

LATIN AMERICAN LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Developing Healthy Churches and Church Leaders in Latin America and Beyond

Mission and Ministry Newsletter

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Reporting what God is doing

In Acts 14:27, Luke writes that when Paul arrived back in Antioch after the first missionary journey, that **“they gathered the church together and reported all that God had done through them and how he had opened the door of faith.”**

I often summarize the reports I receive from various mission points. In this special issue, I share a translation of a report prepared by one of the elders at the Neyba, Dominican Republic church, describing what is occurring in the church planting efforts the western Dominican Republic, near the Haitian border. A network of churches is being established, resulting in many new Christians and new churches.

Note: the Crieve Hall church in Nashville recently made a one-time contribution of \$2000 for this work. We have instructed the elders at Neyba to use those funds and the funds provided monthly through this mission work for benevolence as well as for evangelizing. Thank you to all who give generously to this work!

Church of Christ. Neyba, Province Bahoruco, Mission Trips

Months of February and March 2021

Prepared by: Manuel Aquino Castro

God bless each of you.

During this month, we received important reports from the Dominican-Haitian congregations. The brothers in charge of the congregations inform me that they continue to work in preaching the gospel to many people and they are hoping to baptize some of those contacts in the next few days. Churches are fine, thanks to God. They always have a good attendance of Dominicans, but much more of Haitians, in each service.

Brother Simón, a preacher in the church of Christ in El Higo de la Cruz, called me to inform that some preached topics were: Sin and its consequences, God and idols, and the faith of the church.

On Sunday February 21, I had the opportunity to travel to the church that meets in Cabral de Barahona where brother Santiago Urbáez preaches. There I preached the theme: The love of God.

In these months we had beautiful experiences in the congregations that we visited. On Sunday March 21, we traveled (Bro. Lucas Feliz, the one who translates, Bro. Básico and I) to La Descubierta. Our companion in missions, Bro. Eduardo Urbáez, had an accident and for that reason could not join us on this occasion.

The church in La Descubierta remains stable, although we have some sick brothers, among them brother Mache and his wife. There is also a sign of great need among the brothers. Our brother Mâché, who is the preacher of this place, comments that he has the need for us to help buy a plot that is being sold for 150,000.00 pesos (US \$ 2,625.00) to build there a house to worship God. Currently the church meets in a rented house, the payment of that house is made by the Church of Christ of Neyba. We hope that you will help us to pray and collaborate with the church in La Descubierta, so that they can buy and build the house of worship. The study that I presented that Sunday in that congregation was: Work in the church.

Then, we continued the trip that day to the next destination, the church of Christ in Jimaní, in the Province Independence. The Church meets under a bush of mangoes. There we found the preacher, our brother Juan Mercie with some brothers, who greeted us with great affection. Already the service had ended,

because we stopped more than the time arranged in La Descubierta. In Jimaní, the church has a small lot where it plans to build its house of worship. We also ask that you help us to pray for this purpose.

Urgent Notice: The Church of Christ in Guayabal is going through a very delicate situation and needs our help, because last Tuesday, March 16, an unknown Haitian national killed a Dominican farmer. This action caused the reaction of some unscrupulous of the town, who, without any scruples, they burned some Haitian houses, including some of the brothers of the church there. They also wanted to burn down the church premises. Thanks be to God and a prompt intervention from the town authorities, Brother Bene and myself in representation of the Postrer Río and Neyba churches, they did not burn the meeting place of the church.

Now, sadly, we have some brothers hiding in the mountains or in the houses of some acquaintances in the town, even though they did not themselves contribute to the disorder. These brothers are starving and have many needs. The church in this town urgently needs food, clothes and that we help it rebuild their little houses, because they have lost everything.

FIVE BAPTISMS:

In the Church in Neyba: On the 21st of Nov 2020

1- Lucia Medina. Age. 47 years

2- Anneyry Medina Florián Age 22 years

Church in Apolinar Perdomo, On March 12, 2021

1- Amantina Incarnation. Age. 62 years

In the Church in Las Clavellinas, On March 28, 2021

1- Age Actenor Anise. 26 years

It is all the information that I have for the moment. Sorry for the delay and the volume of the document.

With appreciation and high esteem, His fellow servant,
Manuel Aquino Castro.

PHOTOS

Baptism in the mountains

Church in Angel Feliz

Church in La Descubierta

Church in Jimaní, church meets in rented house, picture of property available, good site for church building

Fotos
Bautismo en la montaña de Apolinar Perdomo



Congregación de la Iglesia de Cristo en loma de Ángel Feliz



Congregación de la Descubierta



Visita a los hermanos en Jimani. Este es el solar donde esperamos construir la Casa de Gración



Thank you!

Contact me directly if you want updated information on the needs described above. Through my host congregation (Main and Oklahoma, McAlester, OK), you can make tax-deductible gifts (checks payable to “Church of Christ,” memo line “Latin American Leadership Development” [LALD]). **ALL CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE MAILED TO MY ADDRESS** (10704 S 89th East Ave, Tulsa, OK 74133) since I handle all deposits, acknowledgements, and accounting.

Dios les bendiga (God bless you),
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Elder Manuel Aquino teaches a small group Bible study in the backyard of a member. Future plans call for a church plant in this sector. There were about 30 members, friends, and neighbors present for the study. Will you pray for the churches in Latin America that they can effectively share the glorious gospel of the Son of God who is the light of the world.

Multitudes are receptive to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Christians hunger and thirst for the word of God and want encouragement and training in evangelism, discipleship, healthy church development and effective church leadership. Thank you for helping us make that happen as we seek to fulfill God's purpose in this world – to save as many as possible!

When you support Latin America Leadership Development, you are part of a network of Christians committed to taking the gospel to Latin America. Through evangelism, discipleship, and leadership training, spiritually healthy and mature Christians and churches are developed, capable of reproducing themselves. A primary goal is training those who will train others (2 Tim. 2:2), recognizing that the most effective kingdom workers are national Christians who understand the culture and language, are known and trusted, and easily develop friendships and relationships that carry the gospel to their own nations.