

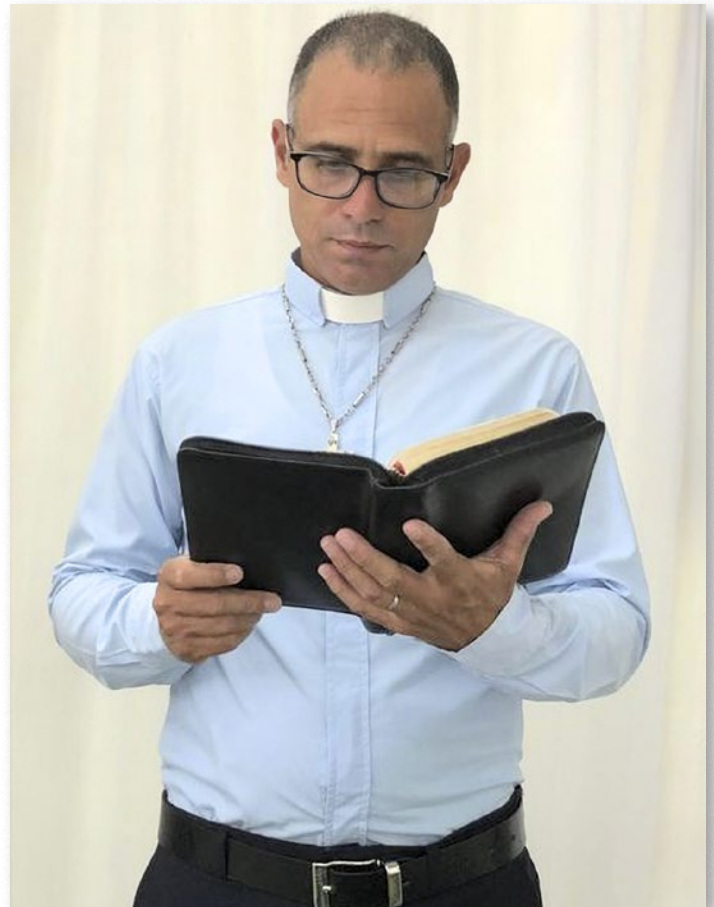


# *Executive Management Change*

**The Rev. Canon Barclay Mayo\***

**M**y dear brothers and sisters in Christ, it is with a heavy heart that I inform you that it has become necessary for Bishop Willians to retire. Under the oversight of Bishop Walter Banek, Bishop-elect John Boonzaaijer, and Canon Barclay Mayo, and with the guidance of the REC/ANiC Cuba Mission Board of Directors, effective December 01, 2023, Archdeacon Alexei Gonzalez Rodriguez has been asked to become the overseer and chief contact person for the Reformed Episcopal Church in Cuba. Archdeacon Alexei has accepted the appointment and is already working hard to assume the role. Please continue to pray for Alexei and Aniet, as these responsibilities will significantly increase the scope of his workload.

An Interim Standing Committee is also engaged in an administrative reorganization of this missionary diocese. This will include a new Agency Agreement, more comprehensive accounting supervision, and additional reporting requirements. God willing, following his Consecration as Missionary Bishop for Cuba, Bishop John along with Bishop Walter and Canon Barclay will return to Cuba in late February/early March for their annual Synod. Please continue to pray for our Board of Directors and Standing Committee as these necessary changes are implemented and the Missionary Diocese is brought back on track. Also, please pray for favour



Archdeacon Alexei

with the CRA as the REC/ANiC Cuba Mission Society works with legal assistance to attain their own charity status.





# Ministry Continues in the Midst of Trial

Even as we work to reorganize the diocese, and amidst the transition, the ministry in Moa not only continues, but thrives. In September, Bishop Willians appointed Rolando Roman Garcia as Pastoral Assistant of San Marcos, Moa. He has since assumed responsibility for most of the ministry of the parish, preaching most Sundays, visiting the sick and even supervising the pastoral care of the children’s ministry and evangelism courses taught at the Seminary. Rolando also visits 30 senior members of the parish who are unable to attend Sunday worship. Seminarian Luis Miguel Herrera Peña has been assigned to assist Rolando, but he is presently fulfilling his compulsory military service.

## Exciting & Renewed Ministry in Havana!

Canon John and Barclay spent a week at the beginning of November visiting with The Rev. Eric Mateo Parera & his wife Marisol Quintero and with Pastor Raudel Gonzales Valdes, his wife Martha Isabel Besu and their family. Archdeacon Alexei and the

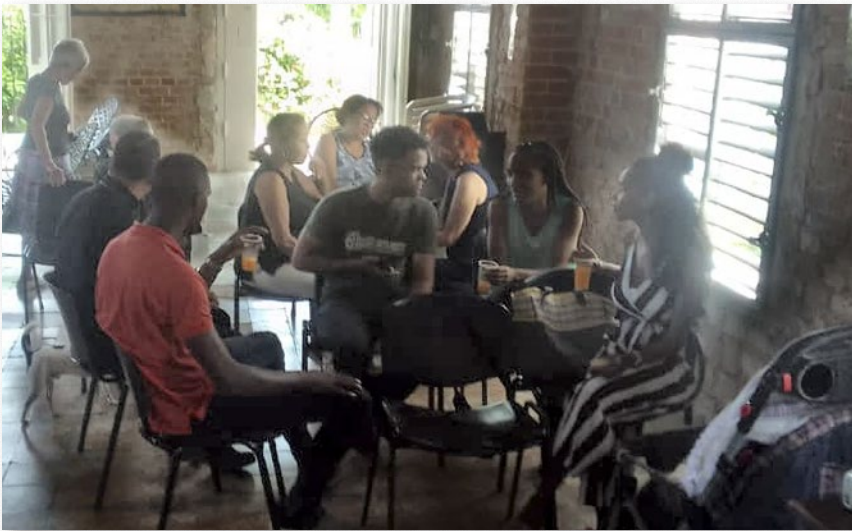


Pastor Raudel, his wife Martha and their family.

