

Solid Rock

Our Mission Statement

Taking the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the imprisoned and persecuted church through music evangelism.

Prayer/Newsletter - May/June 2018

volume 18, Issue 3

CUBA Spiritual Summit Absolutely Amazing 18 Years of Prayers ANSWERED!

Our spiritual summit was an amazing success and exceeded all our expectations. We have been working in this country for 19 years now and it is difficult, actually VERY difficult to get anything done. The week of events was nothing less than miraculous.

* 378 came to the Prison Conference taught by Dr. Ron Nikkel and Rev. Tony Loeffler.

* 388 came to the Worship Conference taught by Mr. Rick Krive.

* 930 showed up for the First Christian Festival in very difficult weather (We planned for 700).

* 270 were provided with sleeping quarters for the events.

* 1,090 children came out at the three villages where we presented Children's ministry.

* 6,342 meals were provided throughout the week. WOW!

First of all, we arrived in Cuba 36 hours after the tragic plane crash that killed 104 passengers. Twenty one of the passengers were pastors (ten husband and wife teams and one single pastor) that were returning from a Nazarene Church Retreat. It was very sad to say the least. Our driver knew those twenty one pastors personally and was recently with them. During the week Albertico, our driver, asked if he could have some time off to gather some of the children and remaining family members to take them to their new homes. One 11 year old girl told him she was not sad about the loss of her mom and dad because she knew they were with the Lord now. Wow! What faith!

All week we had rain, lots of rain, as a matter of fact on the day of the First Christian Festival in Cuba we had a tropical depression and it poured with loads of wind. We were expecting about 700 guests for the event. The nearest bus stop was a long distance from the church and some folks would need to walk in the torrential downpour. To our complete amazement, we had 930 people show up for the Festival. Were we surprised!





First Children's Program in Cuban School



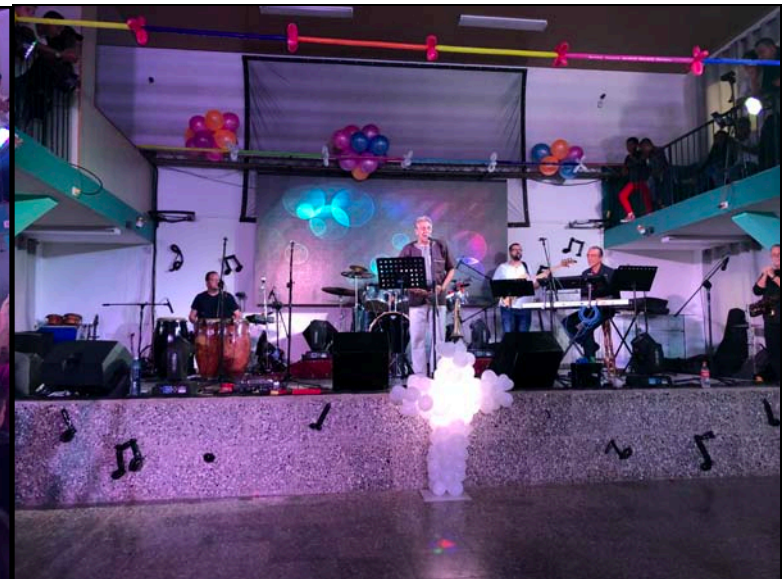
Feeding time at the First Cuban Festival - 2018



Packed house worshipping the Lord together
BELOW: More amazing Worship and Celebration



Children's ministry in town of Tumbadoro
Bobby Carcasses Music Legend new song "Lord Jesus Blues"



Cheering Crowd of Encouragers Makes All The Difference!

One day last month, Mary Ann and I were doing our typical bike ride for exercise. We try to ride 9 to 10 miles a day when possible to stay healthy, and for me it is a spiritual issue as I need to stay in shape so that I can keep preaching and sharing the power of the Gospel. I have been ministering now for 47 years.

While pedaling harder and harder, I got this strong impression in my mind's eye, that there was a cheering crowd on both sides of the street saying, "Come on Tony, you can make it! Come on Tony, just a little farther! Come on Tony, you got this!" It quickly brought tears to my eyes as I felt the love from those cheering. It was amazing as I could feel the finish line but not see it. I could almost smell the finish line and it was a wonderful fragrance.

This journey that we have been on has not been an easy one to say the least. It has been very challenging working in the prisons and working in the country of Cuba. But, those cheers on both sides of the imaginary street keep us pressing forward. Throughout my day as I thought about it, I was brought to tears again and again.

