



### Ecclesia Semper Reformanda Est

This Sunday is Reformation Sunday as it marks the momentous event when a young, Augustinian monk named Martin Luther tacked his 95 thesis on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. Luther was an academician. He was a professor of Biblical Studies at the University of Wittenberg and his hope was to spark a spirited, theological debate within the academic community as he posted his debating points in Latin and not German. However, the time was ripe for something more than an in-house theological debate as Luther's 95 thesis were soon translated into German, printed with Guttenberg's newly invented printing press, and disseminated throughout the Holy Roman Empire. Within weeks, Luther's spark set the reformation fires burning all across Europe.

However, if you study the history of the Church prior to Luther, you will note that God had sent messengers of reform throughout the ages. In fact, it is arguable that the Apostle Paul was the first reformer. It seems that soon after he left Galatia, the Christians there were already slipping back into the works-righteousness of Pharisical Judaism and thus needed to be reminded that salvation comes by faith and not by works. This was the heart of Paul's epistle to the Galatians.

Three centuries later, St. Augustine was in a pitched battle against the false teachings of Pelagian who argued that salvation could be earned by the good works of man.

After Emperor Constantine made Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire, the Church very quickly became spiritually lazy, institutionalized, and more centered on earthly power than heavenly virtue. As terrible as the Age of Persecution was for those Christians who were thrown to the lions or burned at the stake, it kept the Church humble, challenged, and God-dependent. However, as soon as the Church became official, it succumbed to worldliness and the use of godliness for material gain rather for the glory of God. Consequently, God sent messengers of reform through people like St. Anthony, St. Benedict, and St. Francis who called the church back to prayer, service, and monastic simplicity.

Likewise, many of Luther's ideas for reformation were not original as much of what he preached was first preached by England's John Wycliffe and the Bohemian martyr, Jan Hus.



Pastor Bob Zoba

## NOVEMBER 2016

**Sunday Services  
10:00 a.m.**

**Adult Sunday School  
9:00am**

**Sunday School  
PK-12  
10:30am**

**Choir Practice  
Thursday 7pm**

### Weekly Activities

Ladies Bible Study  
Tuesdays 12-2

Small Group  
@ the Rivera's  
Tuesday 7pm

Men's Breakfast  
Wednesday 7am

Women's Study  
@ Anita's  
Wednesday 7pm

Women's Bible Study  
Thursday 8am

Prayer Service  
Thursday 7pm

### Second Union Church

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Guaynabo, PR 00969

**787-720-4423**  
**secondunion.org**

Rev. Robert Zoba  
Pastor

Gustavo Gonzalez  
Youth Pastor

Therefore, as we celebrate Reformation Sunday at 2UC we do so in a very ecumenical way by realizing that God has continually brought reform to His Church and will continue to do so in our day and through our lives. Thus, the expression that we must learn on this Reformation Sunday is Ecclesia semper reformanda est. That is Latin for “the church is always to be reformed”. This was a phrase that was popularized by the great Karl Barth but borrowed from a saying of St. Augustine. Thus, we at 2UC also believe “the church is always to be reformed” even as we believe our own spiritual life must be under constant reform and renewal through the filling of the Holy Spirit.

May you enter into the spirit of this Reformation Sunday. As our beloved Marines like to say, “semper fi”, we add to that, “semper reformanda”! May it be so until the Lord returns.

*Pastor Bob*

PS: Mayra Chipi had a great suggestion a couple of weeks ago. She noted that in light of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017, we, as a church, ought to plan a group tour to Germany to celebrate it. If anyone is interested in such a trip, let Mayra or me know so that we might start planning a tour.

