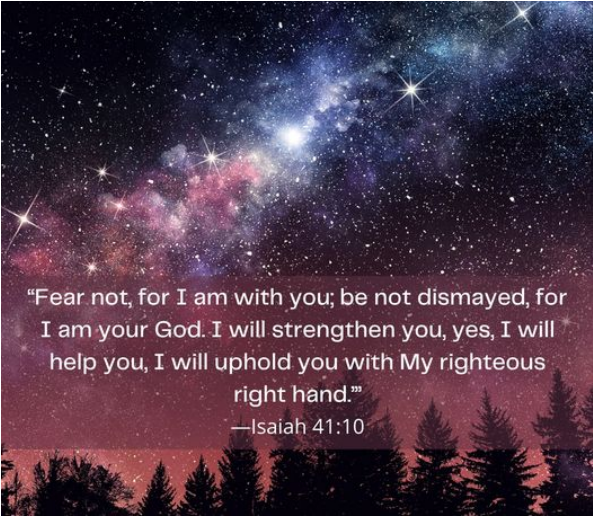


Welcome to 2021:



"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."
—Isaiah 41:10

BEHOLD, I WILL DO A NEW THING, NOW IT WILL SPRING FORTH; WILL YOU NOT BE AWARE OF IT? I WILL EVEN MAKE A ROAD WAY IN THE WILDERNESS, RIVERS IN THE DESERT.
ISAIAH 43:19

We are living in a very different world these days. Both the external and the internal things of life are rapidly changing. People are more concerned about their mortality these days even though the rate of deaths and the kinds of people that die have not changed

over the last five years in Canada. This makes them more open to the gospel and the "real" church is experiencing rapid growth. The lines of good vs. evil are also becoming more obvious as evil seeks to impose itself in all kinds of forms.

On the other hand, I see many Christians getting really serious about their faith. Have you heard of "Fire-Wall"? This is a Zoom prayer meeting that goes for an hour with groups all over North America spending an hour in prayer at different times of the night or day so that there is 24 hours of constant intercessory prayer and praise. Some who are on it cannot get enough of it so they have organized more Zoom prayer meetings throughout the week. Real Christians—Really praying. Yes, God has started a *New Thing* and it is spreading rapidly like a prairie fire.

The focus of conversations has changed from the trivial to the essential. Real Christians are more focused on God than sports or gossip and fake news. Real Christians are focused more on "giving" than accumulating or acquiring wealth. There is a definite switch from the temporal to the eternal, and from the physical to the spiritual. The world is being turned upside down but Real Christians are being turned right-side up. Yes, God is doing a *New Thing*.

Real Christians are having their faith amplified, their hope intensified, and their joy deepened. This is happening in a world where people are being controlled by fear and loss. The rates of suicide and overdose along with mental anguish are soaring. Depression with a sense of gloom and doom pervade modern societies with little hope to change their circumstances. A 'victim mentality' is growing rapidly for many in which the name of the game is blame—blame the government, the health care bureaucrats, and the international oligarchs who are merely pawns of the principalities and powers. While the common man seeks to use traditional temporal means to regain power Real Christians have realized that more can be done by faith than by temporal power. *Yes, God is doing a new thing.*

The sides are being drawn up between those who intentionally do things "man's way" (Proverbs 12:12) or "God's way" (Proverbs 3:5,6) with the subsequent consequences. In this battle, the existence of a 'No Man's Land' or a middle of road position does not exist. It actually never did exist but only appeared to exist when things were easier. Now, as the battle heats up our inner being is hearing the challenge of the old prophet Elijah at Mount Carmel—**"choose you this day which you will serve"**.

The Church of Christ is starting to go through an initial cleansing in which the sheep are being separated from the goats and the wheat from the tares. The starker the contrast in realities become, the more intentional our choices are seen and cannot be hid in vague excuses and confusion. In the parable of the ten virgins waiting for the bridegroom to come, five virgins had their candles lit and ready. In the darkness they could be readily seen. However, those five without their candles lit blended into the darkness.

. The fake church or false Christians do not even have a light to be snuffed out by the Holy Spirit fact checker. They were never part of the Real Church to begin with. For the Real Christian, their light shines brightest in the darkest hours and its oil is rich in the presence of God's Spirit. *Yes, God is doing a New Thing.* Are you part of it?



