The Cunninghams Serving In The Dominican Republic

Dear Friends and Family June 2026

We never envisioned ourselves leaving the Dominican Republic. We have always viewed ministry this way: we are planted where God places us until He clearly moves us. Yet, just as He called us here fourteen years ago, He is now leading us in a new direction. Ironically, at a time when many people are thinking about retirement, we find ourselves essentially starting over! We laugh about that often. But we are reminded that God's plans rarely follow our expectations, and we are grateful that He continues to allow us opportunities to serve.

If you did not receive our previous prayer letter that was distributed by Mission Committee Chairman Kenric Barnett, we want to share that we have accepted the position of Mission Director and Office Administrator for the World Baptist Fellowship. This new role will allow us to continue investing in worldwide missions and encouraging others to answer God's call to serve.

As we prepare for this transition, we are especially thankful for those who are patiently helping us during these months before we officially begin our new responsibilities at the end of August. John Horton is faithfully serving as Interim Mission Director, Susan Echols has graciously stepped in to help throughout the summer, and Betty Schembra and Sherry Glaze continue faithfully in the day-to-day operations of the office. Their willingness to serve has been a tremendous blessing.

The truth is, we do not feel that we possess all of the skills necessary for this new position. But we do know this: we are willing to be used by God. We arrived in the Dominican Republic feeling unequipped, and fourteen years later we still recognize how much we have to learn. Yet God has blessed in ways we could never have imagined. We have watched Him work through the ministries in San Pedro and the church plant in Ramón Santana. It has been one of the greatest joys of our lives to serve alongside the DR Vision team and so many humble servants with willing hearts. As we look toward the days ahead, we would be grateful if you would pray specifically for the following:

- Continued peace as we navigate the many details of this transition.
- The sale of our house here in the Dominican Republic.
- Continued financial support, as this new position remains a missionary-supported ministry.
- God's wisdom, strength, and ability to help us make a difference in worldwide missions through the World Baptist Fellowship.

One burden that has grown in our hearts during our years on the mission field is the tremendous need for laborers. We have seen firsthand communities waiting to hear the Gospel, ministries needing workers, and opportunities that far exceed the available labor force. Because of this, we are already planning trips to churches across the United States to share the vision of missions and challenge believers to consider full-time ministry on the foreign field.

If your church would be interested in having us come and share what God has done in the Dominican Republic, as well as the ongoing need for missionaries around the world, we would be honored to visit. Please feel free to contact us at: jclcservingndr@gmail.com or john.cunningham@wbfma.net

Thank you for your faithful prayers, encouragement, and support throughout these fourteen years. We know that every life touched, every ministry advanced, and every opportunity we have had to serve has been possible because God used faithful partners like you.

John & Lynn

Sent through Southpoint Baptist Church 3335 Tiger Hole Rd, Jacksonville FL 3221● Serving through WBF Mission Agency
PO Box 13459 Arlington TX 76094

The Cunninghams Serving In The Dominican Republic

Dear Friends and Faithful WBF Partners,

May 2026

Over the past several weeks, our lives have been marked by prayer, wise counsel, and a deep seeking of the Lord's will. It is with humility and a sense of awe that we share this next step in our journey. We have been asked to serve as Mission Directors for the agency, and after much prayer, we believe this is where God is leading us.

This was not something we pursued or planned. In fact, it has stretched us in ways that remind us once again that God often calls us beyond what feels comfortable. Yet, through the confirmation of the Holy Spirit and the counsel of trusted voices, we are stepping forward in faith—trusting that the One who calls is always faithful to equip.

As we enter this role, we do so with a unique perspective that God has graciously given us over the years.

For 16 years, we had the privilege of pastoring—walking alongside people in their joys, struggles, growth, and surrender. Following that, for the past 14 years, we have served as missionaries on a foreign field. We have lived the reality of stepping away from what is known and familiar, learning to depend on God in new ways, and embracing both the challenges and the incredible blessings that come with obedience.

We have not done this perfectly. We didn't step onto the mission field until we were in our mid-50s. We never fully mastered the Spanish language. There were many moments when we felt inadequate, uncertain, and stretched beyond our ability. And yet—God used us. Not because of our strength, but because of our willingness. And that truth has shaped us deeply.

As Mission Directors, our desire is not simply to lead—but to serve. We want to come alongside missionaries who are faithfully sacrificing and serving all over the world—to encourage them, strengthen them, and remind them that they are not alone.

At the same time, our hearts are burdened with another growing reality. We are seeing fewer and fewer people willing to surrender to full-time ministry—especially to missions on a foreign field. The call is still going out, but the response seems quieter. We want to be part of changing that.

We desire to share our testimony—honestly and openly—in hopes that others will see that you do not have to be perfect, fully prepared, or "have it all together" to say yes to God. You simply have to be willing. God is not looking for the most qualified—He is looking for hearts that are surrendered. If He can use us, He can use anyone.

It is our prayer that through this new role, we would not only support those already serving, but also help inspire and challenge others to step out in faith—to go, to serve, and to trust God with the unknown.

We step into this calling with grateful hearts, knowing we still have much to learn, and with a deep dependence on the Lord for wisdom, strength, and guidance. Thank you for your prayers, your encouragement, and your faithfulness. We ask that you pray for us—that we would serve well, lead humbly, and always point others to Christ. It is truly a privilege to serve those who are serving around the world—and to encourage others to join in that mission.

With grateful hearts, John and Lynn

John & Lynn

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PO Box 13459 Arlington TX 76094

West
ORLANDO
Baptist Church

Kenric Barnett, Pastor

Dear World Baptist Fellowship Mission Family,

I hope this email finds you well and that you are having a great start to this week.

It is with great joy and excitement that I write to share an important update regarding the leadership of the World Baptist Fellowship Mission Agency. After much prayer, consideration, and a thorough search process, our board has chosen John & Lynn Cunningham to be our new Mission Director and Administrative Coordinator.

We believe that John and Lynn bring a wonderful combination of pastoral heart, strategic vision, field experience, and administration experience that will serve our missionaries and staff well in this next season.

After serving as pastor in Georgia for 16 years, they followed God's call to the Dominican Republic in 2012 where they are serving today. They understand the challenges and joys of the field firsthand.

I also would like say "Thank You" once again to Joey and Julie Bacon for the incredible job that they have done the past ten years. Both of you have served well, honored God, encouraged us, and we are truly thankful for your service. We are praying for you as you follow God's call to Jacksonville, Florida.

John will officially step into Mission Director role toward the end of summer allowing them to finish up some prior obligations and prescheduled mission trips.

Please join us in praying for John and Lynn as they transition into this new leadership role. We are confident that God has brought them to us for such a time as this.

The position is not a paid position by the Missions Office. They will still need monthly support as Missions Director. I would ask you to please keep them on your monthly support as this position is crucial for recruiting, equipping, encouraging, supporting, and mentoring missionaries. If you do not currently support them, please consider adding them to your monthly support.

The Cunningham's transition from the DR to the Missions Office will require additional funds for moving and set up expenses. If you are able to help with a special gift to the Cunningham's, please send the funds to the Missions Office with a designation for moving expenses.

Thank you for your continued partnership and for the incredible work you are doing.

With gratitude,

Pastor Kenric Barnett
Chairman
World Baptist Fellowship Committee

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