

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 Eight Countries

- | | |
|-------------|-----------|
| Argentina | Honduras |
| Colombia | Nicaragua |
| Costa Rica | Panama |
| El Salvador | Peru |

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“Go Green” — View Our Newsletters Online: News.ForrestPark.org

2009 Bible School of the Americas Graduation



If you have never attended a graduation at any of the campuses of the Bible School, it is quite an experience. Sometimes they are very long, and in Panama, very hot; but

there is also something very special in the atmosphere. There are people who have never met, those who have not seen one another in almost two years, old acquaintances are reunited, smiles shared and tears shed, both of joy and sadness. There are speeches, uplifting prayers and spiritual songs, challenges, and dreams of a better future for the Name of Christ. Men and women depart better prepared to serve God.

The following report is from brother Rodolfo Espinoza and covers the **Peru Graduation** on Dec. 6, 2009.

The future graduates on the center photo eagerly anticipated their graduation ceremony. The joy of having successfully completed two years of intense training is reflected on their faces. Several of them have the goal of starting congregations in their places of origin, like Ancash, Iquitos and La Libertad.



2009 Peru Graduates and home congregations, L-R: Alejandro Manrique (Los Rosales), Roberto Canaquiri Yaicate (Bagazan, Iquitos), Pedro García Zavala, Bartolomé Trujillo (Puente de Piedra), Fernando Rodríguez Lapa (San Juan), Lázaro Orihuela (Los Rosales).



The brethren who attended the graduation, in a gesture of agreement to the invitation to donate a dollar per month

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to support the Bible School of the Americas, willingly raised their hands. Until now, different congregations have faithfully kept their commitments; being aware of the great financial need that the school is going through; but they also want to be a part of the labor in Peru that trains preachers.

The graduates likewise wanted to show their support and also made the commitment to contribute to the support of the Bible School of the Americas.

The generosity of these brethren helps continue the important work of training servants for the Lord's fields.

BIBLE CONFERENCE AT THE BIBLE SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS IN PERU December 7th and 8th, 2009

After the graduation, the Third Bible Conference took place. It was organized by the Forrest Park Church of Christ. The topics presented came from the Book of Romans. Among the speakers were local preachers, teachers from the School, the director, Valedictorian Graduate, and an elder from Forrest Park.

Brother Jack Farber, (EBA Director, not pictured) had a notable participation, presenting "Personal Conclusions of Paul" and "The Gentiles Responsibility." At the end of the presentations, a Question and Answer Session was held and those in attendance were able to clear any questions or doubts they had.

Brother Robert McLeod (right), elder from the Forrest Park Church, honored us with his presence during the Graduation and addressed the graduates and audience with a message from the elders. Likewise, he participated in the Bible Conference, presenting the themes of "The Jews are condemned" and "The Urgency of a Life of Faith."



One of the topics with the most questions was "The Christian and the Government," and was presented by brother Rodolfo Espinoza (left), assistant director of the EBA. It was clearly explained that the Christian is to be in compliance with the authorities. Those who resist the government sin against God, unless the laws are against divine norms. All Christians must follow the law dictated by the government, not only for the fear of punishment, but also for a good conscience before God.

These activities took place at the building of the church of Christ of San Juan de Miraflores.

EDITORIAL

How Much is Man Worth to God?

The U.S. Bureau of Chemistry and Soils calculated the chemical and mineral composition of the human body, which breaks down as follows:

– 65% Oxygen	– 0.25% Sulfur
– 18% Carbon	– 0.15% Sodium
– 10% Hydrogen	– 0.15% Chlorine
– 3% Nitrogen	– 0.05% Magnesium
– 1.5% Calcium	– 0.0004% Iron
– 1% Phosphorous	– 0.00004% Iodine
– 0.35% Potassium	

“... Is meeting the physical needs all there is to caring for man? Or is man simply made of matter?”

Additionally, it was discovered that our bodies contain trace quantities of fluorine, silicon, manganese, zinc, copper, aluminum, and arsenic. Together, all of the above amounts to less than one dollar! That's not very much, is it?!