Would you still follow Jesus even if it was illegal?

"...AND LET US CONSIDER HOW TO STIMULATE ONE ANOTHER TO LOVE AND GOOD DEEDS, NOT FORSAKING OUR OWN ASSEMBLING TOGETHER, AS THE HABIT OF SOME, BUT ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER, AND ALL THE MORE AS YOU SEE THE DAY DRAWING NEAR..."
HEBREWS 10: 24,25

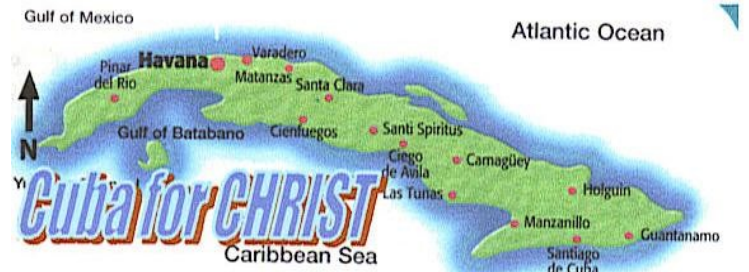
More Stories From Cuba



Family: Yovanis

Rodríguez Marrero Yiesy Katia Peña Cruz Samuel Rodríguez Peña

MY DREAMED CHRISTMAS



Since I was a little girl my mother used to tell me about the few Christmas celebrations she attended. A poor family in the countryside where there was not even electric power but all were happy because they were together. The joy, the visits to the family, the supper, but what they preferred the most was the part where they shared the candies and gifts. She said that they used to sell all kinds of fruits and candies in the stores. And I love fruits! But these fruits were not from our country, she said there were apples, grapes, peaches, hazelnuts, figs, raisins, nuts, and candies such as hard nougat-like candy. At this time, I do not know any of those flavors, but it was a dream for me to taste them all. Like me, my children have never tasted one of these. Apart from the stuff they sold, inside the bags there were prizes, all the kids were thrilled.

I was never in a Christmas celebration, it is not celebrated in our country; only New Year's Eve and New Year are celebrated. I learned the real meaning of Christmas when I first knew Jesus because they do celebrate it in the church. It is a sad reality to think of my mother's stories and these times.

For this Christmas, I would decorate the house with beautiful bellflowers. Then, we would put colorful lights inside and outside the house with a big sign: MERRY CHRISTMAS 2020! We would also have a fine decorated Christmas tree with lights and music and gifts for everyone. The manger with baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph and the animals, will be there representing the miracle of that day. I would prepare all that in the early morning to be a surprise for my kid when he wakes up in the morning. That day, we would each wear a new outfit and new shoes. I would set a big table full of all kinds of fruits (all those we have never tried) and many candies, ice cream, soft drinks. Also for dinner: roast turkey, rice and beans, vegetables and mixed salad. My whole family would join us, singing, playing all night until dawn. At the end, we would have a time of thanksgiving, each will thank God for the things lived during the year. The most special of all is to be able to share united the love of God in our lives. This is my dreamed Christmas!

My longing for Christmas -

Family: William Leyva Pérez and Melba Tamayo Pupo. God bless you!

We started the missionary work in 2001 after going through a terrible disease (AIDS) and twenty years in prison. There we started our ministry in a very difficult place: transportation was very difficult and we had to walk several kilometers to visit our family; the roads were very bad and we only counted on a bicycle. My wife gained some weight with the blessings and I could not take her anymore on the bicycle and that is why we had to walk again. She was on pain and had to undergo a surgery.

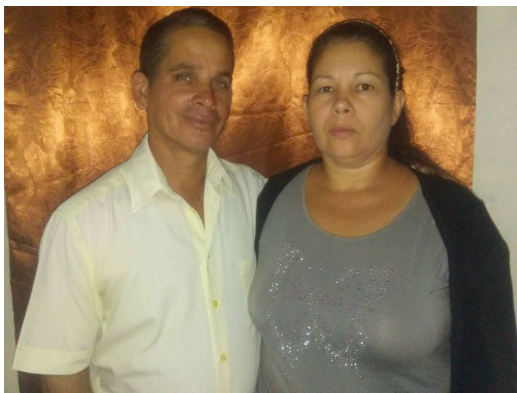
Amid these adversities we were wishing for a horse to be able to do the journey. After 4 years in that area, we were transferred to another mission, a better place but also very difficult to go out and see the family, we were walking again. Back at that time, I started to work in the chaplaincy ministry visiting the prisons, which I was longing for a long time since I was released from prison, and I did it with joy. We were going forward in the work of the Lord to His Glory and He was helping us with material blessings too. We acquired many things we did not have.



