Reflection from Cuba Partnership trip participant Candy Swick

Once in a while you have an opportunity to give a gift that has a tremendous impact on the receiver but then sometimes the giver has the opportunity to absorb and bathe in the joy of the person who received the gift. Pastor Alison Infante Zamora never asked for anything for himself. He only has worked for his congregation and his extended community around him. I will always remember the look of astonishment on Alison's face trying to comprehend that the new guitar handed to him was not my guitar but was to be his guitar! Alison is a servant of God who watches over everyone without a thought for himself.. He has managed a microphone in the front of a very old guitar, and at the same time singing into a microphone while leading his congregation in a joyful noise! He asked for a clarinet for a professional musician who actually used rubber bands and wire fix his old clarinet. He watched the gentleman who received the clarinet cry; he was so humbled he could not speak. Then the guitar for Alison. Once the realization finally registered that the guitar was his and not my instrument, Alison began to radiate like the sun that graces our earth. Thank you, Graham Hart and Linda Hart, for wanting to make a difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters. I know that the amazing generosity of approximately 1,300 pounds of giving in 26 donated suitcases schlepped to Cuba will also be met with those smiles of appreciation. I know that we cannot see them all but I hope that words here helped to convey what we felt by the privilege of traveling there.