



Second thoughts

August 2021
Second Union Church



*And we know that for those
who love God all things
work together for good
for those who are called
according to his purpose.
Romans 8:28*

Second Union Church
secondunion.org
787-720-4423

Sunday Services
10:00 a.m.

Live in-person
FaceBook Livestream

A Race to Heaven

Just last week we witnessed what some might call a billionaire's space race as our Caribbean neighbour, Richard Branson, was the first to launch a space flight that ascended some 52 miles only to be bested days later by Amazon's Jeff Bezos, who elevated to 62 miles.

This reminds me of our own space race against the Soviets that was triggered by Sputnik back in 1957 when I was just one-year-old. I remember it well. (Not really). But I do remember the space race that it engendered and that famous, Bob Dylan song lyric which sardonically asked, "I don't know but I've been told the streets of heaven are lined with gold; I ask you how things could get much worse if the Russians happen to get up there first?"

Indeed, the space race was as much about propaganda as it was about science. In fact, according to a meditation from The Daily Bread, when the first Russian astronaut, Yuri Gagarin, came back down to earth in a dual parachute with his orange suit and space helmet intact, a simple farm woman asked him, "Can it be that you have come from outer space?"

His straightforward answer: "As a matter of fact, I have."

Of course, the Soviets turned Yuri into both a communist icon and an anti-Christian propaganda tool by stating, "Gagarin went into space, but he didn't see any god there," (Apparently, Gagarin never really said that, but the communists were never much concerned with truth.) But, as "C. S. Lewis observed, 'Those who do not find [God] on earth are unlikely to find Him in space.'"

And this is certainly true since we know that the "heavens declare his glory" 24/7, 365 days (and nights) of the year as we are surrounded by overwhelming evidence of God's creative and intelligent design, thus, we are without excuse if we deny God's existence for we must actively and wilfully repress the evidence that is all around us to do so.

So, I'm not sure if either Richard Branson or Jeff Bezos got a better view of God during their brief sojourn in space, but we certainly do from every vantage point here on earth, including the beautiful beaches of Puerto Rico and her amazing sunsets. Thus, let us rejoice that God is the kind of creator who makes himself clearly known not only by the created world around us, but even more so through the Word that became flesh and dwelt among us.

Rejoice in that race to the heavens!

Pastor Bob



ZOOM ... ZOOM ... ZOOM

We really miss you and we look forward to seeing you. Most of our ministries are meeting in person, and what a relief it is to join together with our church family. If you are unable to join us in person for any of our church gatherings, we will continue to offer them virtually.

Check out our website or our Facebook page to get the links.

Sunday Morning Worship Service
10am via Facebook Live

Women's Bible Study: Noon-2pm on Tuesdays

Virtual Fellowship Hall & Study: 7pm on Tuesdays

Men's Breakfast: 10am on Wednesdays (in-person at 7am in the Fellowship Hall)

Prayer Group: 6pm on Thursdays

In Memoriam: Sylvia O'Connor

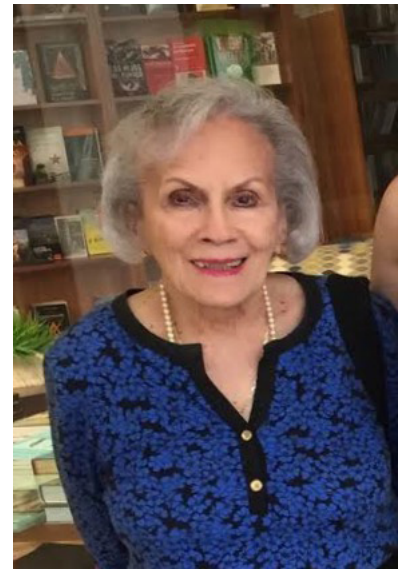
We are very sad to have said our goodbyes to Sylvia O'Connor as she passed away in May of 2021. Sylvia was such a wonderful, positive and encouraging soul to all who knew her. She faithfully attended Second Union for so many years, and she touched the lives of everyone who knew her. She was witty, clever and sharp as a tack. She read her Bible daily in French and completed the New York Times crossword puzzle in ink!

Sylvia had such an amazing gift of encouragement. She made such an effort to let others know how much she appreciated them and whatever contribution they made no matter how small.