In recent years, however, surgeons have used body parts from the deceased to perform helpful operations to repair or replace damaged organs, ligaments, veins, eyes, heart valves, tendons, to perform skin and bone grafts, etc. According to one report, 1.5 million tissue transplants take place in the U.S. each year. Parts from recently deceased humans can be quite valuable in keeping the living in better health. But is meeting physical needs all there is to caring for man? Is man simply made of matter? Eventually we all die, and Scripture says we go back to the dust from whence we came! (Gen. 2:7; 3:19; Eccl. 12:7) All Bible students come to learn that there is something of far greater value than our bodies – our eternal souls!

Jesus posed two questions concerning our value: **“For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?”** (Matthew 16:26)

Commenting on this verse, Albert Barnes noted:

For what is a man profited... - To gain the whole world means to possess it as our own - all its riches, its honors, and its pleasures.

“To lose his own soul” means to be cast away, to be shut out from heaven, to be sent to hell. Two things are implied by Christ in these questions:

1. That they who are striving to gain the world, and are unwilling to give it up for the sake of [life in Christ], will lose their souls; and,
2. That if the soul is lost, nothing can be given in exchange for it, or that it can never afterward be saved. There is no redemption in hell.

After death comes “Judgment”! (Heb. 9:27) However, Jesus willingly gave His life (John 10:11, 17-18) and shed His blood to redeem our souls from sin, death and hell, and write our names in “the Book of life”. (Cf. Matt. 26:28; I Pet. 1:18-19; Rev. 1:18; 20:12.) The apostle John wrote of Jesus that “He himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.” (I Jn. 2:2) How much are we worth to God? Everything Heaven could offer! **Let us love all men enough to tell them that!**

Roger Leonard

The Children's Home of the Americas

Thank you for your prayers for the Children's Home; they are being answered! In response to the last Newsletter and through personal contacts, \$150 was given to purchase first aid supplies and medicine, two new desktop computers were purchased for the study room, and sufficient funds were given to support an additional set of house parents for one year! **GOD IS GOOD!!!** So are His People! *THANK YOU!*

Summer vacation has nearly come and gone for the kids in Panama. Everyone successfully completed their school year in December with Ezekiel graduating from third year (or tenth grade) at the end of the month. Many of the kids have standing orders from the judge to return to their homes for the vacation and be with their families. That was the case again this year and about eight kids were taken home on December 23rd. In December, brothers, Layonel and Kevin, were placed in the custody of their uncle. The uncle and social workers had been working toward this end for some time and it finally came to pass. Judith and Teresa also began the process toward a permanent placement with their uncle and aunt in December. When school was complete, they began going to the uncle's house from Wednesday to Sunday of each week. The intention of the court is to make the placement permanent before school starts back in March. These four children have lived in our Home for much of their lives and we are sad to see them go. Please pray that the Seed planted and watered in the Home will take and keep root in their hearts, pray for their safety and security, and pray that they will make wise choices. Those on vacation were picked up on February 19th. The new school year begins in March.

The children from the Home along with the children from the Bible School made their annual shopping trip in December.



The kids were filled with much joy and delight as they purchased toys and clothes for themselves as well as gifts for others. For a couple of hours they searched the store for treasures and good deals to make the most of the money that had been allotted for them. In addition to choosing

items for themselves, they drew names before going to the store in order to choose small gifts to give one another. This year the boys exchanged with boys and the girls with girls. They looked forward to this event all year and thoroughly enjoyed themselves!

Since there were fewer children in the Home in January and no structured activities taking place, it was convenient for Anibal, Nely and their sons to enjoy a vacation. After Ezekiel's graduation they took him with their sons to spend the month with their families in the Darien region of Panama. (Ezekiel is 16 years old and has no family besides those of the Children's Home. He is a great young man and we are expecting great things from him in the future.) It was good for Anibal and Nely to have this opportunity to get away from daily strains of the Home, to enjoy some one-on-one time with their sons, to be

with their extended families, and just to relax a little. Anibal used some of this time to make visits and encourage Christians who had fallen away as well as to teach others about the Word of God. He is very zealous about the saving message of the Gospel and about sharing it with his people. We continue to be grateful to have this family, who places God as the Head of their lives, at the Home.



While they were gone, Alberto and Adelina Binns cared for the children remaining in the Home. Alberto and Adelina live just outside the campus and he is the minister for the congregation where the children attend. They, with their two children, happily moved into the Home to care for the children for a month and everything went smoothly.