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Rev. Robert Zoba

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**Membership**  
Vacant

**Fellowship**  
Rosa Trinidad

**Nominating**  
Harry de la Cruz

**Forward Planning**  
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**Women’s Ministry**  
Anita Rodriguez

**Men’s Ministry**  
Joe Calcolli

**Pianist**  
Luis Manuel Tirado

**Choir & Worship Leader**  
Jeff Penn

**Youth Pastor**  
Gustavo Gonzalez

**Office Manager**  
Mabel Varela

**Newsletter Editor**  
**Website Administrator**  
Christie Curie Zoba



*the gift of love*

**WOMEN'S MINISTRY • SECOND UNION CHURCH**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2016**

**10:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

**BOUTIQUE TABLE**

*handmade Christmas items*

**BAKE TABLE**

*homemade baked goods*

**RAZZLE DAZZLE RAFFLE**

*Great prizes.  
\$2.50 per ticket*

**ARTISAN TABLES**

**BAZAAR BISTRO**

*bacalaito, chili, asopao  
hot dogs, burgers, and more*

**MOSAIC EXHIBITION &  
SALE**

*Artists from El Atelier del Mosaico*

**TOMBOLA**

**Volunteers Needed!**

We still need lots of help! Please volunteer! Please contact Dely Seda, Anita Rodriguez or Christie Zoba and let us know how you can be of assistance!! This is a great way to serve God's kingdom.

- Crafting (Tuesdays and Thursdays from now to December) Contact Irma Torres, or just show up! You can also take items home to work on!
- Bakers: Help Anita bake pies and other goodies at church or bake and bring your own goodies for the Bake Table
- Donations of food items for the Bazaar Bistro. Contact: Irma LaLlave
- Donations of items for Raffle: Contact: Conchi Perez
- Donations of items for Tómbola: Contact: Conchi Perez, Colleen Comer or just drop off your contributions in the church office
- Volunteers to help on the day of the Bazaar (bake table, kitchen, cashiers, artisans, etc)
- Set-Up on Thursday, December 1 at 6pm.
- Tear-Down after the Bazaar at 4pm.
- Security during the Bazaar

**Joan and George McMurray's** three weeks of travel in the month of September were to Germany, Austria, and Hungary, including seven days on a Viking Cruise with land tours to villages along the Danube River. As many 19th century novelists like to say, "life-changing" events occurred during the days and nights of their travels; the world is a beautiful and stimulating place and we are now trying to plan our next adventure. Of course, Puerto Rico is still our favorite;--"aqui nos quedamos"--at least for now.



**Pastor Joe Ramos** writes: It is official, I am now the full-time pastor at Palmas Community Church. After four years of commuting to Palmas del Mar, Elilda and I are moving to Palmas (AKA the Bubble) effective November 1. Please pray for Elilda as she will now commute daily from Humacao to San Juan. Please pray for God to use us in sharing the Good News with the church family, the youth and the community.



**David and Laurie Yost** took a trip to Madrid to visit their son and daughter-in-law, Aaron and Joni, who are teaching English there. Their daughter, Emily (far left) also joined them from California! They are back in Arizona now. It is our hope that the new CDC

Zika funding will bring them back to us...at least for a visit.

**Marlene Williams** writes: Gil & I have now moved into our new home. Our new address is 13814 Imperial Topaz Trail Delray Beach Florida 33446. We miss 2nd UC family. Please say hi for us. (We sure do miss these good folks.



**Madelyn Vega** is working on another music CD of songs that she has composed. Fall has been a great season for the Vega family! **Xavi** is beaming since he celebrated his 17th birthday and was included in the High Honors list at University Gardens High School! Also in October Dad, **Raymond**, presented

the world premiere of his opus Aureola at California State University Northridge Campus. And Mom, **Madelyn** was chosen as a judge for the Emmy awards!



**Rosa Trinidad** is in merry old England visiting her dear daughter, Ivette. Her baby is due any day now.



**Nicole Tester** is loving Chicago and living large as she cheers on her hometown team, the Cubs.

**Chris & Mike Strong** have new digs just across the street from the church. It was great the way God opened up this apartment (through Gustavo's brother) which was aided by the very generous donation of hundreds of dollars in appliances from **Jesse Sargent**. God is good!

**Steven & Loida Spivak** continue to plug away with the remodeling of their home in the DC area. Hopefully, they will be back soon.

**Dely Seda** has taken a step of faith and started her own business as an events planner. We all pray God's richest blessing on this new venture.

**Matt Rose** is working at Puerto Rico Supply (thanks Edwin) and is already one of the highest producers in his department. Way to go, Matt!

**Cadiz Rodriguez** will be home soon to attend the wedding of **Enid Flores**, a Young Life volunteer who impacted her life.