Rev. Pablo Ulloa Caballero also made the long trip to Havana to meet with us. An HPiC Med-Pack was delivered and distributed.

Pastor Raudel, his wife Martha and their family have taken up residence in the facility left by Enrique and Maray as they immigrated to the US. Raudel & Martha, along with the remaining el Olivo leadership and with the help of Pastor Eric and his wife Marisol of the Rey de Gloria Anglican Church have begun to rebuild the congregation. The new





Growing Congregation at Ecclesia Buenavista

church's name is The Reformed Episcopal Church of Buenavista.

Raudel is an engaging leader who is attracting young Havana families. He has also brought in three young men interested in ministerial study. One of these, Samuel, is showing particular promise and is probably headed for ordination. TBTG! Pastor Raudel is also a seminary professor, licensed to

teach with Moore College and Casa Cranmer (Cranmer House), where he has served for the past ten years. Raudel has given us a proposal to begin a third study center (Casa Cranmer – JC Ryle Campus) in the church in Havana as a multi-denominational Bible College which will include the Anglican Track with Casa Cranmer in the East Convocation, and Casa Cranmer—Bp. Charles Dorrington campus near the center of the island. This is exactly what we were hoping and praying for in this facility and the community! God is faithful and He will build his church!

## ■ Nine Baptisms

On November 19<sup>th</sup> we were delighted to see pictures of Baptisms at the parish of San Lucas, Venezuela. The Rev. Pablo Ulloa Caballero has one of the largest congregations in the Cuba Mission. He tells me that they welcomed nine new members that day. Thank you Jesus.



Food Ministry at San Lucas



Baptisms at San Lucas.

# Inflation and Increased Costs

**The Rev. Canon Barclay Mayo\***

Inflation in Cuba is out of control. The real exchange rate has risen from 25 Cuban Pesos to 1 USD to 250 CP per USD...and still climbing! When they can find work, many Cuban families are working 2-3 jobs just to put food on the table. Even in Havana, many basic foods are hard to find and too costly when they do. Pablo and many of the other pastors use a portion of their stipends to supplement the food for their surrounding community. Consequently, it has been necessary to raise the salaries of the Cuban pastors and mission staff. We recognize that this might be a big ask for many of our smaller ACNA church partners, but we are requesting that you pray about helping us with this increase and/or recruiting another ANiC/ACNA parish to partner with you so that we can meet the needs. Depending upon the size of the congregation and responsibilities of their Pastor, the monthly stipend for Priests has been increased to \$300-400 USD; Deacons to \$200 USD; Missionary & Seminarians to \$100 USD. We also need to raise \$1,500 – \$2,000 USD/month for diocesan staff, administration, travel and seminary expenses. Please contact Canon Barclay to determine the specific needs for the Pastor, ministry or staff member you are presently supporting.

There is much to be thankful for and even more to be encouraged by. Yes, this is a diocese with significant growing pains and great struggle, but it is a work, we are convinced, that has been established according to God's will and purposes. The leaders in country and the Board of Directors, desperately need both your prayers and financial support. If you have a parish to parish relationship with a Cuban congregation or ministry, please keep in contact with and encourage them to stay the course. They need to know that they do not walk alone. If you aren't already supporting this ministry but feel that God might be calling you to get involved, please give me a call or text at 604-815-8309 or email at [barclay.mayo@gmail.com](mailto:barclay.mayo@gmail.com). Thank you for your prayers... which "availeth much" and for your personal and parish support.

The REC/ANiC Cuba Mission Society Canadian charity application is a work in progress, so we will still need all Canadian donations to be processed through **The Diocese of Central and Eastern Canada of The Reformed Episcopal Church**, as indicated in the box below. Thank you for your faithfulness to this mission.

## How You Can Give to the Cuba Mission

*Canadian donations should now be made out and sent to: or in the USA*

**The Diocese of Central and Eastern Canada of  
The Reformed Episcopal Church,  
157 Haddon Avenue North,  
Hamilton, Ontario, L8S 4A7  
[nelsonbuffett@gmail.com](mailto:nelsonbuffett@gmail.com) 905-527-1549**

**c/o REC Board of Foreign Missions  
23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd, Ste H120 #642,  
Katy, TX 77494  
[www.recbfm.org](http://www.recbfm.org)**

### For more info about the Cuba Mission please contact:

**The Rt. Rev. Charles Dorrington**, REC Diocese of Western Canada,  
70-7570 Tetayut Rd. Saanichton, BC V8M 2H4 | 250-507-0730 | [revchas@shaw.ca](mailto:revchas@shaw.ca) or  
**Mrs. Claudia Dorrington**, Corresponding Secretary, REC-ANiC Society  
[revchas@shaw.ca](mailto:revchas@shaw.ca) | 250-652-8850

**The Rt. Rev. Trevor Walters**, ANiC Assisting Bishop, [walters34@shaw.ca](mailto:walters34@shaw.ca)  
**The Rt. Rev. Walter Banek**, REC USA, [wrbanek@mac.com](mailto:wrbanek@mac.com)

To explore how you can become more involved, please contact:

**The Rev. Canon Barclay Mayo**, Mission Partnerships Coordinator, [barclay.mayo@gmail.com](mailto:barclay.mayo@gmail.com) | 604-815-8309

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