A beautiful memorial service was held for Sylvia at Second Union. Of course, Sylvia's three sons were in attendance and what a testimony as they are all followers of the Lord. Her son, David Román, spoke so eloquently with such love and emotion and gratitude for his mother. Pastor Bob read a touching letter written by her dear friend, Tamara Penn, who now resides in Prague. They shared such a special bond, and it gave all an insight to Sylvia's joyous and mischievous spirit!

Saying Sylvia will be missed is an understatement, but what wonderful memories she has forged in each of our hearts. And what a wonderful reunion it will be when we once again meet in Heaven.

Thank you, God, for having graced our lives with this wonderful and godly woman.



Second Union Church Worshiping the Lord in Spirit and in Truth

Sunday Services
10:00 a.m.
Live & FB Livestream

Weekly Meetings

Youth Gathering
Sundays at 1pm via zoom

Ladies Bible Study
Tuesdays in-person & via zoom
noon-2pm

Tuesday Fellowship
& Study
Tuesday 7pm via zoom

Men's Breakfast
Wednesday 7am at church
& 10am via zoom

Embrace Grace
Wednesdays
7pm in person

Prayer Service
Thursday 6pm via zoom

Rev. Robert Zoba
Pastor

Gustavo Gonzalez
Youth Pastor

Mabel Varela
Office Manager

Yadira de Jesus
Music Leader

Contact us:

Second Union Church
2109 Calle Mileto
Guaynabo, PR 00969
787-720-4423

website: secondunion.org
FB: Second Union Church
secondunion@gmail.com
PastorBobZoba@gmail.com

Save these Dates

Council Meeting: Monday, August 9 (tentative)

Backpack Program: Packing on Wednesday, August 4
Delivery on Friday, August 6.

Outreach Saturday: August 20

A Special Note from our Christian Education Chair

When teachers are in the classroom, be mindful and respectful of not interrupting a prayer session. I recently experienced a moment in which I was leading one of the students to Christ and - at the key moment of that conversation - I was interrupted in such a way that the thread of the conversation was destroyed. For this reason, we are now posting a sign outside the classrooms' doors so the knocking and interruptions will cease. Thanks for your understanding!

Second Union Church Council 2020-2021

Fred Ross
Vice-President

Justin Mohler
Secretary

Fred Ross
President

Carolina Rampollo
Vice-President

Stan Pinkerton
Treasurer

Conchi Gonzalez
Secretary

Brenda Ferrer
Outreach

Alfonso Román
Worship

Wanda Montalvo
Christian Ed

Lizzette Kelley
Staff-Congregation

Steven Johnson
Membership

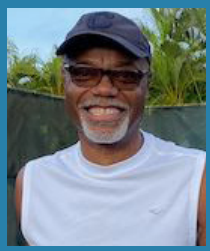
Ramon Chinaea
Fellowship

Christopher Strong
Property

Pastor Bob Zoba
ex-oficio

Meet the 2UC Council

President Fred Ross



- **What brought you to Puerto Rico?**
I was born in Chicago and came to Puerto Rico for work in 2007.
- **What brought you to Second Union?**
My friend, Jesse Sargent, invited me to church and I've been coming ever since.
- **What do you like to do for fun?**
Travel, of course! And I love to play basketball. (Fred played basketball for Ohio State University!)
- **What's your favorite Bible verse?**
Isaiah 42
- **As President of Council, what do you need help with?**
I could definitely use help locating and providing all the resources to help me and the other council chairs in their positions.

Treasurer Stan Pinkerton



- **What brought you to Puerto Rico and 2UC?**
I was born and raised in Killeen Texas. I have a degree in Accounting and worked as a CEO in the States. I was offered a position in Puerto Rico in 2001. I started attending Second Union Church around 2011.
- **What do you like to do for fun?**
Read the Bible, watch sports (especially the NFL and the Olympics!) and walk in Old San Juan!
- **What's your favorite Bible verse?**
I have a lot of favorite verses, but my 'go to' verse is Psalm 46:10 . . . Be still and know that I am God!

Outreach Chair Brenda Ferrer



- **What brought you to Puerto Rico?**
I am originally from New Jersey, the garden state! I moved to Puerto Rico in August of 1966.
- **What brought you to 2UC?**
I began attending 2UC on January 31, 2010. I was in search of a church with a strong Christian base that reached outside the building into the community.
- **What do you like to do in your free time?**
Free time? Who has free time?
- **What's your favorite Bible verse?**
Jeremiah 29:11
- **As Outreach Chair, what do you need help with?**
We can always use extra hands so the "faithful few" are not overworked.