**Matt Golley and his bride, Piper**, will be back in town to attend the same wedding.

**Ed Krueger and Janette Quiles** will be relocating soon to San Diego, CA where Ed will be working at the VA Hospital there. We sure will miss this wonderful couple whose marriage was made at 2UC. Janette is one of our longest-standing members, so it is with great sadness that we say good bye.



**Edwin, Conchi, & Jessica Perez** made a trip to Michigan to watch the Spartans play, to Green Bay to watch the Packers play, and then Edwin went to PA to bring his mom, **Lydia**, here to PR. She is now 92 years old.



**David Benson** is ecstatic that his New England Patriots are doing so well, but he misses the 2UC Men's group and the great neighborhood the Coast Guard housing provided for kids and families. (We all miss David as well.)

**Daryle & Kim Parker** are off to a great start to their new semester in Harbin, China. (See article.)

**Sylvia O'Connor** blessed us with accompaniment on the piano for a couple of hymns that we sang at Lesby Gil's memorial service. Sylvia is a woman of many talents, and now we must add musician to that long list.

**The Mordi family** celebrated the 90th birthday of **Chinye's** mom, **Teresa**, at 2UC. How great to have her here all the way from Nigeria. And Niomso was also in town visiting from Maryland!



**Del & Lynn McCarley** got to babysit their new grandchild in Dallas, Texas, while their son Tyler and his bride, Maria, got a little alone time.

**Lt. Col. Eli & Serena Lozano** recently attended the annual Marine Corps Ball. (Sounds like fun!)

**Dennis & Amarilis Gonzalez** have become ardent runners and will be representing 2UC at the next Olympics;-)

**Roy Gil** made a recent visit with both sets of twins: two girls and two boys. Wow!



**Colleen Comer**

arranged for the Women's Ministry at 2UC to be the recipient of a ton of stuff donated from the filming of recent movie featuring Keanu Reeves. All proceeds go to the Women's Ministries and their outreach to

various charities. (Thanks Colleen).

Also thanks to **Colleen**, who ended up being the Assistant Director for the movie, *Second Union* had a lot of extras in the movie including Audrey, Christie, John Alberts, Trisha, Laurie Foster and others!! Most of the extras were working in a Bio lab - a very professional looking crew!!

**Tim Adams** has been spending most of his weekends in North Carolina visiting **Kris** as she finishes up here optometry rotation. Those free flights sure come in handy.



**Jeff & Tamara Penn** hosted the Adult Sunday school class for a special autumn celebration. They turned down the thermostat, fired up some delicious hot apple cider, "carved" pumpkins, and served some fantastic home-made soup.



**Pastor Bob and Christie** returned from a Danube River Cruise (they left the day after George and Joan McMurray returned from theirs!) They went from Budapest to Nuremburg with stops in the Czech Republic and Austria. They brought their racquets along and managed to play in Budapest and Melk Austria! It was the trip of a lifetime! They ended the trip with two days in Prague and learned a lot about Good King Wenceclaus and the great reformer, John Huss - both heroes for the Czech people.



**Joe Calcolli** writes:

I do what I can.  
Where and when I can.  
I will do it the best I can.  
Because I believe that I can.  
If I can, so can you.

*encourage one another  
and build each other up,*

Back on August 20th of this year 2016, a group from our church got together to paint a wall on Apollo Avenue just a block away from our sanctuary. It was an eye-sore due to all the graffiti that was on it. It was a great experience, and it never ceases to amaze me how little is needed to have significant impact in the life of others, or in this case, in the community.

While we were painting a couple of people drove by and honked in approval of the endeavor and a gentleman stopped across from us on the other side of the road and gave some money as a sign of support and appreciation.

I remembered that we joked around about how long it would last. How long it would be until someone else came and painted some graffiti over it once more. But you know what?

The wall is still white!

I don't want to over-spiritualize things but let's think for a moment, what if we can take this as a statement, a statement from God, a statement reminding us His own words about how the church should operate.

"Praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved." –Acts 2:47

How, I asked, do we think the early church accomplish this? The grace and favor of God, of course! But that grace and favor worked itself through the good works of God's people.