On Wednesday night, February 10th, Orlando and Milka, his sister, were baptized for the forgiveness of their sins and added to the Lord's Church! Again, we are reminded that God is good and that good is being done

There are several maintenance projects that are going to



need to take place this year which are not in the budget and for which we do not have adequate monthly funding. For example, replacing the ceiling in several areas of the house, replacing wooden doors with iron doors, purchasing a washer and dryer, etc. Also, one of Anibal's supporters had to discontinue their monthly support of \$100.00; so, we are presently in need of extra funds to cover this loss. The Lord has blessed the children and the work of the Home since the last newsletter, and we know He will continue showering His blessings upon us. Thank you in advance for your prayers, encouragement, and support. May the Good Lord keep blessing our children, the work of the Home, and you!



What Do We Do For Those In Need?

This past summer there was a forced change in the government of Honduras; and, because of that change, many other governments pulled their support and donations from Honduras. This caused great stress on our brothers and sisters in Christ. Some lost jobs. The price for everyday goods increased. Because of those needs, a 40-foot container of benevolent goods was shipped in November and arrived in Tegucigalpa in December. The container was detained in customs until the paperwork was processed by the Honduran government, authorizing the container to be brought in without paying taxes. We had to pay those taxes up front to get the container out of the port; but, after all the documentation was completed, we received the taxes back. Included in the shipment were medical items, used clothing, and tracts to distribute in very needy communities. It also contained literature for the churches in Nicaragua and El Salvador, which was delivered in February. Once the paperwork was done, the task of delivering the clothes, shoes, and food to individual congregations began. (We feel it is very important for the local congregation to distribute the supplies to the people so God will receive the glory, and because they know the people who are in need in their community.) The congregations in Honduras were extremely grateful for the clothes, food and prayers from their fellow Christians in the

“He who has pity on the poor lends to the Lord, And He will pay back what he has given.”

Proverbs 19:17

United States. We continue to receive calls and emails of thanksgiving for the response that the Lord’s people in the United States had for their brethren and for the lost in Honduras.

With extra money that was given above the cost of the container, we were able to purchase food for our brothers and sisters. Congregations in Tegucigalpa, Choluteca, Danlí, Intibucá, Cortes and other cities were given food for members in their congregations. **Three hundred eighty-three families were assisted!** Each family was given five pounds each of beans, rice, and corn, four pounds of sugar, two pounds of pasta, as well as milk, salsa, shortening, oatmeal, and soap.

The country experienced peaceful elections in November and has been in peace since that time. Some countries, including our own, have recognized the election and have started to send their normal support again. The situation is improving for the country and for the people of Honduras; but they continue to be in need of your prayers. Thank you, brethren, for making the most of the opportunity presented to us; it is an answer to the command of God to, **“...do good to all, especially those who are of the household of faith.”** (Galatians 6:10) May God bless you.

Dave Huffman

Literature and Printing Update

The translation of the Gospel Advocate Commentary of the General Epistles (I and II Peter, I, II, and III John, and Jude) has been completed and is ready to go to press! We have six commentaries completed in the Spanish language and being used by our brethren. Our brother Lionel Cortez has completed the commentary of the Gospel of John and it is currently being formatted for printing along with a book of sermon outlines. We are thankful for his dedication in providing sound study material to our Spanish-speaking brethren. **You help to make this possible! Thank you.**

In July 2009, a group of young people from Wetumpka, AL came over for TEAM Week (Teens Excited About Missions). They packaged 134 boxes containing 22 types of tracts, 13 weeks of Bible class material, and 48 boxes of 24-count crayons.

As mentioned above, a container was packed and shipped to Honduras with literature which had been printed and packaged in Valdosta. Pallets of literature were included in the container for the brethren in Nicaragua and El Salvador. The preachers who work with the East Ridge church in Chattanooga, TN worked together with our

preachers and met a brother from Honduras to receive the supplies. The literature for El Salvador was transported to their border where it was received by the Salvadorian brethren for use in their congregations and in their efforts for reaching the lost. Among this literature was some of the 122,181 Bible tracts printed last year. We are planning to replenish our supply in 2010.

Brethren, we continue to be grateful for your support and encouragement. Please pray for the work in Latin America. If you have members visiting in our area, please have them come by to view the work on behalf of your congregation.