Vice President Carolina Rampollo



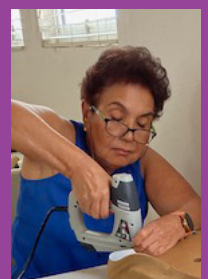
- **What brought you to Puerto Rico?**
I am from Puerto Rico, returning after living in Durham NC the previous five years.
- **What brought you to Second Union?**
My sister, Consuelo Rampollo, introduced me to the church.
- **What do you like to do for fun?**
Tennis, crochet, cooking and a little gardening.
- **What's your favorite Bible verse?**
1 Peter 5:8-11
- **What can people at 2UC help you with as VP?**
Prayers for the Lord's guidance in the matters of the church.

Fellowship Chair Ramón China



- **What brought you to Puerto Rico?**
I was born and raised in San Juan.
- **What brought you to Second Union?**
Our son, Joshua, attended VBS. He also attended another VBS and we had agreed to meet another family at that church, but we ended up at 2UC . . . and we never left!
- **What do you like to do for fun?**
Coach football.
- **What's your favorite Bible verse?**
Psalm 23: The Lord is my Shepherd
- **As Fellowship Chair, what do you need help with?**
We always need help preparing coffee, bread and snacks for our Fellowship Time after the service on Sunday. Because of COVID, we have not been having our monthly potluck Sundays, but hopefully, we can start that very soon.

Staff-Congregation Chair Lizzette Kelley



- **What brought you to Puerto Rico?**
I was born here, but we had been living in Georgia. My husband said that the Lord spoke to him about his health and coming to PR.
- **What brought you to Second Union?**
Since 2010 I have been visiting 2UC. I believe I became a member in 2011.
- **What do you like to do in your free time?**
As many of you know, I am handy woman! I enjoy very much working with my hands, fixing things and helping others.
- **What's your favorite Bible verse?**
Isaiah 40:31
- **As S/C Chair, what do you need help with?**
Any cooperation I can get from others is appreciated. Prayers for me and those we approach to serve the Church, for them to see it as an opportunity to grow and give back to the Lord out of love for Him.

Christian Ed Chair Wanda Montalvo



- **What brought you to Puerto Rico and 2UC?**

I was born and raised in Puerto Rico. We were looking for an English-speaking church, because my daughter, Gabriela does not speak Spanish.

- **What do you like to do for fun?**

I love to landscape in my home; I love to sit with my husband and study the Bible and listen to the news with my him, over a cup of coffee, watching how close the Lord is to come and how it is revealed. I like reading the Epoch Times, and writing in my journal prayers to the Lord.

- **What's your favorite Bible verse?**

1 Timothy 1:7

- **As Worship Chair, what do you need help with?**

I would like to see the church stand strong behind the teachers in all matters that relate to evangelism, which should be the highest calling. Another way to help with our teachings, is the calling for people to make a profession of faith. I was told that used to be a 'given'. The church needs to go back to this...is our Lord's mandate: make disciples - especially among our youth! That is a glorious call!

Membership Chair Steven Johnson



- **What brought you to Puerto Rico?**

I was born and raised in Massachusetts. I came to Puerto Rico in 1990 to marry my beautiful wife, Lynnette. I retired in 2017 and became a member of 2UC.

- **What brought you to Second Union?**

I was looking for a higher level of spirituality.

- **What's your favorite Bible verse?**

Psalm 42:1-2

- **As Worship Chair, what do you need help with?**

I would like help with technology! Measuring attendance (in person and virtual), creating a roster and photo board. Remember: New Member's Class in September.

Steve also serves as the church librarian (with his beautiful assistant!).

Fellowship Chair Ramón China



- **What brought you to Puerto Rico?**

I was born in San Juan. I attended Antilles, so I grew up speaking English.

- **What brought you to Second Union?**

Our son, Joshua, attended VBS. He also attended VBS at another church, and we had agreed to meet another family at that church, but we ended up at 2UC accidentally . . . and we never left!

- **What do you like to do for fun?**

Coach football.

- **What's your favorite Bible verse?**

Psalm 23: The Lord is my Shepherd

- **As Fellowship Chair, what do you need help with?**

We always need help preparing coffee, bread and snacks for our Fellowship Time after the service on Sunday. Because of COVID, we have not been having our monthly potluck Sundays, but hopefully, we can start that very

Property Chair Christopher Strong



- **What brought you to Puerto Rico?**

I was born in Stuttgart, Germany and raised in Puerto Rico from the age of 7 years old.