"All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need." –Acts 2:44-45

The Holy Spirit inspired an "irrational" generosity, acts of love, among the believers that in turn open the opportunities to share the Gospel, which in turn caused the incredible addition of those "who were being saved". Day in and day out people were coming into a reconciled relationship with God. Can you imagine that!?

I always say that the Gospel is the "pointed head" of our "spear", but our good works are the "shaft" that we are called to use to thrust the message of love into the hearts of the people around us, into our community.

Brad Griffin of the Fuller Youth Institute once asked; if your church moved from your community tomorrow, would any one notice? Would your community be worse off without it?

Second Union, shows love to our community by contributing to many great organizations, by feeding the homeless, by providing backpacks full with groceries for families in need, by starting a tutoring program for elementary age students and more! Shoot an email or call the office if you want more information on how to get involved in one or several of these initiatives.

By the way, now that I mentioned the tutoring program that our church started, did you know that the library where our tutors meet with the students doesn't have fans, screens on the windows, or tables in good conditions? Did you know our church is looking to provide all of these?

Would you join us?

Only God knows for how long that "wall" will be white. And only God knows how many would be added to His kingdom through this act of love.

Gustavo A. González.





### Donation of Children's Books to Escuela Elemental Juanillo Fuentes

Thanks to Loida and Steve Spivak, we were able to donate two boxes of children's books in Spanish to the library of the school which is home to the Backpack and Tutoring Program!

Loida and Steve heard about a program in the D.C. area, Books for America, whose purpose was to donate new and books in good condition to those in need. They also had Spanish language books, and Steve and Loida were able to take advantage of that!

The tricky issue is getting the books to Puerto Rico. As you know the cost to send books is high, so the Spivaks have generously sent several boxes and on their most recent trip they packed an extra suitcase full of books. At the beginning of the semester, Christie Zoba presented this donation to the students at the school. They were very well received by the school's director and Hugo Robles, the school social worker.

The great thing is that we have continued to use these books during our Wednesday afternoon tutoring sessions! Praise be to God!



### 2UC Volunteers at the Banco de Alimentos de Puerto Rico



Second Union Church has long supported the Banco de Alimentos de P.R., previously known as the Caribbean Food Bank. What you may not know is that it was a member of Second Union Church, Leo Palomo, who actually founded the Food Bank over 25 years ago. Several of our members have served on the Board of Directors of this organization including, Edwin Perez. The current President of the Board is his son, Edwin Javier.



We became a 'member' of the Food Bank when we began the Backpack Program which is under the auspices of Feeding America. This was a necessary step in being eligible to receive the food donations for the program. Another benefit is that we are able to 'shop' at the Food Bank for food used for the Backpack Program and for Heart to Heart, our outreach to the homeless.

One of the requirements of being a member of the Food Bank is a contribution of 40 hours of community service to the Food Bank every year. On Thursday, October 20, seven volunteer from Second Union Church headed over to the Food Bank warehouse in the Hato Tejas area of Bayamon. Our responsibility was sorting food that had been donated to the Bank and then placing it on the shelves for member organizations to purchase. Our volunteers were so fast and efficient and did such a great job, that they actually ran out of things for us to do! I think we set a new standard of excellence in volunteering there!

My heartfelt thanks to those who showed up: Colleen Comer, Brenda Ferrer, Tim Adams, Hilda Smith, Janie Deloatch and Youth Pastor, Gustavo Gonzalez. Thanks to to Alta Goosen, who came to help as well!

We still have 19 more hours to complete, so if you'd be interested in helping out in this way, please speak to Christie Zoba 787-717-4001!



I confess that the word 'worship' has always been a mystery to me. I recognize it's about our celebration of God's love. I have a sense of what it means, but I've never been able to put it in words, and dictionary definitions do not quite capture its essence for me. So I've searched to understand it.

Several years ago when we were on our first mission trip to Honduras, Christie Zoba began each day with a short meditation at breakfast. On one morning, she read an article about worship. The article set me on my search. Sadly, I don't remember the name of the author or the publication in which it was found, but here is what stuck with me from that morning: Christians tend to come to worship to take something away from it in order to improve their lives. Maybe they will see a scripture passage in a new light, or hear something inspirational in the sermon. Perhaps being invited to pray for someone in need, or sharing a kind or reassuring word with a brother or sister makes the Sunday morning experience special. The article did not disparage any of this, nor should it have, but it explained that those attending service for those reasons may have it backwards. We should not be attending Worship service for what we can get out of it. We should be attending for what we give to it.