Charles Renfro

Literature & Printing Needs

- ✓ Paper for commentaries & tracts
- ✓ Funds for translating

Some Thoughts on Preacher Support. Please Read. It probably goes without saying that communication is one of the most difficult areas of human interaction. And one thing is for sure, if we don't know something, we just don't know. So the purpose of this little clip is to put you "In the Know on Preacher Support."

1. Did you know, for example, that we send the preachers' support around the 20th of the month?. However, the support funds need to be in the bank here before the 20th.
2. If you are supporting any preacher(s) and your funds are not here when it is time to wire, then we are unable to send the money because we are unable to cover shortages for so many preachers in so many countries.
3. If your support comes later in the month, and we send it separately (to keep a family from suffering, for example), then there are additional wire/bank fees that we must absorb.

We know everyone is struggling in this economy, so this is not intended to show any lack of appreciation, but simply an explanation of the situation. *Thanks so much for all you do to help spread the Good News of Christ in Latin America!*

Skip a Meal ~ Save a Soul!

In my life experience I can say that while we were a poor farm worker family, we never experienced a time when we did not have three meals a day (if we wanted them). The food for the most part was very basic and inexpensive with not a lot of fancy fixings except on very special days like Thanksgiving or Christmas. I never went to bed at night hungry and neither did anyone in our family. We ate a lot of hamburger meat and chicken along with plenty of vegetables (not my favorite). You could almost be assured that on Sundays we had the "gospel bird" (chicken). Many times it was with my mom's parents who lived near us most of our "growing up" life.

Life in the United States for the majority is one of plenty. While we do have pockets of poverty, most who live here have access to just about anything they want. Rarely do we hear of starvation, especially on the scale we see in third world countries. When we do, it generally is from abuse or some criminal act. We here in the States are a generous people. In our local congregations we normally have a "food pantry" or some type of benevolent program to see that people in our community at least have something to eat.

Jesus talked about the basics of life, food, drink, and clothing (Matthew 6:25-34). In that discourse he taught that we should not be "anxious" for those basic items: "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?" (Matthew 6:25 ESV) Our priority must be instead to "seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness." (Matthew 6:33) When we do, we'll not lack food, drink, or clothing. David wrote on one occasion: "I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or **his children begging for bread.**" (Psalm 37:25 ESV)

Times today are tough, and probably tougher than we have seen in quite a while. We have all had to adjust, depending on how hard we have been hit with the current economy. But, I still don't think it has caused any one of us to do without food to eat. We might not eat out as often as we

have in the past, but we generally are still getting our "Three squares" every day (unless we are on a diet).

I can tell you that 2009 has been the toughest year for funds for mission work. Our budget for 2010 is slimmer than it has been in many a year. Giving has diminished and costs have risen. We have economized in every way we can to keep all aspects of our eight areas of work going in Latin America. BUT, we still need help.

Recently we initiated what we call the "Skip a Meal – Save a Soul" fund raising campaign. Its design is to make a plea to individuals who are willing to make a "sacrifice" in order to continue saving souls in Latin America. We may not have as much discretionary funds as we did before, but we are still eating regularly and our waist lines show it.

Jesus said, "For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matthew 16:26 NKJV) Our soul is our most valuable possession. God gave it to us, and it will return to Him after this life is over; "Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, And the spirit will return to God who gave it." (Ecclesiastes 12:7 NKJV) The Lord has constantly pointed out the great need of man to carefully handle his soul more so than our physical body. If you knew that someone's soul would be saved if you would forgo just one meal a month, would you do it? In a 30 day period of time most will eat 90 meals. Would we be willing to just eat 89 meals and then give the cost of the 90th meal so someone might go to eternity prepared to meet God? That is exactly what we are encouraging YOU to do. Not only will it be a great spiritual blessing, it probably wouldn't hurt our physical body to do so, and we might lose those "love handles" we have wanted to take off.

NOW, more than EVER, precious souls are in the balance. We MUST not slack off, but continue to go after every precious soul that we can to see that they have a chance to know the Savior.

Why not make a commitment TODAY to help in this very simple but effective project? - Jack Farber

Would we be willing to eat
89 meals and then give the
cost of the 90th meal so
someone might go to
eternity prepared to meet
God?



CHILE EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

The Forgotten Disaster

Chile is crying out for help, but their suffering cries are not being heard. The Forrest Park elders have made a commitment to heed the cries for help and go to their aid.

