



Kathryn Scott

Canadian Baptist Ministries
Global Field Staff,
Dominican Republic

If you were thinking of what characterizes one of the newer Canadian Baptist Ministries global field staff, you would say of Kathryn Scott that she loves taking pictures with her friends, new and old, and sending them on in her newsletters. In September of 2022, Kathryn joined CBM's Latin American team. After gaining additional language skills through her initial staff appointment studying Spanish in Guatemala, she was reassigned to the Dominican Republic in November 2023.



You might ask, "Is she working alone in the Dominican?" No! Kathryn is a team worker alongside her CBM colleagues in Latin America and CBM's local partner, Iglesias Bautistas de República Dominicana (Baptist Churches of the Dominican Republic, known as IBAREDO). Pastor Benny Morato, IBAREDO's national coordinator, shares that Kathryn is "dedicated to the work of the Lord and is quickly loved and welcomed by all those who meet her." A new-to-the-area pastor and his family from Brazil have befriended Kathryn and helped her settle in. Kathryn's ministry focus is in leadership training, youth engagement, and organizing meaningful CBM SENT mission experiences.

This winter-spring is one of the busiest times of the year for Kathryn, as she diligently gives herself to assist the SENT teams. These groups will be impacted by their participation

in outreach and will, in turn, impact communities back at home. From time to time Kathryn is asked, "Would it be better if we just gave the money it would cost for a (SENT) trip instead of going ourselves?" Having assisted SENT teams last year, Kathryn reports, "I love knowing that these teams have played a role, even though it can seem small at the time, in encouraging, blessing, helping to make connections, and helping to create new ideas of possibilities for the future."

Another distinctive quality of Kathryn's service is hospitality. In January, the same month she moved to the Dominican Republic, she hosted a meeting of eight youth leaders of JUBAREDO, the youth wing of IBAREDO. With the desire to quickly establish relationships as a learner, she borrowed chairs to welcome guests to her almost empty fifth floor apartment (with no elevator)! Just as quickly, JUBAREDO's goal became Kathryn's goal: to see a 20 per cent increase of youth as baptized members of their churches.

A recent prayer request on the CBM Prayerline is, "for Kathryn as she develops relationships with leaders and youth leaders [a group extending to about 35 people] as our partner IBAREDO makes plans to empower the emerging generation of leaders. IBAREDO has 11 churches and serves in both urban and rural contexts." Pray for the children, youth, and the leadership as they plan for this summer's annual camp.

Another prayer request from Kathryn is for an increased ability to speak and work in Spanish. Soon after her arrival, she put this into practise by being recruited to play piano at a local church, supporting the youth girls who lead the music. Singing in a new language is a great tool for becoming more comfortable and proficient with vocabulary and grammar.

Kathryn encourages us to be disciplined in praying for others, as this Scripture verse admonishes: "First of all, then, I urge that entreaties *and* prayers, petitions *and* thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men" (1 Timothy 2:1, NASB1995). Kathryn desires to be intentional to reach out to others, both to those who gather with a group of believers and those who don't have a relationship with Jesus.

by Ruth Anna Dana

Sources: Kathryn Scott's Nov. 2023, Jan. and Feb. 2024 email newsletters, CBM emails, and CBM's March 2024 Prayerline.



Kathryn, meeting with leaders of JUBAREDO, the youth directive of the Baptist Churches of the Dominican Republic.

Photo: courtesy of Kathryn Scott