Bishop Griselda's Top Priorities

1. *Camp Blankingship construction*

The camp is on 14 acres of property owned by the Diocesan Center in Havana. There are two immediate priorities: the production of food from the farm and the construction of the dormitories, chapel and other buildings. (See the attached description of the camp.)

2. *Diocesan Center dormitory renovation*

The Diocesan Center in Havana hosts delegations from USA and other countries and holds meetings of the Church. The dormitory with guest rooms for visitors is in a magnificent building from the 1940s that has deteriorated with the passage of time and the conditions are not comfortable. Most of the guest rooms are shared. None have air conditioning or private bathrooms. The wooden windows need to be replaced immediately. Bishop Griselda is sending us a proposal about how we can help.

3. *Youth Program*

The Youth Camp in Havana for adolescents 11-14 years is held in late July for four days. Each summer there are approximately 135 children led by three adults. Bishop Griselda would like us to consider sending a group of high school students to help with the camp in July 2017. The program costs about $3,000 and is not included in the Diocese’s budget, so they need supplies and financial support from other churches annually.

4. *Renovate churches in the interior of Cuba*

There are a number of Episcopal churches in disrepair or complete ruin. It is not yet clear which churches need renovation and what needs to be done. An American engineer is helping to construct water purification systems for some of the churches, the cost of which is between $4,000 - $5,000. There is a lot of work to be done to bring these churches back to life and this effort will take many years.