Spotlight on CBM



athryn C **Canadian Baptist Ministries**

Global Field Staff, Dominican Republic

It has been two-and-a-half years since Kathryn Scott joined the Canadian Baptist Ministries Latin American and Caribbean team. After an introductory study in Guatemala of Spanish and the Latin American culture, she moved to the Dominican Republic in January 2024, where she began to serve alongside IBAREDO (Iglesias Bautista de la República Dominicana, the

Photo: CBM

Baptist Churches of the Dominican Republic). Her official role includes "leadership training, youth engagement centred

around discipleship, implementing church-based integral mission initiatives and facilitating meaningful SENT experiences."

If you are privileged to receive her ministry updates, you can quickly understand how she fulfils her role with joy in action. Psalm 37:23 underlines this blessing: "When people's steps follow the Lord, God is pleased with their ways" (NCV).

Kathryn chooses to invest her time in the IBAREDO churches, working primarily with Iglesia Bautista Emaus in Santo Domingo, and then she travels out from her home with other young adults of JUBAREDO (IBAREDO's youth board) to visit church vouth in other communities. She mentions Esmirna, Los Cocos, La Romana, and others. She asks for prayer for the churches and

communities in the DR as well as for the pastors and leaders who serve them.

Utilizing her skills as a teacher, she forged ahead in Spanish to teach four one-and-a-half hour classes for the Transformative Leadership Diploma which IBARDO is offering for young adults aged 18-35. Kathryn explains, "Spiritual formation is the first course in the program and is something I am passionate about." She also recognizes how CBM is partnering with IBAREDO in six different churches to strengthen education through a youth homework assistance program.

One of the initiatives she supports is small groups which a number of churches have been implementing. Kathryn says, "The one I am directly connected with has meetings of youth and young adults online or in person, and then I am involved with hosting a once-a-month meeting for these youth leaders who are running



the different small groups. Then I have been mentoring the youth board of IB Emaus as they lead their Youth Saturday once a month (which would look similar to youth group in our Canadian context)." Youth leaders meet monthly to discuss the groups and goals, and then invest in praying and growing together. Her desire is that these young adults continue to be a community of faith, "rooted in Jesus, loving others and being connected."

Please pray for the pastors' groups, which meet monthly, and for the pastor who plans to attend the Summit on Discipleship this month in Bogotá; fellow CBM Staff Bill Dyck is helping with the event's organization. The request in the January 2025 CBM Prayerline is this: "Pray for leaders preparing mentoring and discipleship plans to strengthen their ministries."

Another word of Kathryn's action plans of service is intentionality. She purposely seeks friendship with the young women of other missionary families from Brazil. Socially, this connection affirms their common experience of serving in another country. With her great sense of humour, Kathryn says, "Sometimes we wish people could hear us preach or serve in our native language because we feel we sound smarter and are funnier."

Rest time is important in the midst of the busy, dedicated task of serving others. Kathryn thoroughly enjoyed the CBM Global Conference in Germany in late 2024. The CBM workers from around the globe met to be spiritually challenged, to learn about each others' ministries, and to deepen their relationships.

by Ruth Anna Dana

Sources: cbmin.org, Scott CBM enewsletters (Oct., Nov., Dec. 2024), CBM Facebook (Aug. 9, 2023), and CBM Prayerline (Jan. 2025), and personal emails.