

LATIN AMERICAN MISSIONS NEWSLETTER

Mobile Medical Missions



Native Preacher Training



Native Preacher Support



Evangelistic Campaigns



Child Care



Printed Word Ministry



Slab Team Evangelism



Benevolence



Serving In Ten Countries

Argentina Honduras



Colombia Nicaragua



Costa Rica Panama



El Salvador Peru



Guatemala Venezuela

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2006 BSA GRADUATIONS

On Tuesday, December 5th, right in the middle of our annual lectureship, we had our third graduation at our extension school in Medellín, Colombia. The four graduates (Pictured right with their wives) were: **Carlos Alberto Roldán, José Camilo Vargas, Jean Navas Burrie, and Johnny Gómez.** Their wives also took Bible courses.



Some brethren from the States are afraid to go to Colombia because of things they hear; however, last year Colombia had the highest rate of increase for tourists. I see more and more Americans every time I go. If more brethren would come to Colombia, they would see the beauty of Medellín, the city of “eternal” Spring. More importantly, they would see the interest of the Colombians Gods’ Word

and a desire to better prepare themselves to teach and preach it to their 43.6 million fellow countrymen.

Come and walk through this door of opportunity God has opened to us. Let us know if you want more information on how to be a part of this extension of the **Bible School of the Americas.**

On December 9, 2006, ten men graduated from the Panama campus, representing Costa Rica, Peru, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama. The picture (below) shows the graduates and their families. They are: **Erick Millón, Fredy Serracín, Rubén Chacón, Yens Nima, Nery Irias, Carlos Hernández, Mauricio Clemente, Jonatán Solís, Alonso Ramos and Justo Zavala.** All are married but three.



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Bible School of the Americas

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NEW STUDENTS

The next two pictures consist of the seven new students in Colombia and the ten new students in Panama that come from all over Central America. Most of these men are married.



Columbian teachers with new students



New students in Panama

The need for scholarships is constant, whether in Colombia, Perú, San Blas Islands, or Panamá. **Scholarships are \$425 a month for two years. Would you please partner in training preachers by helping with a scholarship, either in full or in part? No amount is too small!**

If you need info on how scholarships work, please let us know.

~ Lionel Cortez



“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink... I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me...”

- Matthew 25:25-36

We regularly receive requests for benevolence help. Together, we can answer these with a “Yes, brother” or “Yes, sister, we can help.”

Your contribution for ***benevolence*** can make more answers a “Yes”.



Commentaries Up-Date

Dear Brethren:

For approximately 20 years we have continued the effort of translating and printing the **Gospel Advocate Commentaries**. Of course, it has been a part-time effort because other tasks needed our attention, such as serving several congregations in mission work: **Forrest Park in Valdosta, GA., Southeast in San Antonio, TX and Randolph church of Christ in Universal City, Texas.** Also editing, printing and mailing of the **El Epositor Espiritual**, a quarterly mailed throughout the Spanish-speaking world. Holding Gospel Meetings in all of Latin America and other efforts in the Spanish work; and directing the **Bible School of the Americas** for the last 9 years.

We are grateful to **Neil Anderson** from the **Gospel Advocate** for granting permission to translate and print these valuable books. Authors **David Lipscomb, H. Leo Boles and Guy N. Woods**, and other faithful pioneers can teach our brethren throughout the Spanish speaking nations. These commentaries are given to our preachers in Latin America to help with their Work. All the graduates from the **Bible School of the Americas** receive a copy of each completed book. **You should see their faces when they get the commentaries!**

The **Northside church in Harrison, Arkansas** was one of the first congregations to give us a big push with their generous contribution of \$30,000 dollars. Other congregations have also become a part of this effort: **Mt. Juliet in Mt. Juliet, TN, Hickory Knoll in New Orleans, LA, Central Ave. in Fairborn, OH, North A and Tennessee in Midland, TX.** There are also many individuals from the churches named above and other congregations that have been helpful in many ways.

The Forrest Park elders would like to see all 14 volumes of this series translated and printed before our Lord calls me home.

COMENTARIOS DEL
NUEVO TESTAMENTO

SANTIAGO
(James)

GUY N. WOODS

Traducido por Lionel M. Cortez

So far we have completed **Matthew, Acts, Romans and I Corinthians.** The elders here at **Forrest Park** would like to see all 14 volumes of this series translated and printed before our Lord calls me home.

Santiago, Guy N. Woods' Spanish version of **James**, is close to being printed. Our next goal is **Guy N. Woods' General Epistles**; but, we need **\$10,000 dollars** to complete the job. **Would you as an individual**

help us make it a reality? Will your congregation help? No amount is too small or too big.

Please let us know if you are able to help.