When I heard this, I had an image of the church upside down, the church on its head. I knew then why it struck me odd when I'd hear someone say, "I went to the service, but I didn't feel fed," or "I listened but I couldn't get anything out of the sermon." It was no better with the more positive sounding statements like, "I really feel energized by the service today," or "The Lord touched me during the service." Again, feeling fed, energized, or touched is not unimportant, but it just feels 'on its head.'

So that's been my struggle. Why does the church in worship feel on its head, and what do I do about it? Thanks to sermons of the past few weeks, I'm on my way to finding the answer.

The first of these was delivered by Youth Pastor Gustavo Gonzalez. In his message he shared one of the guiding principles of Mar Azul, the church congregation that shares our Second Union facility. The principle states, in part, "Be a spiritual contributor, not a spiritual consumer." This simple statement marks the difference between a traditional model of a worship service and what, to some, is a more revolutionary one. In the former, we attend service, exhausted from the week's work in the field, to be refilled with power by the service. In the latter, we come to the service to bring something of value (other than a cash offering) to the Lord. I left the service telling friends I had now learned the missing link to my search for the meaning of worship. We need to be contributors.

It affirmed my long-held feeling that worship has been on its head. Worship should be a time of giving, not a time of getting. I felt good for most of the week. Toward Friday, however, I realized that though I had a new insight into the meaning of worship, I still didn't know what to do about it.

That's when the second sermon was delivered. This one from Pastor Bob Zoba. He spoke to us about our duty as Christians, and he spoke much about the blessings that the Lord gives us. But, he pointed out, though God is rich in blessings, He especially blesses those who are obedient. One line of the sermon touched me deeply. He said, "Each one of us here today knows about six things that the Lord is calling us to do." I've had to search my conscience and see what six things I am resisting. I'm discovering them and setting to get them accomplished.

Pastor Zoba gave us some examples of obedience leading to blessings. The first is Naaman from the book of 2nd Kings. Naaman, a commander of the army of the king of Aram, had leprosy. He was advised to see Elisha, God's prophet, for healing. Elisha told Naaman to go wash himself in the River Jordan. Naaman was angry and refused. He had expected simply to go to Elisha and be cured, but, instead, he was told to do something first. Finally convinced to put aside his pride, he did as told. Then he was cured.

The second story was the story told in Luke 17, the story of ten lepers who asked Jesus to cure them. Jesus gave them an instruction: "Go show yourselves to the priests." Once they obeyed, they were cured. Both these stories have blessings that came about only after the person asking obeyed. Notice that the commands were not difficult nor world changing. "bathe seven times in a river." "Show yourself to the priest." These are things we could do. We are commanded to do similarly easy things. Listen to what the Lord tells you to do. Most will be simple tasks. Most can be done in the normal course of your day. Listen for these commands. Do them. You will be blessed.

Here then was my second missing link to what worship means. Worship includes a need to obey the Lord's commands.

So how do these insights turn a church on its head back onto its feet. Here's what I have come to understand: The correct order is not Worship, Blessing, Obey. The correct order is Obey, Blessing, Worship. Worship is not how we should start our week, but it should be the celebration of our week. The celebration of the blessings we've received from our obedience. The return of the tenth leper to give give thanks.

First, we obey. Listen to the Lord. He will tell us what He expects. Whether it's a big task like taking a position on church Council, or joining a mission trip, or making a large contribution of time or money; or a smaller act of telling a friend or coworker about your Christian experience, or helping a neighbor carry groceries from a store, or giving change to someone in the street; or other tasks between these extremes.

Second, when we obey, we will sense the Lord's blessing even before we see tangible signs of it. Blessing will come when we obey. The Lord promises it. The Bible shows us countless examples that this is so.

Finally, our worship is our return to the Lord to thank Him for the blessings he has given us in response to our obedience. It becomes a celebration of our spiritual contribution instead of a request for a spiritual commodity. We will come to Worship, not as a needy people, but as a blessed congregation.