- **What brought you to Second Union?**

My brother, Mike and I, had returned and were living just a few blocks from the church. We had grown up going to Union Church in Punta Las Maria, but because of the convenience we attended 2UC and have stayed ever since.

- **What's your favorite Bible verse?**

Matthew 16:15-16

- **As Property Chair, what can people do to help you?**

A lot of work at church is done by sub-contractors; how-

Worship Chair, Alfonso "Fonsi" Román

I was born in Ponce but raised in San Juan. Went to the US to study music and lived there for 25 years. Returned to the island in 2008, after the death of my mother. When I came back started helping Prof. Olivieri and met Mabel. I started helping with the Christmas Cantata at Second Union around 2011-2012. Eventually I started coming to services regularly.

- **What do you do in your free time?**

I am a certified Scuba diver, I like biking, going to the beach and skate boarding.

- **As Worship Chair, what do you need help with?**

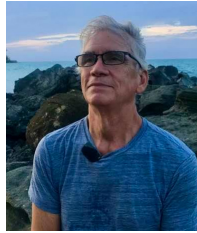
For worship we need people for ushering.



Did You Know?

second thoughts

John Alberts recently attended "Grandparents" Camp in Illinois? Actually, he was just visiting his grandkids, but his daughter made him a special t-shirt for the "camp". Also, his son Jeff finally tied the knot in LA. (Congrats!)



David Benson attends our Men's Breakfast Zoom meetings and he tells us he is now in the Boston area where his wife is the Coast Guard commander of the Boston harbour. (And he still loves Tom Brady even though he now plays for the Champa Bay Bucks ;-)



Speaking of the Coast Guard, Mabel's beloved son, **Joshua Estremera**, has been accepted into the Coast Guard and will be shipping off for training in August.

Celestine Braxton & Livia Roman stay in touch with 2UC through the Tuesday Woman's Bible Study via Zoom.

Mayra & Carlos Chipi are enjoying sailing the USVI and BVI with family and friends these days.

Rose de Jesus has recently recovered from some shoulder surgery and the doctor says it shouldn't affect her 90 mph fastball too much;-)

Eze & Gladys Ebube recently visited their daughter Nkeche, her husband and their darling granddaughter in Dallas, TX.



Patricia Nuñez (de Engfer) recently went to Bolivia to visit her grandmother. Patricia will soon be attending her son's wedding in Panama. He and his fiancée were actually married during the pandemic, but because of restrictions, they will be celebrating with family in October



Muriel Francis recently hosted her daughter and grandkids here in PR. They all live in NY.



Dennis Glenn and Christie's younger son, **JJ Valdés** have connected up in Ft. Myers, FL where JJ and he are both attending the same church.

Dennis and Amarylis Gonzalez recently celebrated their anniversary with a trip to the beautiful Copa Marina. May they have many more...

Our own **Jaime Irizarry** has a role in the fabulous Christian series, "The Chosen". Check him out in the 7th episode of the 2nd season. He's one of the Pharisees. You can download the Chosen app on your smart device. Don't miss it!



Gustavo Gonzalez just returned from a Dare to Share conference in Colorado. He is now working for Dare to Share as their liaison to the Latin youth community as well as serving as our youth pastor. He is excited about this new position and has said goodbye to his old job with DoubleTree Hotels.

Maria Isabel Rivera rocked out as a backup singer for her dear daughter's (also María Isabel) university recital as drummer par excellence.



Neil & Ashley Hafer have been in Paris this last year as Neil was posted there with Enterprise. And Ashley has been posting amazing tourist-less photos of the city of lights on her daily outings. They are spectacular!



So too, **Matt & Laurie Foster** have been in Ireland where the kids continue to maintain their excellent Spanish via Zoom.

Mike & Irma LaLlave made their annual trip up the US eastern seaboard to celebrate Irma's birthday. (She turned 29 this year;-)

Our seminarian, **Jonathan Lavoy**, visited us this summer before he returned for his final year at Pastor Bob's alma mater, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary.



Natalie and Gaby have taken a trip to Seattle, Washington. Check out their very unique YouTube Travel Channel: Road Tales With Natalie And Gabriel! It's super creative and informative.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kon2ZvOtOYI>

Speaking of the state of Washington, **George and Joann McMurray** have recently relocated there as they are close to their wonderful son Mackey.