On February 27th, an earthquake measuring 8.8 on the Richter Scale struck the country of Chile with the epicenter about 65 miles NNE of Concepcion. The destruction of property and devastation to the lives of the people there is much greater than the news outlets have reported. This certainly is fast becoming the "Forgotten Disaster".

Concepción is a city in Chile, capital of Concepción Province and of the Biobío Region or Region VIII. Greater Concepción (*Gran Concepción*, including Talcahuano, San Pedro de la Paz, Hualpén, Chiguayante, Penco, Tomé, Lota, Coronel, Hualqui and Concepción) is the second-largest metropolitan area in the country, with 1,322,581 inhabitants.

We made initial contact several weeks ago with Eugenio Palma, a local Chilean preacher, and then later on with Harry Hamilton, a US Missionary in Santiago.



Members of the churches in Santiago with Harry & Eugenio

Ray Joyner, an elder at Forrest Park, and Jack Farber, one of our missionaries, traveled to Santiago and arrived there Monday, March 15th. Harry and a group of preachers there were of immense help to our survey and benevolence trip.

On Tuesday, we left with Ivanna Penalillo, a native of this area serving as our guide, and traveled to Concepcion. We met with the Chiguanyante, and Coronel & Lota congregations where we delivered one hundred benevolent boxes, each containing one-week's worth of food and other items for a family of four.



The Chiguanyante Church

While in Lota, we met with the Mayor's office and was shown a horrific part of the town. It was here we saw 250 family's homes totally destroyed.

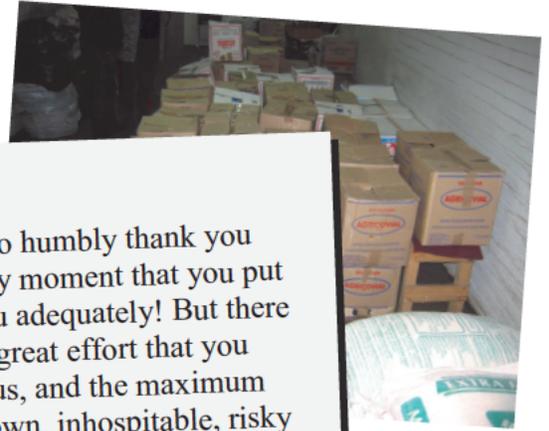
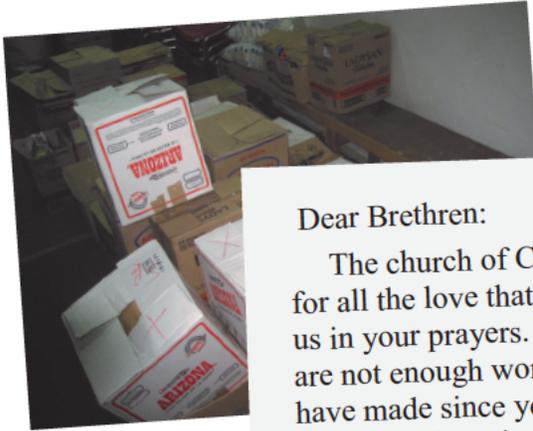
The little barrios of New August and La Vega have not received any help and are without food, shelter and the many other necessities of life.

Our visit represented Phase One of a **Three-Phase Plan**. We made a commitment to work with the Coronel & Lota congregation through Sergio Villa, a leader in the church there.



The Congregation at Coronel and Lota

A Note from the Church at Coronel and Lota



Dear Brethren:

The church of Christ of Coronel and Lota wants to humbly thank you for all the love that you have expressed from the very moment that you put us in your prayers. How we would want to thank you adequately! But there are not enough words in the world to express it; the great effort that you have made since you conceived the idea of helping us, and the maximum sacrifice of coming here, for many people, an unknown, inhospitable, risky place, after the event that shook us in the early morning of this past February 27; and also for all the donations. Those of us who had not been able to shed tears yet, did it when we saw your great sacrifice and effort; it touched our hearts.

The suffering that we have lived through has found great comfort in your hearts, when we realize that we are not alone in this world, when we see that the Lord has given us so many brethren, about whom we had only heard, but that most of us had never met. The suffering has been a link to make our fellowship much more personal, for the brethren of the church in Chile and the world. We know that behind those brethren who came to see us, there are hundreds more whom we gratefully salute. We wish you richest blessings.

