

REFLECTIONS

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**ANCIENT
PATH
MINISTRIES**

**CONSIDERING
2023**



#KINGDOMISWORTHIT

2023. An Extraordinary Year. In an Extraordinary Place. With Extraordinary People. Serving an Awesome God.

...we also glory in our suffering, for we know that suffering produces perseverance, perseverance character, and character hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.- Romans 5:3-5

In west central Cuba, we work in a region that has suffered. The province in which we are based is called Matanzas, which translates in English to "slaughters," being named after an ambush and subsequent massacre that happened here in 1510.

Loss and endurance, perseverance and overcoming are so indelible in the living of these days that, most often, a brother or sister in Christ here does not have much (if any) time to stop and think whilst working through it all as the hours tick by.

On one of our trips this year, a dear American friend inquired of Yami, "What do Cubans do in their spare time?"

To our experience this seems a very fair and logical question. Yami's response was concise and a pointed reminder of how differently Cubans have to measure their lives. To paraphrase, she told our group of Ohioans that "spare" or "free" time wasn't really a thing in Cuba. Cubans pretty much spend their waking hours (when not in some more traditional mode of work) resolving something. That is to say that they are figuring out how to work through/over/under/around some issue or obstacle.

There is, sewn into the fabric of their existence, a necessity to overcome something. It may be practical, physical, emotional, spiritual, or a combination of one or more of these, but daily, hourly, and always, there is a challenge to be met. This is where energies are spent. Even when it might seem that some have what we would call "time on their hands," spare time here doesn't quite relate to our concept.

Maybe this is why they are so adept as Kingdom builders.





Tonni & I have been blessed now with 17 years as members of the Santiago/Jobe family. 17 years of learning and loving Cuba. 17 years of being drawn by the Holy Spirit to invest more deeply in the advancement of the Gospel here. I am ever astounded at the new discoveries that await me every time I draw close and pay attention.

Yami and I have talked at length these last couple of months of the truly severe cost of working for the Lord. Amongst the mind bending discoveries made is understanding that when you make the decision to embrace discipleship, and march forward in your calling, the commitment comes at great price.

At the La Senda Antigua 12th birthday celebration in January 2023, Pastora Yami called for a year of advancement and acceleration, and we were off and running, measurably faster than we had before. Our goals were lofty and our challenges were many. The ties that binds us would be tested in ways few of us foresaw.



2023 for me personally was to be a year of discovering a little bit more about the perseverance and resolute spirit in which my Cubano family is steeped. There was more travel, more work, more issues to resolve, higher cost.

At times, it seemed to be a year spent chasing carrots held out in front of us; promises of many great places, experiences, and rewards to come. In the end, for a variety of reasons and circumstances, nearly all of those treats were lost, at least for now. Reflecting this past week, a lyric from poet Rich Mullins seems to have summed up the cost of Kingdom service in 2023.

Everything that could be shaken was shaken and all that remains is all I ever really had.



For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. - 2 Corinthians 4:17-18

When Jesus approaches you and says, "Follow me," you gotta go. It's going to cost you. Your life will be shaken and you will find out "all you ever really had." You discover (if you are like me, repeatedly) that working for God's Kingdom is worth far more than it could ever cost. You discover that (like my Cubano brothers and sisters) the daily troubles and overcoming cannot compare to what happens if, by the grace of God, you can stay committed to the call.

After wrestling to resolve every issue, faithful disciples in Cuba often find ourselves paradoxically in the valleys full of shadows and at the top of the mountain all at once, glorying in suffering and success as the Holy Spirit manifests God's power in the manner of our fondest dreams. Advancement and acceleration. 2023 was full. Here is a glimpse of what your faithful partnership and record yearly giving has enabled.

The La Senda Antigua worship space in Jovellanos was extended to the property boundaries.



Crisis relief ministries fed, housed, and clothed people in need all over Cuba. Nearly 4000 meals served monthly June-December.



New pastors/missionaries trained and more than half a dozen new house churches established in the region.



New building purchased and renovated for our expanding Children's Ministry



Six visiting teams welcomed from the USA to help address spiritual, emotional, and physical well being in the Cuban church.



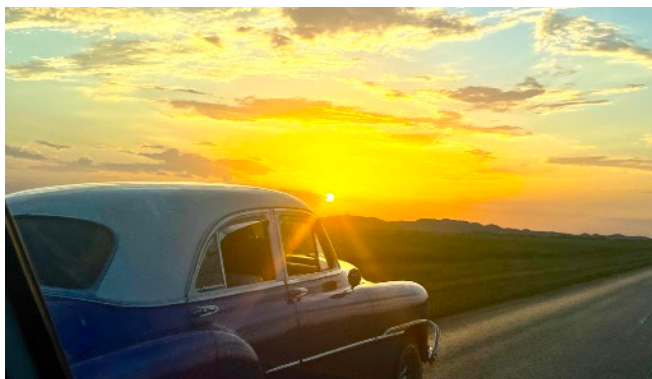
New believers. Baptisms. Crowds pressing in to Jesus. Biblical happenings here and now.



2023 was a monumental year for the shared ministry of Ancient Path and La Senda Antigua. We are grateful for every one who made it part of their 2023 to be in partnership with us. #KINGDOMISWORTHIT.