The Lord has blessed us and we are very happy. Our decision has been to serve God under any circumstances like apostle Paul said: *for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances*. One day I became seriously ill in the mission with a high and constant fever. I had to go to the hospital, they ran lots of tests but zero prognosis. Every day was the same. It was a hard time for me and my family who were visiting me every day. After two months, a highly experienced doctor came to see me and diagnosed possible tuberculosis and right away, he indicated me a strong treatment.

They discharged me and I went home. Many doctors visited me and wanted me to be in lockdown. My wife, my family and I were very sad because every doctor confirmed I had that disease, which I never had. Doctors also talked to our leaders to let them know we should abandon the mission. They had a meeting and decided we had to be out of church for a period of time. We experienced 3 terrible months and after that time, the commission of doctors told us that I had never had the disease.

This was the way the Lord used to bring me to Teen Challenge as the second Director where I am working right now. I still live far from my family and our desire for this Christmas is to have a horse with a carriage to visit our family.

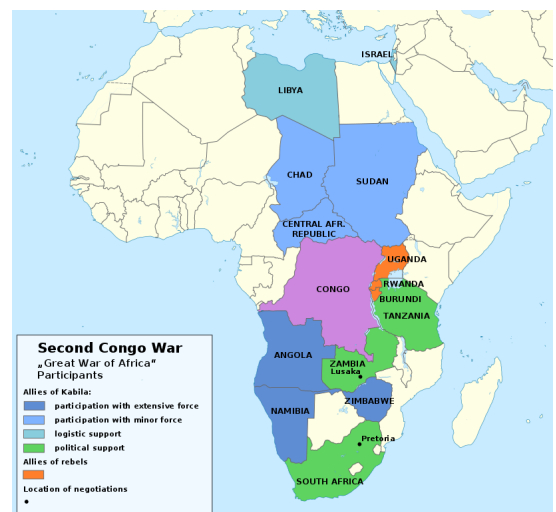


Family: Rodolfo Pantoja & Yaquelin Perez: I still remember when I was a kid, my dad used to tell me how my grandparents celebrated Christmas: all they had for dinner, the candies, and the atmosphere they lived. The whole family gathered to share and they could even invite friends over. According to him, it was a longed-for date due to the joy. Kids wanted to have Christmas every month to be able to play and celebrate what they did not know about but which was certainly good. My grandparents did not know the true meaning of Christmas either but they celebrated it as tradition. When I accepted Christ as my Lord and Savior many years later, I could understand the true meaning of the celebration. My parents got also saved but we could not spend it together because we lived in different provinces and we are pastors and had to stay with our church for the date.

Five years ago, I could bring my parents to live in a town close to me and we started to enjoy it together. My dad was very happy in all our meetings and when I would tell him about something I would wish to have to share but I did not, he always said: "It does not matter if it is not what we had back in the day, I am happy I can have all my children and grandchildren together celebrating the true meaning of Christmas". Last year my dad got sick and after several months he passed away. It was in June and we decided as a family to gather for Christmas that year because he would have wanted that and we remembered him and thanked God. We think to do the same this year even though is a great challenge. To feed a family is difficult now, all is scarce. And it is hard for my wife to cook for all since we do not have an electric stove. But anyways, we pray God we can be all together every year; thanking God for what He lent us: our family and we need to appreciate it because maybe next year one of them will go to live with God and not be here for Christmas. That is why, it is worth it to make efforts and enjoy the fact Christ came one day into our lives. I pray God provides for us the special dinner and to have pressure and rice cookers to ease my wife's work. God bless your families.

RWANDA, KENYA, CONGO, BURUNDI: We start 2021 with the development of ministry to empower the World for Jesus Mission Ministry (WJMM). Joseph Bagaza lives here in Winnipeg and as the world opens up again will be traveling back to assist in ministry.