It is our wish that one day we will get together to celebrate a get together where there will be no lamentations for the damage and tragedies, but that will be in worship to Our Lord, and to personally, tell you of our gratitude.

May the Lord Jesus bless you greatly in the company of your families.

Yours,

The church of Christ of Coronel and Lota



The church at Coronel and Lota has nearly 30 members in a community with a population of over 150 thousand.

There are only 32 congregations with approximately 850 members in all of Chile--a country of over 16 million people.

The impact we can and will have in this area creates GREAT possibilities for the Lord and His church.



Phase two is in preparation right now getting ready a 40-foot container. As of this writing, we have fourteen pallets out of twenty-four needed to fill the container. We are praying to have the container filled and shipped by the end of April. It is destined to be delivered directly to the Mayor's office in Lota with help from Sergio Villa. The church at Cornel and Lota will distribute the items to the people of New August and La Vega barrios (housing areas).

Lota is one of the poorest cities in Chile. It has a population of 49,089. Upper Lota, with 25,000 residents, was the hardest hit area of the earthquake. There are only three doctors in this area to care for them. The two housing areas we are targeting are the poorest in this community.

Winter is coming soon to Chile. Temperatures range in the mid thirties for the lows and mid fifties for highs. Winter also means the rainy season with the average rainfall amounts over eight inches a month.

We were given a list of items most needed at this time:

- ✓ Blankets
- ✓ Tents
- ✓ Rolls of plastic
- ✓ Luggage
- ✓ Warm winter clothing for all ages
- ✓ Diapers for children and adults

If you have items to donate, please pack them up and get them to us as soon as possible.

We also are in desperate need for funds to purchase some of the above items for Chile. Again, we are sending out this plea for the church and other people in the Lota area. **THEY CAN SURE USE YOUR HELP!**



The Lota area was the hardest hit in all of Chile and yet it has received the least amount of aid.

Water

Water is delivered every two days to the Lota area. People wait in long lines, bringing whatever container for their family.

Phase Three

Phase three will be the sending of our Relief team which will consist of the following:

Medical Team (doctors, dentists, pharmacists, nurses, and other medical and non-medical personal) to conduct a 5 day clinic in Lota where we will offer a general clinic with medicine for approximately 2000 patients. We must purchase all the medicines and supplies in-country for this team.

Benevolence Team - consisting of personal who will work to distribute food, clothing and other necessities to the barrios of New August and La Vega.

Construction Team - About 10 to 15 men to build temporary structures, Garages, for the people of New August and La Vega until the government can provide them with a small living facility. These temporary structures are approximately 15 X 15 feet in size and provides a family of five with four walls and a roof--keeping them out of the cold and rainy weather. Also needed for this team are the necessary tools, electric generators, etc.

Evangelistic Team - Evangelistic-minded members partnered with translators to minister to the spiritual needs of that community by conducting Bible Studies and other outreach endeavors.

Second Container - We will prepare a second container to coincide with our arrival in Chile with the Relief team. It will contain necessary items for our work in the barrios of New August and La Vega. This container will be sent in May to have it in place for the Relief team members to use when they arrive in June. Right now, the government of Chile has suspended the customs fees on containers due to this disaster. We need pretty much the same items in this container as the first, plus the equipment for all the teams and Bible study literature.

PLEASE HELP US HELP THE PEOPLE OF CHILE!

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

1. Send MONEY!!!
 - We will need to pay for the containers that we ship down
 - Buy other necessary things to go on the containers
 - Purchase medicine and medical supplies
 - Obtain construction materials for MANY “Garages” (Cost is \$400.00 each).
2. Come and participate on the campaign. We need workers on all four team areas. The campaign is on the calendar for May 28th through June 5th.
3. Pray for the results

After the campaign, continued support will be needed to care for the new Christians.

There is much to do and we need your help. Please contact us to find out more about how you can be a part of the cure for the “Forgotten Disaster”.

2009 Bible School of the Americas Graduation



In December 2009 I was afforded the privilege and opportunity to represent the Forrest Park Church of Christ elders at the San Blas Islands and Panama City campuses of the Bible School of the Americas graduation exercises. Two elders and their wives, Fred Porter and Charles Wortman, from Graymere Church of Christ in Columbia, Tennessee were also present and took part at the graduation in Panama City. We appreciate the Graymere congregation so much, as well as all others who are workers together with the Lord in Latin America.