Does this mean we dispense with the readings, the sermon, and other teaching parts of the service? Should we no longer ask for prayers? No, but don't look at them just as means to receive. Instead, turn them over. Apply a spiritual contributor attitude. Look at these parts of the service as new opportunities to find where we are called to obedience. Then obey.

Be blessed. Celebrate God's love in Worship next week.

John Alberts



## El Atelier del Mosaíco Siempre Alegres

El Atelier del Mosaíco celebrate their fifth year anniversary exhibition at the Archivo de PR en Puerta de Tierra.

This wonderful exhibition covers two wings of the building and there are close to 100 pieces of beautiful mosaic art on display.

Luis Alberto Rivera, the founder of the 'Atelier' conducted a special tour on Friday, October 21. The creativity and the excellence of those who contributed is truly inspiring.



## BEYOND THESE WALLS

Under Joe Calculli's leadership, the Men's Ministry, has undertaken a project to better equip the library at the Escuela Elemental Juanillo Fuentes. Students from this school are the recipients of the weekly backpacks of food through our Backpack Program. Those same students also receive tutoring from 2UC on Wednesday afternoons in the library.

Thanks to Mike Lallave, who is running point on this initiative to install screens on windows and doors as well as the installation of fans to help with air circulation.

This project should be complete by mid-November!



From Daryle and Kim Parker in Harbin, China

Last night was the first snow of the season. Not heavy, just a light “dusting”, but enough to leave the ground covered in white with a gentle foretelling of what is to come. Fall is leaving us; winter is coming.

We’re also moving into a season of concentrated hosting of students in our home. Wednesday evening we had 11 freshman girls over for games and “baking with Miss Kim”. There are a couple of pictures below. It made for a very full apartment. But the sound of the laughter and “giggling” was refreshing. After two and a half hours of baking, Uno and questions like, “Professor, what are your favorite three things about Miss Kim?” I walked the girls to their bus stop. We waited for the bus for about an hour. (It never came). The girls ended up taking 3 taxis home. (H.I.T. has two campuses. All freshman live on the second campus, which is about 20 minutes away from the main campus where we live). The waiting provided another hour of (c-o-l-d) conversation and sharing with the girls. Right now it’s Saturday afternoon and we’re waiting for another group of students to arrive in about 1/2 an hour. It should be a “fun” evening!



It’s all about building relationships. Wednesday evening was just that: an evening for laying a foundation for relationships. There’s a verse in Job where one of Job’s “friends” tells Job, “God’s friendship was felt in your house.” That’s our hope and prayer: that as the students spend time here in the apartment they will sense “God’s friendship” (even if they don’t know that’s what it is) and want to know more about Him.



Last Sunday was Chinese Thanksgiving. It is not a national holiday. It is a holiday only within the registered churches in China. It’s a wonderful day of celebrating His goodness to China. There is also a LOT of giving of fresh food brought in from the countryside to the poor. Also attached is a couple of pictures of our church from Thanksgiving Sunday.



Days are very busy now. Teaching, meetings with students, discipleship group at the church. Yesterday I was asked if I would teach “methodology” to middle school and high school English teachers from the countryside around Harbin. HIT is sponsoring the program as a community service. They know that’s what I did this summer in Anshan so they asked if I would do the same here in Harbin. I am honored. It’s a great chance to serve. It helps our school. It helps the teachers from the countryside school and the students we teach. A very special “THANK YOU” for your faithful help and support for the work He is allowing us to do here in China. None of this would be possible without your gifts and others like you. Thank you also for your friendship. THANK YOU! I know that sounds like a “canned line”, but I really mean it.

We hope to be in Puerto Rico sometime in early February, and we would love to greet the Second Union Church family and report to your outreach committee

Thank you again for your friendship and support. Write when you can. We love hearing from you! (HINT!)

*Daryle and Kim*



On Wednesday, October 12, we celebrated the life of Lesby Gil with a service at Second Union. Lesby had been a very active member of Second Union from 2004 to 2012. She attended regularly, was part of the Women's Bible Study group, and she served on the Women's Guild as the 'sunshine gal' sending cards to those who were sick or in the hospital. She was baptized by Pastor Bob along with Christie, Christie's son, J.J., Natalia McCormack, Debbie Garcia and Maylie's brother, Juan Carlos. The baptism was one that we will never forget, as the ocean was very rough, and Lesby told Pastor Bob on the way into the water that she couldn't swim. As Pastor Bob went to immerse her in the



Lesby, Marina McCormack & Susan Pagés

water, a very strong current almost carried the two of them away. In spite of this, or perhaps because of this, Lesby was rejoicing over her new life in Christ.