Due to the restrictions in travel we have found alternative ways to assist in empowering the people in these countries. Some of the work deals with helping individuals who have suffered sexual abuse and children resulting and creating single parents and orphans. The work also entails helping families who have been affected in the war-torn parts of the region. Working with families in Refugee Camps and those suffering from lack of food or medical help. Your support for this new ministry that is very well organized and staffed by multiple well-trained volunteers who finance much of the work from their own earnings on their jobs. Please pray and give as God leads you.



2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

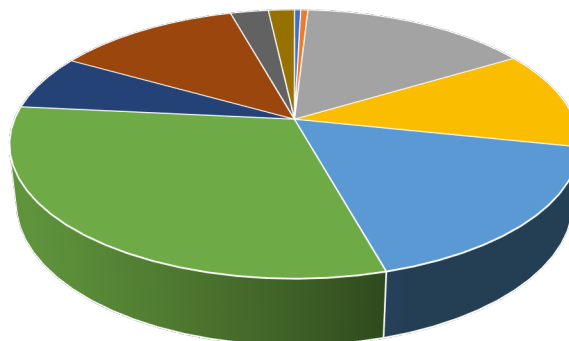
Thanks to God enabling you to help us empower others we, together, were able to help many families and ministries in various countries in the building of God's kingdom.

Thank you for being sensitive to God's leading over the past year. As we continue to expand in this next year and partnering with ministries in Central Africa and in Peru we desperately need your prayers for ultimately, we are dependent on God as this is His ministry. Issues like Covid make our work more difficult and expensive. Please Pray!



Brian & Sandra have been working with CEO as volunteers for several years, serving in different capacities. With the growth in ministry and the added challenges in communications in so many countries there is a need for additional help. Dr. Lewis has operated CEO with the help of volunteers using his home office to do the administration to keep the overhead low and that will continue. CEO is proud to announce the promotion of Brian to the position of Executive Assistant and Communications Coordinator. This is a part-time position in which Brian needs to raise his own monthly support. He has raised about 25% of it so far and CEO invites those to whom God lays this couple on your heart to not only support them financially, but also prayerfully, sending notes of encouragement as God leads.

Countries CEO is Supporting \$ 856,000 in 2020



■ Togo, Africa ■ Rwanda, Africa ■ Ethiopia, Africa ■ Cent. Amer. ■ Canada
■ Cuba ■ Dom. Rep. ■ Haiti ■ Israel ■ Ukraine

You can donate Shares to CEO Avoid Capital-Gains Tax

C.E.O. Ministries is now able to accept and process "shares". For instance, in a recent transaction someone donated \$20,000 in shares to the ministry. They invested \$10,000 and earned another \$10,000 on their investment. If they were to cash-in and receive the \$20,000 they would have to pay taxes on the interest they gained. But, when they donated their shares to CEO Ministries they received a tax-deductible receipt for \$20,000. In this way they were able to invest in ministry rather than pay taxes on the money. This is good stewardship of the resources God has given us.

Automatic Withdrawals: Saves time, postage, and memory loss??? You do not have to worry about missing a contribution if you are supporting a particular missionary or feeding programme. Using the card provided, you can direct your contribution as the Lord leads and stipulate when you want to have it withdrawn from your account. You can stop the process simply by notifying the ministry. As you prayerfully seek God's leading for you and your family in this next year; does He want you to make a commitment to a particular ministry or missionary to intercede in prayer and financially support. None of us can do everything but we all can do something within the boundaries of what God supplies.

**We are a Team... Empowering Ministries to ...
Reach the Lost, Revive the weak, Rescue the fallen,
Restore the broken, Reconcile the offended, Release the Discipled**

CHRISTIANS EMPOWERING ORGANIZATIONS

Box 283 St. Vital, MANITOBA R2N3X9

EMAIL: ceoministriescanada@gmail.com or Phone: 204-227-0966

Donate on line: Website: ceoministries.ca

Legacy Gift: Did you have a loved one lifted into glory and want to enhance their legacy by supporting a missionary, or feeding program, or evangelism in a country that CEO is serving in. Perhaps you would like to give sight to someone blinded by "River Blindness" and you want to do it in their name—you can.