Elsa Melendez has also relocated to

Did You Know?

a newly complete condo near her daughter in Boca Raton, FL.

Justin & Chelsea Mohler have gone back to Indiana. The boys are loving farm living, but they are still awaiting their stuff to arrive from PR via Jacksonville. We sure do miss them here in PR!!! Pastor Bob and Christie keep hoping we will see them on the tennis courts!



And did you know, their family donated 30 Bilingual Action Adventure Bibles to our Backpack Students? Pretty awesome!



Jeff & Tamara Penn are back in Georgia for the summer, but will soon be returning to Prague for another academic year. Hopefully, the tight restrictions will be lifted there so they can do a bit more travelling this year.

We celebrated three graduations in June! **Grecia Rodriguez** graduated from Colegio Rosa-Bel and will be attending Loyola University in New Orleans. **Alexandra Ruiz** also graduated from high school and will be attending university in the D.C.area. **Edwin Ebube** graduated from Manhattan College in New York and has already begun to work in the city!



Carlos Rodriguez has been able to take almost the entire summer off to spend time with his son Julian. How cool is that?

Edwin & Conchi Perez and 14 other members of their family recently made an amazing visit to the Galapagos Islands. Wow! What a trip! And, ironically, the Men's Breakfast was discussing Charles Darwin on Edwin's first week back.

Christie & Pastor Bob recently had a wonderful surprise visitor show up on their doorstep: **Robert Ramos**. Though Robert and Ledys moved away over ten years ago, they are still near and dear to our hearts along with their four children! Robert is working with Christie & Bob's neighbor, so they are hoping to see him more frequently!



Nicole Tester will be back in PR soon teaching in a local private school. Welcome back Nicole!

We've celebrated quite a few birthdays at Second Union Church during the past several months.

Pastor Bob, Jean Michael



and Sebastian, Ian Daniel and Sebastian, Ethan, and Brenda!

Happiest of birthdays to all!



Yadira de Jesus is back at 2UC as our keyboardist. We are so very glad to have her back as she brings so much talent and passion to our worship services.



Mia Potter, daughter of Mele and Eduardo organized a school and community food drive for the Backpack Program in April, May and June. What a wonderful initiative and what a blessing all the donations have been for our students. Thanks, Mia! We can always use donations of food and school supplies for our Backpack ministry. Plastic bags from the supermarket are always needed as well!

Property + Outreach = Outreach Saturday

second thoughts

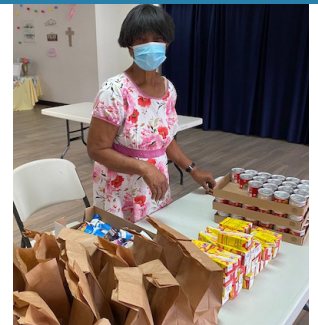


The church Council's Property Chair, **Chris Strong** and Outreach Chair, **Brenda Ferrer** decided to join forces in an effort to reach out to the community and to take care of work on our facilities.

The **third Saturday** of every month, a group of willing volunteers meets from 9 to noon to make a sack lunch for the hungry in Barrio Obrero, to make 'love bags' to offer to men and women beggin on the streets and to do light maintenance jobs inside and outside the church.

We can always use a set of extra hands, so mark your calendars. If you have any special skill sets, please let us know! The upcoming Outreach Saturdays are:

- August 21
- September 17
- October 15
- November 19



Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

Behind the masks: The Backpack Program



The Backpack Program at Second Union isn't about to let something the enemy throws at us thwart us in our efforts to provide food to our Backpack students! Not a hurricane, nor earthquakes . . . not even COVID-19 will stop us from supporting those in need.

If you would like to help us, contact Christie Zoba (zoba129@gmail.com) or Loraine Colón. We need help packing bags, distributing bags, picking up food from the Banco de Alimentos in Carolina, organizing the Backpack shelves, purchasing birthday presents, organizing food drives (see the blurb about Mia Potter in Did You know!), working with the school's social workers and administrative work.

We are so grateful for all donations - food, plastic supermarket bags, money . . . but above all we ask you to pray for this ministry. We are grateful for this opportunity to serve 'the least of these.'

Embrace Grace Ministry



¿Soltera y Embarazada?

APOYO, ESPERANZA, ALEGRÍA



Haz amigas en una comunidad de mujeres, sin juicios, solo para alentarte y apoyarte



¡Cubrimos las necesidades de tu bebé!
¡Baby Shower totalmente gratis!