Lesby was very close with the Van Slyck family who provided for her in many ways for many years. They visited frequently and Lesby adored their children, Sophia, Charles and Lesby was also very close to Annie Moraza when they were younger and her best friend, Lida, came and spoke at the ceremony.

Unfortunately, her health began to fail and getting to church was very difficult. Pastor Bob spoke with her every Thursday afternoon, Gladys Ebube visited with her regularly as did Mike and Chris Strong, who would run errands for her, pick up groceries and fix things around her apartment. She finally moved into her mom's home where she lived for the last six months. Unfortunately she fell and broke her hip which required surgery.

Lesby was a unique person. She was great fun to be with and she was very intelligent. She had worked as a translator in the Federal court system.

Bob and I have many fond memories and endearing stories about Lesby. It was very difficult to see her in her last few weeks, but we were able to share photos and memories with her as well as our confidence that Jesus himself would take her to the place He had prepared for her.

Thanks to all who attended her memorial service.



## Opportunities to Serve at 2UC

We are **all** called to serve the Lord, and we are all given gifts for that purpose.

"**Each person** is given something to do that shows who God is: **Everyone** gets in on it, **everyone** benefits. All kinds of things are handed out by the Spirit, and to all kinds of people!" 1 Corinthians 12:6-7 The Message.

There are lots of ways to serve at 2UC - and most don't require anything more than a willing spirit and a loving heart. Here are a few possibilities you might consider:

- **Serving** the homeless in Old San Juan
- **Cooking** for the homeless and for Young Lives (teenage moms)
- **Tutoring** at the Juanillo Fuente school
- **Singing** in the choir
- **'Adopting'** a Backpack Program student as a Prayer Pal
- **Helping** Gustavo with Youth Group
- **Leading** a small group
- **Serving** as liturgist or usher
- **Teaching** Sunday School
- **Serving** on a church committee

**YOU** can bring glory to God through your service!!



**Adult Sunday School**

The Bible: Verse by Verse  
9am Conference Room

**Tuesday Ladies' Bible Study**

Study: The One Another Life  
noon-2pm Fellowship Hall

**Tuesday Evening Bible Study  
at the Rivera's**

The Second Coming: A New Beginning  
7pm at the Rivera's home in San Francisco

**Wednesday Men's Breakfast**

The 33 Series (rightnowmedia)  
7am Fellowship Hall

**Wednesday Evening Women's Study  
Forgotten God by Francis Chan**

7pm at Anita Rodriguez' home in Rio Piedras Heights

**Thursday Ladies' Coffee Shop Study**

8am at the Café Con Alma on Paraná

**Thursday Night Prayer Meeting**

6pm Conference Room.

**Condado / Isla Verde Bible Study**

For more information, contact Lynn McCarley or Laurie Foster.

You are welcome to join any of these studies/  
small groups! For more info, contact Pastor  
Bob or Christie Zoba!

**Backpack Program Prayer Pals Needed**

These students do not have prayer pals yet! If you are interested in 'adopting' one of these students, please contact Humbelina Trevino or Christie Zoba. As a Prayer Pal, you are responsible for praying for your student EVERY day! You are also encouraged to provide a gift for them on their birthday! This is the most important part of the Backpack Program ministry. Prayerfully consider your participation in covering these kids and their families with prayer!



Jadnishalee Guadalupe  
Sept 27 yrs, 4th grade



Kevin Guadalupe  
Jan 1, 11 yrs. 4th grade



Aneishka Santos  
Dec 9, 7 yrs, 3rd grade



Jason Allen  
Sept. 3, 5 yrs, Kinder



Juan J. Matia  
June 23, 8 yrs, 2nd grade



Ariana Del Valle  
Aug 24: 9 yrs. 4th grade



Letziel Rivera  
June 17, 5 yrs, Kinder

