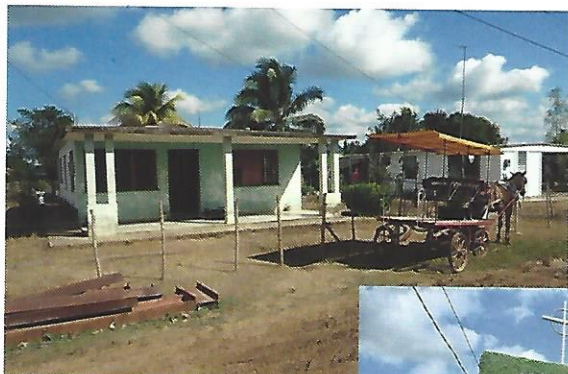
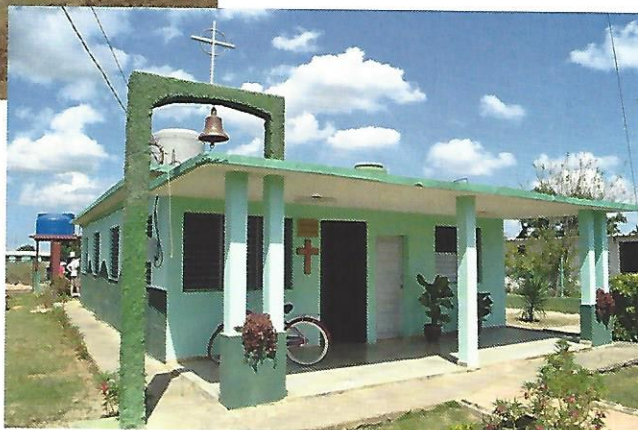


# Companion Parish Opportunities with the Episcopal Church of Cuba



San Pedro Apostal, Zorilla  
before partnership with St.  
John's, Tallahassee FL



San Pedro Apostal, Zorilla  
today

**"We have become like family, we adore the people.  
Whenever we visit, it is like a family reunion. We  
know we have made a difference in their lives, and  
they have made a difference in ours"**

St. John's Tallahassee Cuba Committee members,  
Dennis and Sandra Howard

## **A Vibrant Companion Parish Success Story!**

### **St. John's Tallahassee, FL partnered with San Pedro Apostal, Zorrilla, Cuba**

Since 1999, St. John's has been sending missionaries and support to Episcopal ministries in Cuba, and in particular, to their sister parish of San Pedro Apostal in the rural village of Zorrilla.

When St. John's first visited San Pedro Apostal in 1999, the parish was meeting and holding worship in an abandoned cock fighting shed. A few years later, worship services moved to a parishioners' covered patio.

In 2012, St. John's helped in the purchase of a home and in 2016 completed the conversion and renovation of that building into the current sanctified church and worship space. Additional grants allowed them to add an outdoor bathroom and other needed facilities.

#### **What has their companionship included?**

- Over 26 trips to Cuba including: adult trips; numerous youth trips to help Cuban parishes with Vacation Bible School; and Youth Camps.
- Installation of "Living Waters" water purification systems at San Pedro Apostal and four other communities.
- Creation of song books in Spanish, copied and bound as a gift to the parish.
- Essential financial support for pastoral work and programs.
- Contribution of funds to help supplement clergy salaries.

Dennis, Sandra and six other St. John's parishioners will be traveling again this month to the ordination ceremony of their Deacon, Juan Carlos Diez Moreira to the priesthood. Quite a reason to celebrate!

**"Their style of worship is so much more charismatic...such extroverted faith! They live faith in an open, warm and healing way. It is a very spiritual gift for those of us who get the opportunity to go to Cuba."**

**St. John's Cuba Committee members, Dennis and Sandra Howard**