In reality, I would never pass this way again. We may ride our bikes down the same road but not at the same time in our journey to the end. Each step we take, to go to the store, cut the grass, go to church service, go to work, or whatever, brings us that much closer to the gate. None of us know when we will arrive there. For Mary Ann and I, **the cheering crowd of encouragers makes all the difference in the journey.**

As I reflected on what I was experiencing, I came to realize that you are the encouragers' who are saying, "Come on Tony, you can make it! Come on Tony, just a little farther! Come on Tony, you got this!" Just this past month many have cheered me on by helping sponsor the persecuted pastors in Cuba, others have helped with the equipment needs for the Church Behind Bars that we recently requested help for and yet others responded to financial help for an inmate named "Roy" who just got released from prison after 47 years, sentenced when he was 15 years old.

In addition to the cheers that come in monetary ways, there are the encouraging notes that we receive, the many prayers for the ongoing ministry. We feel those cheers and we are at a loss of words to express how much you mean to us and those we serve. I don't know how far it is to the gate but know that I am closer than yesterday, so are you for that matter.

When I shared this experience with my son, Anthony, his response was, "Dad, you aren't going anywhere." At first, what I said about the crowd was a shock to him as I had tears in my eyes. I was quite overwhelmed by the whole event, getting closer to the gate, the cheering crowd, and the reality that I am in a race and looking toward the end to hear Him say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." This was a surreal experience for me and one I will never forget.

Thank you for your support all these years. You will never know this side of Heaven's gate, the strength you have given me and Mary Ann to press onward. We still have much to do and must never lose sight of Heaven's gate. Each step we take is another step closer to the gate. You all are the best!

Rev. Tony Loeffler

Ministry Schedule

Jun. 28	Church Behind Bars, Marion CI, Lowell, FL
Jun. 29	Church Behind Bars, Marion CI, Lowell, FL
Jun. 30	Church Behind Bars, Marion CI, Lowell, FL
Aug.. 8	STURGIS BIKE RALLY, Main Street, Sturgis, SD
Aug. 10	MT. Women's Prison, Billings, MT
Aug. 11	Passages Women's Prison, Billings, MT - AM 2nd floor, 3rd floor
Aug. 13	Deer Lodge Prison, Deer Lodge, MT
Aug. 15	Crossroads Correctional, Shelby, MT
Sept. 27	Church Behind Bars, Marion CI, Lowell, FL
Sept. 28	Church Behind Bars, Marion CI, Lowell, FL
Sept. 28	Church Behind Bars, Lowell, ANNEX unit, Ocala, FL
Sept. 29	Church Behind Bars, Marion CI, Lowell, FL
Sept. 29	Church Behind Bars, Lowell, ANNEX unit, Ocala, FL
Dec. 13	Church Behind Bars, Marion CI, Lowell, FL
Dec. 14	Church Behind Bars, Marion CI, Lowell, FL
Dec. 15	Church Behind Bars, Marion CI, Lowell, FL

TO SEE MORE CUBA SPIRITUAL SUMMIT PICTURES AND VIDEOS GO ON THE LINKS HERE

<https://www.flickr.com/gp/157571285@N08/3029oj> (894 Pictures)

<https://www.flickr.com/gp/157571285@N08/N4j972> (41 Portrait Pictures)

<https://www.flickr.com/gp/157571285@N08/b6cd84> (57 Videos)

Financial help is needed to keep us in the prisons sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

HELP IS NEEDED - To Become an Impact Partner go to this link:

http://www.thesolidrock.org/Solid_Rock_Ministry/Impact_Partners.html

THANK YOU!

Praise Report - Answered Prayer

We praise and thank the Lord for an amazing Cuba Spiritual Summit. Everything was well beyond our expectations. Answers to 18 years of prayers!!! Thank You!

We praise the Lord for the needed finances that arrived the week of our departure. Without the financial help and prayers we are helpless. Just look at what prayer accomplished. Remember, this is in Cuba where we did the events. Not easy.

Pray for the family members who lost their loved ones on that tragic plane crash just prior to our arrival. So many in need of encouragement and prayer.

Pray for the creative part of compiling two DVD's that will be used for the future events in Cuba. We have been asked to produce this Festival each year. We need Christian sponsors in order to do so.

Pray for our financial needs for this year's Montana Prisons and Sturgis Biker's Rally in August. Help is needed now.

WE LIVE AND WALK IN YOUR ANSWERED PRAYERS! Thank you.

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