Love,

Lionel Cortez

GETTING INVOLVED IN LATIN AMERICAN MISSIONS

WE SHOULD ALL AGREE THAT THE CHURCH IS TO SPREAD THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST. If we are successful in this, the church will grow numerically and spiritually! A congregation involved in foreign missions will also grow locally. Elders will actively lead the congregation into mission work. Deacons will eagerly support mission efforts by going on campaigns. The preacher will be involved by relaying our need to teach the gospel to those who have not yet heard it. The membership will be excited because they know what is going on. (I don't think I know a Christian family that would not want to support a well-organized mission work financially.) Last, but not least, the youth will want to become involved. It must be their natural enthusiasm and tender hearts that causes them to ask, "What can we do to help in the mission program?"

In the summer of '04, Charles Renfro came to the Wetumpka congregation to speak about Latin American Missions and to raise funds for the Printed Word Ministry at the Forrest Park congregation. Our elders were interested in learning more, so the elders, some deacons, and other members went to the Forrest Park church to look into the work. Ray Joyner, Robert McLeod, Charles Renfro, and others met with Wetumpka elders, James Wadsworth, John Ellis, and Duane Wooten and the mission deacon, Mark Jeter. The elders liked what they saw and heard, so my home congregation at Wetumpka, Alabama became involved in the Latin American Missions!

Our initial involvement was financially supporting the print shop. The print shop prints about 1,000,000 items each year, and supplies over 20 tract titles, songbooks, curriculum for the Bible and satellite schools, Spanish translated Gospel Advocate commentaries, and the *El Expositor Espiritual*. It takes a great amount of work to publish these materials, and I was amazed to learn that three men - Charles Renfro, Paul Swanson, and James Grace - primarily do it all. Members at Forrest Park also work in the print shop frequently.

After learning of the effectiveness of the printed word in

Latin America, I wanted to find a way to involve the youth at Wetumpka. I made a phone call to Charles Renfro and he agreed to line up projects in the print shop for us.

The following Sunday I spoke with our elders about going to Forrest Park to support LAM, and they were all for it. When I asked the youth about going over for a day or two to help in the print shop, they wanted to go for a week. I was never more pleased with our young people and their willingness to give a week of their summer vacation in support of LAM. That is how **TEAM** (Teens Excited About Missions) week began. I believe Roger Steis came up with the acronym and had t-shirts printed up for everyone involved.



Our youth group went to Forrest Park in July 2004. We participated in several print shop projects, sorted, folded, and packed clothes, and packed medical supplies. Several of the Forrest Park youth worked with us and the two groups made friendships that continue to this day. We daily had the opportunity to hear about experiences of mission campaigns to Latin America. We saw

slide shows of the missionaries holding meetings, and Vacation Bible Schools. Elder Ray Joyner and minister Jason Roberts told about their campaign experiences. The presentations truly made mission work real for us. Our young people saw how important a tract could be in teaching the gospel, and how the clothes and medical supplies changed the lives of the people in Latin America. Our service not only helped the mission process, but also energized our youth group in a way I had not seen before. Everyone involved in TEAM week was blessed by serving in the name of our Savior.

By the end of the week, we all truly appreciated Charles Renfro. Our young people could see his dedication by working so closely with him. In our final devotional, Charles told us we had really helped Latin American Missions. I was pleased with the results, and the fact that our youth worked without complaint, even though some tasks were tedious. The youth group and members of

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Forrest Park took good care of us during our stay. We were fed well and treated very kindly.

Our youth group is now more eager to serve in mission related projects. Last year they raised \$500 for LAM, and this year our goal increased. Involvement in LAM has blessed us more than we could ever give back.

In 2005, the church at Wetumpka expanded her involvement in Latin American Missions through the efforts of missionary Roger Leonard. Roger presented a slide show that put faces with names and places; we really liked that. Roger also spoke about supporting a native man by the name of Justo Zavala. Through our support, this man could take care of his family and dedicate himself to preaching the gospel and ministering in a local congregation. Our elders decided to support Justo monthly. He graduated from the Bible School of the Americas in Panama in Dec. 2006. He is now preaching in Nindiri, Nicaragua. We will work in a campaign there in July.

In the summers of 2005 and 2006, our mission deacon, Mark Jeter, went to Managua, Nicaragua with Roger Leonard on campaigns. Mark saw the effectiveness of the missionaries and the eagerness of the Latin American people to hear the gospel of Christ. Mark noted that the people treasured even a tract, and used that simple tract to teach others.

The church at Wetumpka had desired to be involved in missions for a long time - and we are glad to be a part of this good program. The Forrest Park congregation is consumed with mission works of all kinds. The LAM staff of missionaries has established new congregations in every location where they have labored. The work trains men to preach the gospel. Forrest Park has demonstrated efficient use of all funds and goods donated. It is a privilege to be a small part of this work.

My prayer is that this effort will continue to grow!

Larry Bryson Jr.

Youth Director, Wetumpka Church of Christ, Wetumpka, AL.

Dave Huffman Joins LAM Staff

Dave Huffman and his wife Sharon have been members of the Forrest Park congregation since Oct. 2002. In Sep. 2006, Dave decided to come on board as a staff member of Latin American Missions.

