

HISPANIC REGION REPORT

Guillermo Flores, Supt.
2010 Annual Conference / Oak Glen

I want to start my report expressing to superintendent Steve Fitch our gratitude for his ministry among the Hispanic churches. All our conference as an entire body has been blessed with Steve's ministry. In particular, our Hispanic churches were blessed through Supt. Steve's ministry in many ways, but I want to highlight three:

- All our present Hispanic pastors were recruited and appointed during Steve's superintendency.
- At least six of our present Hispanic congregations birthed or became FM churches under Supt. Steve's ministry.
- The Hispanic region was created and consolidated due to Supt. Steve Fitch's vision and support.

So on behalf of the Hispanic pastors, MEG Board, delegates and congregations, I want to say to Supt. Steve today, "Thank you." Many...many thanks for your vision and for being a risk-taker leader. I also want to say sorry for the headaches that some of us could have given to you. Again thanks Supt. Steve.

Other Gratitude

The wise and clear guidance of Bishop Matt Thomas during this transition time has been a key component for the healthy and smooth transition that we are having now in our conference.

Also it has been a privilege to me work with Supts. Denny Wayman, Gary Enniss, and Glen Prior. I also have felt the support of the conference BOA and its chairman Hal Conklin. Let me say thanks too to the conference office personnel for their kind service and willingness to help us when we need them.

Celebrating

We want to share and celebrate with all of you some significant victories in our Hispanic Region.

- I want to celebrate the life and ministry of our 3 district leaders (Gerardo Ortiz, Roberto Castro, and Mateo Gomez) who are doing an excellent job caring for the lives of our Hispanic pastors.
- Last February and March four of our churches (Chino, Corona, Santa Ana, and National City) launched an aggressive outreach event. Together we brought 45 new believers to Jesus.
- These churches had baptisms: Santa Ana (10); Marina del Rey (5); Chino (10); East LA Hispanic Church Palabra de Vida (12).
- Pastor Arnoldo Morales and his wife Dora Morales joined to our Hispanic region this year. They meet at our San Bernardino church facilities. The regular

attendance is 130 people. Help me to give them and their delegates a strong welcome.

- The FM National City remodeled their social hall, the kitchen, Sunday school classrooms, and the bathrooms.
- Santa Ana FM Hispanic Church introduced a new image system in its sanctuary.
- I want to appreciate the support and great job of our Hispanic MEG Board.

Hispanic Region Goals and Strategic Priorities

- *A Supportive Community*: pastors coaching sessions by district on a monthly basis; two big churches celebration gathering annually; mutual support on properties improvement and outreach efforts. Full support to the conference events and common goals.
- *Expanding the Kingdom*. Commitment with the Great Commission. Church growth, which means one new church planting yearly, three renewed churches yearly (one per district), and promoting church health. Explore the multi-site church model as one growing and multiplication option.
- *Leadership Development*. Equipping and coaching pastors and lay leaders to enhance their ministry skills and gifts so they become more godly, healthy, and effective servants of the Gospel. Recruit 6 new local ministerial candidates and 3 new conference ministerial candidates.
- *Depending on the Holy Spirit*. A Spirit-filled Christian living and a Spirit led ministry. Release the spiritual gifts / the anointing of the Holy Spirit upon our pastors, lay leaders and congregations.

We are embracing a missional approach to ministry. This means that: (a) we participate with God in His mission; (b) we are churches sent again with a missionary calling into our cities and to the world; (c) we promote creativity and unleash the missional imagination of God's people; (d) we as a region and as local congregations are willing to make adaptive changes (learn new paradigms, new ministry abilities, and acquire a new self as we serve in a changing environment) to be faithful, relevant, and more effective congregations.

Latin America Ministry

Mexico. The Santa Ana Spanish church has started a church planting in a town of Michoacan Mexico. One family—members of the Spanish Santa Ana church—has donated the land to build a sanctuary in Michoacan. Pedro Preciado is our pastor there.

Baja California. The FM Hispanic Church of San Diego and their pastor Anibal Lopez sent food and people from their church to help during the Hurricane in Baja California last year. They were specifically helping the San Quintin community.

Costa Rica. The FM Santa Barbara church and our conference is supporting Dennis de Leon, his wife and children. The De Leons are working with poor children and developing a ministry among the surfing community in Jaco Beach.

Also the mission committee of the Santa Ana Spanish church is supporting a FM Methodist church in Hatillo, Costa Rica. Their pastors are Minor Madrigal and his wife Shirley Bustamante.

Chile. Immediately after the earthquake in Chile many of our FM Chilean pastors were involved helping the people to bear and to recovery from personal family loss and painful situations. As the country is coming back to normality, our FM pastors were tired and facing their personal and families fears and wounds. My recent visit to Chile was instrumental to help in the healing process of these great pastors and their families. I was teaching and ministering them. On behalf of our conference and the Santa Ana church, which partnered to make possible my trip, I was expressing to them God's love and His healing power.

Ministry Opportunities

Because the nearness of our conference to Mexico and Latin America and because we have trained pastors and coaches in our conference and Hispanic region, I want to be intentional helping to our Latin American brothers and sisters through some of these capacities.

- Partner with the FMCNA Latin America director in helping to develop regional and national godly and competent pastors/leaders.
- Mobilize ministry support from our Hispanic region and conference to some countries in Latin America such as leadership trainers, church planters, constructors, computers, pastoral/theological books, scholarships for pastoral training, etc.
- My plan is to make some strategic travels to Latin America to cooperate in some key summits or evangelistic campaigns.

Let me finish by saying thanks to all of you for giving me the opportunity to serve the Lord from this ministry capacity. Thanks.

Guillermo Flores
Hispanic Region Superintendent