Dile adiós al miedo y saluda a la alegría, te ayudamos a encontrar esperanza cuando piensas que la vida no tiene sentido.



How We Help Her Be Brave

The Embrace Grace ministry reaches out to young women who have made the brave decision not to abort their babies. The mission of this nationwide ministry is to encourage, support and equip these young mothers for the challenges ahead. In many situations, these girls receive very little, if any, support from their families let alone the fathers of the babies.

Embrace Grace offers a six week program that is based on a Bible study to strengthen their walk with Jesus. The culmination of the first part of the program is a baby shower. For many of these girls, these 'gifts' are desperately needed in preparation for the arrival of their miracles.

The mom 'graduate' and if they choose, they can continue to participate in the next step: Embrace Lives. Through this study, they address challenges they face as new moms and receive love and support.

Embrace Grace meets on Wednesdays at 7pm. If you would like to contribute, please see Dely Seda or contact her at dely.seda@gmail.com



Nueva Temporada

Guaynabo

SEDA AL 787-547-
PR@gmail.com

Women's Ministry Bible Study

Mujer Verdadera Diseño Divino 101

Nueva Temporada
AGOSTO 18



Profundiza en el origen de la verdadera feminidad bíblica y descubre la belleza, el gozo y la satisfacción de ser exactamente como Dios te creó. Si estas cansada de las imitaciones y las copias baratas del mundo o si estas cansada de los consejos repetidos, opiniones superficiales y soluciones estereotipadas,

¡Este estudio bíblico es con enseñanzas y perspectivas fundamentadas en la palabra de Dios es para ti!

Para confirmar se puede comunicar con Dely Seda al 787-547-2600
Email: embracegrace2uc.pr@gmail.com

miércoles * 7pm
Second Union Church
Urb. Alto Apolo
#2109 Calle Mileto esq. Ave. Apolo, Guaynabo



miércoles, 7pm
Second Union Church

ite
Esperamos!

Él se acordó de nosotros en nuestras debilidades. Su fiel amor perdura para siempre. Salmo 136:23

COMENZAMOS EL MIÉRCOLES 18 DE AGOSTO

Favor de confirmar al 787-547-2600 - Dely Seda
embracegrace2uc.pr@gmail.com



*requisito, Embrace Grace Alumni



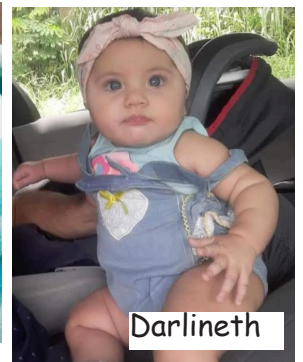
Embrace Grace Ministry



The Embrace Grace Babies



Darlineth



Darlineth



Deyvan



Camila



Deyvan



Camila



Ezekiel



Aitana Paulette



Elian



Elian



Adrian Mateo

A New Ministry In The Midst of a Pandemic

This month, we are highlighting a special ministry that was initiated by Loida and Steve during the pandemic to provide support and love to their local community in Virginia. We hope their example will encourage you to do likewise!

Generous and Giving LB Neighbors Support Needy Culmore Families

By Loida Velilla & Steve Spivak Special to Barcroft News, Lake Barcroft, Virginia

With the ongoing and very special support of numerous Lake Barcroft (LB) neighbors, collectively we have continued an informal donations and giving programs as the Culmore Families Support Project. A recently example with photos, of special human interest, is being summarized here. In addition a summary of the past three months is offered. These informal activities by many caring LB residents are in support of very needy Culmore area families; several are long term residents whose children born here are U.S. citizens. Others are recent arrivals but equally deserving of generous assistance for basic living; they arrive with nearly nothing!

Recently an LB resident and her daughter donated over one hundred Barbie dolls and large size Barbie accessories from their splendid collection! The dolls and accessories were laid out in grand style outside the Woodrow Wilson Library, for mothers and young children to select therefrom. Why there? Twice per week there is a free food truck distributing provisions to needy Culmore area mothers and families. The setting is typically in the library's parking lot. Many mothers and mostly young daughters, also sons, line up for hours and early to receive their share of food provisions.

On this occasion in July, they received not only food provisions: the excited young children also got to choose one or more Barbie dolls, clothing changes, Barbie toys and accessories. Some boys got to receive a "Ken doll" as a Barbie boyfriend. The attached photos show smiling and excited young Barbie recipients with their new gifts - LB donated barbie dolls! Many thanks and a "shout-out" of special appreciation to Lake neighbors (all of whom have requested anonymity) who share with very needy local families.



