundance to be shared with neighbors in need in all the communities we serve. Corn, rice, fruits and vegetables, not available generally, are being harvested to plant the knowledge of God in the filled stomachs of the people.

Yami reported to us that, in the middle of all the fear, difficulty, and scarcity, the people are saying, "We praise God because this is an opportunity to see His great love doing miracles"

The people, she says, testify that God has provided in miraculous ways. This is supernatural. God is good and He is working. These moments make our faith and confidence grow in the One who is good (El Bueno) !!!

### **Believe The Good News**

...baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit...- Jesus



And, there are remarkable signs of the profound gift of this life everywhere we turn.

Multiple babies are being born in the La Senda family. Jose & Yami's eldest son (in FL) and daughter-in-law are expecting a son.

One of our Pastors and our Medical Ministry leader are engaged to be married.

La Senda pastors and missionaries, by way of our van and some sturdy bicycles, are still faithfully serving the rural and urban poor, providing spiritual and physical sustenance and reassurance of God's presence in a strange time.





info



The scriptures tell us that all heaven rejoices when a single sinner repents. Jesus (at left) had resisted grace for years, even as his wife, daughter, and grandchildren became integral members of La Senda Antigua.

Well, in the midst of the pandemic and struggling with terminal cancer, he yielded his spirit to God's and was baptized in the family apartment.

Two weeks ago, Jesus ceased suffering and landed for eternity in the embrace of his Heavenly Father.

### The Vision Grows On The Road Ahead

#### You will be my witnesses....to the ends of the earth.—Jesus

It may sound as though we will need to cut back on our 2020 vision, but the more focused reality over these past few months means that the mission will actually grow larger. We are pursuing everything we told you of in March: house purchases and construction of new worship and classroom spaces, and a new regional strategy for engaging partners in the USA. We will be in touch in July and beyond to help you deepen your connection.



The Kingdom Builders Breakfast can't happen in one location. So, it will become a series of online gatherings to allow us to share breakfast and the story while inviting more friends to be part of it. Details on this, visits from Pastor Kevin, and other events coming shortly.





Dut of the remarkable efforts of La Senda Antigua to feed members and the local community, a new ministry is taking shape. Best described here as Meals On Wheels Jovellanos, we will use our kitchen facilities to buy food and prepare meals for the needy in the towns we serve. Alongside the outreach to the hungry will be a table ministry to serve and enable events with banquets for local churches.



#### Gathering starts anew this Sunday at La Senda!!!

Kids Sunday School in the morning and adult worship in the evening.

Yami says, "It's only one weekly service, but something is something."

# We Need Your Partnership!!!

Give, and it will be given to you.

A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. - Luke 6:38

All of what has been accomplished is because of our combined gifting and contributions. As Pastor Jose likes to say, together we make a great team. If the vision is to come true for 2020, we need you... Todos. Everybody.

#### NEED #1 PRAY FOR ANCIENT PATH/LA SENDA ANTIGUA

In daily intercession. With your church or small group. Be a prayer partner with someone from La Senda Antigua. Contact Tonni Jobe for more info tonnijobe@ancientpathministries.org



### <u>Our Pastoral/Missionary Team</u>



#### NEED #2 FINANCIAL PARTNERSHIP BE PART OF THE 100/20/20

Partnership commitments equivalent to 100@\$100 mo, 20@\$250mo 20@\$500 mo

#### 4 Ways to Give

**TEXT TO GIVE** through Four Corners Text **KEYWORDS** to **513-806-2724** Click link. Select **Ancient Path Ministries Fund** Follow prompt to set amount, gifting method, recurring/one-time.

APM Website https://ancientpathministries.org
Click DONATE NOW button to Four Corners Giving
Recurring- click REGISTER (top right). Single- Give Now (top left)
Follow prompt to set account, gifting method, partnership amount
Choose Ancient Path Ministries Fund under Give to...

Bill Payment/DAF/IRA with your Bank/Financial Institution Send Recurring or 1-time Giving to:

Ancient Path Ministries 10889 Lake Thames Dr, Cincinnati, OH, 45242

Send **Personal/Business Checks** to the address above.

#### NEED #3 CONNECT US TO OTHER KINGDOM-MINDED PEOPLE

Your family, friends, church, or neighbors Host an APM presentation in your home/church Pass along information to Kevin Jobe kevinandtonni@ancientpathministries.org

## Ancient Path Ministries/ La Senda Antigua

May God grant you a blessed 2020 and make the work He places in your hand yield a hundred fold. With our thanks...

glesia Vo/vie

enda



Linda Wallace

Cincinnati, OH



The Leadership & Advisory Board



Cheryl Wahlstrom Jamestown, NY



Vicki Sheafer Longview, TX



Brad & Laura Walden Montgomery, OH



Kyle & Jennifer Kaufman Mason, OH



Kevin & Tonni Jobe Cincinnati, OH



Jose Santiago & Yami Cruz Jovellanos, Cuba