Dave and Sharon have been married for 29 years and have two children: a son, David and a daughter, Natalia.

Dave retired from the U.S. Army in June 1997, after twenty-two years of service. During that time he preached part-time overseas. After retirement from the military, Dave preached full time in Geneseo, IL (Jun 97 – Jul 2000) and in Lakeland, GA (Jul 2000 – Oct 2002).

Received BA from Heritage Christian University in 2003.

Dave's present area of focus will be raising funds to meet the needs of the children in Latin America. This is a new area that will begin with spiritual needs, but also will assist with food, clothing and medical needs. This goes beyond the Children's home in Panama, as it will be reaching into other countries. Dave will also be working with YES II Youth Campaigns and assisting local preachers who have special needs dealing with youth.

We welcome Dave as he takes on this wonderful challenge.



Remaining Campaigns Scheduled for 2007

DATES	TYPE	COUNTRY
June 1-9	Medical/Evangelism	Ica, Peru—Week One
June 8-16	Medical/Evangelism	Ica, Peru—Week Two
June 29-July 7	*YES II	San Blas Islands, Panama
July 5-12	Evangelism/VBS	Nindiri, Nicaragua
July 13-20	Evangelism/VBS	Estili, Nicaragua
July 13-21	Evangelism	Tegucigalpa, Honduras
July 20-28	Medical/Evangelism	Vera Cruz, Panama—Week One
July 27-August 4	Medical/Evangelism	Vera Cruz, Panama—Week Two
July 24-31	Building/Evangelism	Cuaniquil, Nicaragua

*The YES II campaign is primarily made up of young people working together with older Christians, with a goal of reaching all ages. It is good training for youth interested in missions.

All participants must send in a completed registration form and be approved by the Forrest Park elders. Applications are downloadable on our web site, in either Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF format. Go to <http://www.forrestpark.org/lam/index.htm> and click “Registration Form”.

Notice: All campaign dates are TENTATIVE and subject to date change or cancellation. Please contact the office before making a commitment or purchasing airline tickets.

Basic Campaign Preparation Checklist

Passport Required—In date at least six months beyond campaign ending date. For more info, visit: (<http://travel.state.gov/>)

Shots (Strongly recommended for all teams!)

- Hepatitis A and B (See your physician for scheduling these well in advance of team dates.)
- Tetanus up-to-date

GENERIC PACKING LIST:

- Bible
- Clothing** (Hot weather)
 - Pants
 - Shirts
 - Underwear
 - Socks
 - Shoes (2 pair - comfortable to walk in)
 - Hat for sun
- NO SHORTS; TANK TOPS; TIGHT FITTING CLOTHING—Capri type pants

okay. MODESTY is the key word.

Grooming & Other Personal Items

- Medications
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Comb/brush
- Shaving supplies (men)
- Deodorant
- Sun screen
- Hand Sanitizer & Handy Wipes
- Bandana/handkerchief
- Shower Shoes/Flip Flops
- Snacks:** instant tea, coffee, Tang, Gatorade, peanut butter, crackers, canned fruit, canned meats, beef jerky, etc.

Additional Items for Medical Team:

- Insect repellent (with DEET)
- Bath towel & wash cloth & soap
- Air mattress, sleep pad or folding cot
- Toilet paper (small pks Kleenex)
- Sheets or very light sleeping bag &

camp/travel pillow

- Mosquito netting
- BRING YOUR OWN PLASTIC DRINKING CUP OR CANTEEN. PAPER PLATES & PLASTIC UTENSILS!** (No GLASS containers.)

LUGGAGE

- 1 Carry on bag and one other item. (See Liquids restrictions by TSA - <http://www.tsa.gov/311/index.shtm>)
- 1 Suitcase – 50 lbs. limit. (check dimensions at airline web site.)
- Pack an extra CHANGE OF CLOTHES and all MUST HAVE items in your carry-on.

Additional info: (http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/tips_1232.html#)

Check with your team leader for particulars that may vary from this list.

“...As the Father has sent Me, even so I am sending you.” (John 20:21b)

Children's Home Update

There are currently 28 children in the home in Panama. Esperanza continues in the recovery process. She is still unable to walk and will have additional surgery within the next six months.

***Honduras* is in urgent need of help!
Several preachers have lost support
and more cities need the gospel!**



**Please contact
Larry Calendine
or the LAM office
to learn how YOU
can help.**

NEEDED: USED COMMUNION SETS!

**Send them to LAM and we'll
send them to congregations in
Latin America.**

Where You Can Help!

- Children's Home of the Americas
- Bible School of the Americas
- Preacher in Need. Please write in name:

- Printing Ministry
- Benevolence/ Relief
- General Fund (put where needed most)

One time Amount: \$ _____.

Monthly Amount: \$ _____.

Memory of: _____

Honor of: _____

Given by: _____

Address: _____

City, St., ZIP _____

Send Acknowledgement to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, St., ZIP _____

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