In the past three months a host of family donations and living items have been provided; and set up on Culmore area apartments. This has included nine beds, several new with mattresses, three car seats, two baby strollers, two air conditions, four microwaves, kitchenware, sheets and pillows for the bedding, a sleep sofa and a day bed, dining tables and chairs, and two chest of drawers. In addition, two of the donated sleep items were bunk beds with a trundle that sleep two to three each. This is super useful in the heavily occupied, space limited Culmore apartments.

Other Lake Residents donated money to purchase needed items, and others provided both truck or van transportation, and human labor, to move the large items from LB to Culmore. Often the items such as bunk beds required extensive assembly on site before they could become useful. LB family members, assisted by Culmore residents, performed the needed assembly. One family donated considerable time and labor to help transport and set up the beds. Two of the recipient families live on third floor walkup apts.; carrying the bulky beds, mattresses, chests of drawers up three flights of stairs was a challenge. Others donated extra canned food items which had been stockpiled due to the COVID pandemic, but no longer needed. Multiple cans of tuna, salmon and more purchased during the pandemic were shared with several Culmore families.



This is overall a "win-win" effort in which the residents of Lake Barcroft donate (downsize) the items they no longer have use for, or wish to donate and the needy residents of Culmore apts. can readily repurpose them.

What happens when you combine a volunteer missionary with an English tutor and a group of kids who need to learn to love English . . . a 2UC Summer English Camp.

In March Christie was approached by Kendra Jones, who is a middle-school teacher in central Illinois. She expressed an interest in serving in Puerto Rico as a missionary for a month in the summer. The two put their heads together and the result was an English Camp geared for our Backpack Program students. The church had made a decision not hold VBS, so it seemed like God opened the doors for this amazing opportunity.

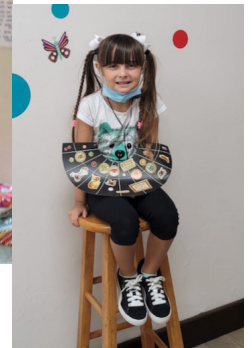
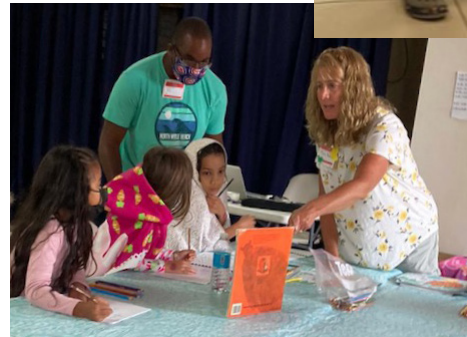
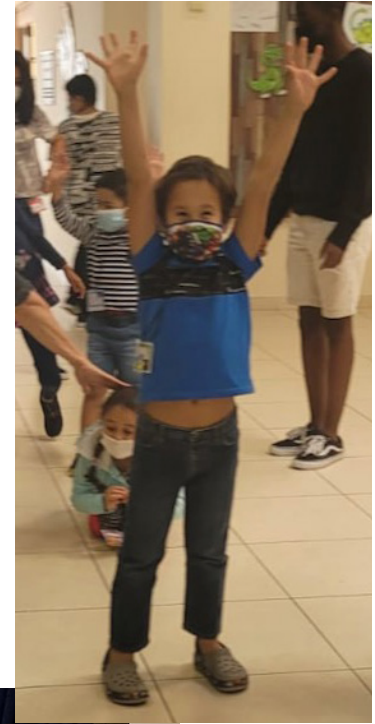
As it turns out, the weeks that Kendra was available were the same weeks that Christie was not available. But the Lord is gracious and we are so grateful for Edith, Loraine, Mabel, Ana, Gina, Ramón, Joshua, Ginnie and so many others who volunteered to help out. It was a stressful three weeks, but it was an incredible blessing for the participants.

Our hearts go out in gratitude to Kendra, her son, Eli and other family members who made such an amazing effort. We are already working on the plans for next year's English Camp!! Thank you to all.



SUMMER ENGLISH CAMP

AT SECOND UNION CHURCH
JUNE 14-JULY 2
9AM-12PM



Second thoughts



¡MARCHA!
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14 DE AGOSTO
10:00 AM
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