We thank you in advance for your ongoing commitment walk beside us in 2024: Bringing Good News, Connecting in Christ, Building the Kingdom. May God bless you richly in all you do.

PARTNERS ON THE PATH



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You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.- Matthew 5:14-16

You can be an instrument to advance the Gospel and a partner in the work of the Kingdom of God

1. PRAYER - OUR MOST CRUCIAL NEED

2024 and Beyond

Pastora Yami, Pastor Kevin & Tonni, family, leaders, servant ministry team. Faithfulness, equipping, wisdom, power.

CUBA-economic/civil crisis, Complex US-Cuba relationship.

Ask God to send workers to field. He'll show you what to do.

All the partnership opportunities are in the pages ahead.



2. FOUNDATIONAL COVENANT FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Monthly Covenant Support Goal (2024)

\$22,000

Covenant Support Actual (12/2023)

\$15,000 (68.2%)

Simple financial strategy. Relational partnerships.
We want to know/love you/pray for/work with you
Every gift is welcome/useful. No gift too small/large.
Consistent giving is foundational/crucial.

This QR Code for ZELLE

Or ZELLE to 419-944-9238.

Leave note blank or indicate APM contribution.



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HERE ARE SOME WAYS TO GIVE



BANK/IRA/DAF/PERSONAL/BUSINESS CHECK

Set recurring gift to **Ancient Path Ministries**
10889 Lake Thames Dr, Cincinnati, OH, 45242

OR

This QR Code for Zeffy



Zeffy is a free service for Non-Profits.
You can donate to Zeffy or choose -
Other/\$0 in tip line to decline.

Use online form to set up one-time or
ongoing partnership support.

YOUR FAITHFUL SUPPORT ENABLES KINGDOM WORKERS/
PROJECTS TO EXPAND THE REACH OF THE GOSPEL.

Meeting our goal will make sure the work continues!

3. NEW CONNECTIONS IN CHRIST



We want to meet hundreds of new friends in 2024. If our message of the Kingdom rings true, please connect us to family, friends, churches, co-workers, foundations. Some ways to help:

[Send A Friend's Contact Info To Pastor Kevin](#)

With permission to drop your name

Host or Join Friends for a Café Cubano

In someone's home. Relax. Share vision. Explore.
Guests committed to 90 minutes. Hosts 2-3 hours.
We bring coffee/dessert/compelling story.

Host APM @ Your Church, Club, or Business

Presentation for any space or group.
Worship, Meal, Mission, Customized Gathering

Kevin Jobe travels regionally/online to share La Senda Antigua.
Contact us for a visit. kevinandtonni@ancientpathministries.org
419-944-9238



STAYING CONNECTED

APM IS EASY TO FIND. INVITE LOVED ONES TO CONNECT TO US.

The Ancient Path/La Senda Antigua Podcast

The Word From The Ancient Path. 4 seasons streaming. 15 minutes in English or Spanish.

Sermons/stories of God's work in the people of the ancient path. On all major podcast platforms/Facebook.



WORD FROM THE ANCIENT PATH.
PALABRA DE LA SENDA ANTIGUA.
STORIES FROM THE JOURNEY.
HISTORIAS DEL CAMINO.

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WEBSITE

<https://ancientpathministries.org>

FACEBOOK

[facebook.com/ancientpathministries.org](https://www.facebook.com/ancientpathministries.org)

Dr Yami Cruz. Kevin Jobe. Tonni Jobe.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100095434627793>

Iglesia Buenas Nuevas Volviendo A La Senda Antigua

INSTAGRAM

@ancientpathministries

YOUTUBE

Ancient Path La Senda Antigua

LINKEDIN

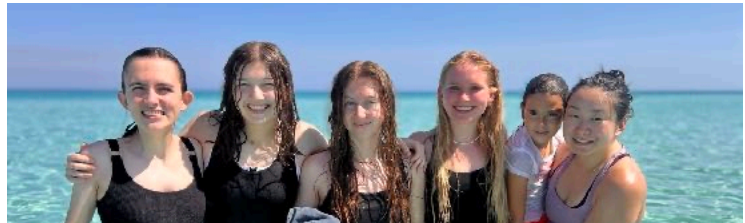
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/kevin-jobe-1749a517b/>

EMAIL

kevinandtonni@ancientpathministries.org

PASTOR KEVIN PHONE/TEXT

419-944-9238



4. COME WITH US ON A MISSION TO CUBA

Get Ready for a Kingdom-sized Adventure!

It's unlike any mission trip you have known

The Gospel extends to the ends of the earth.

You can be part of bringing the Good News.

Personal connection in prayer, fellowship, encouragement, Kingdom work.

New relationships with lasting potential.

God's Kingdom growing in amazing people and places.

Ancient Path Ministries will...

Train/care for you as we get there and home.

Help you use your gifting before, during, and after the trip.

+/- \$400 fees applied to ministry beyond cost of the trip.

Your participation helps to continue the work.

Teams now forming for July/September/November



2024 Mission Trip Cost

\$2300 All-inclusive

Training/Materials/Guides/Translators

Flights/Baggage/Visas

Flight & Medical Insurance

Lodging/Transport/In Country Meals