Since I am one of the newly appointed elders at Forrest Park (Donnie Swilley is the other), this was my first trip to graduation, although I have been involved with Latin American Missions since my family and I moved to Valdosta in 1987. I have been a pharmacist since 1966, and served as a pharmacist on many mobile medical missions during the 1980's and 1990's. My wife of more years than she would allow me to print is named Margaret, and we have one son Glynn who is a graduate of

Freed-Hardeman University, and married to a graduate of FHU, the former Brandy McAlister. They have two fine sons, Harriston and Easton.

The San Blas campus graduated five preachers and Panama City graduated seven. The ceremonies were well organized and very well attended, with a very large audience in the city. I made a few brief comments at both exercises, and was privileged to give diplomas to the graduating students. The teachers and the support staff at both campuses continue to do an excellent job. Jack Farber and others here in Valdosta work tirelessly for the Lord, and love the work. I love it too! Training men in their own native language to be faithful Gospel preachers is one of the best works I know of in the churches of Christ today. Consider the importance of what Paul, as a preacher, was accomplishing in Acts 19:8. Romans chapter 10 also speaks to the necessity of having trained preachers "... And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? . . ."

There are many opportunities to train even more preachers, but there must be financial support in place for these students in order for these opportunities to be realized. I wonder if each one of us could skip one meal a week, and give the dollars from that skipped meal to



support a student? It's a very small sacrifice on our part, but every dollar counts, and look at the greater good that can be done for the cause of Christ in Latin America by training more preachers. The more Seed sown, the greater the harvest. I am making a personal commitment to the Lord to skip one meal a week, and give those dollars for preacher training, in addition to what we are already giving.

Will you join me?

Doug Jones



2009 Bible School of the Americas Graduates

Jamie Aguilar ~ Silico Creek, Panama

Francisco & Salvadora Polanco ~ Managua, Nicaragua

Domitilio Fernandez ~ Tupile, San Blas

Fernando Rodriguez ~ Villa Maria, Peru

Luis & Isabel Martinez ~ Gatuncillo, Panama

Robert Canaquin ~ Bagazan, Peru

Arquimedes Aguilar ~ David, Panama

Ezequiel Bill ~ Acuatupu, San Blas

Franco & Cheryl Jimenez ~ Bocas del Toro, Panama

Alejandro Manrique ~ Los Rosales, Peru

José Figueroa Arcia ~ Wichub Huala, San Blas

Hilario & Claudia Ortega ~ Panama City, Panama

Lazaro Orihuela ~ Los Rosales, Peru

Darvin & Lily Alvarez ~ Guatemala City, Guatemala

Patricio Urriola ~ Wichub Huala, San Blas

Vanessa Villagra ~ Alajuela, Costa Rica (she is the wife of Francisco Gonzalez, a teacher in the Bible School in Panama)

Bartolome Trujillo ~ Huari, Peru

Quibiar Morales ~ Wichub Huala, San Blas

Pedro Garcia ~ San Juan de Miraflores, Peru

Lionel and Marta Move to Texas

Lionel and Marta Cortez have been involved with the work of Latin American Missions since 1997. They became involved while living in Texas, then moved to Valdosta where they have spent the last eleven years. While here, Lionel faithfully served in several roles: director of the Bible School of the Americas, translator of tracts, etc., and the Gospel Advocate Commentaries into Spanish, and a writer for and editor of *El Expositor Espiritual*. Concerning the commentaries, he has completed the translations of Matthew, Luke, Acts, Romans, I Corinthians, James, the General Epistles, and recently John as well as a book of sermon outlines. Brother Lionel's work has involved much travel, stress, and joy. He has been and continues to be a source of great encouragement to the brethren throughout Latin America.

Since 2000, Marta has worked in the office translating reports from the preachers and workers in Latin America and sharing them with their supporters in the United States. She has assisted in updating the distribution list and mailing *El Expositor Espiritual* to individuals and congregations throughout the world.

Last year Lionel and Marta had several new additions to their family. In January, they received a double blessing of twin granddaughters! They were blessed again with a grandson in the fall of 2009! The granddaughters live in San Antonio, TX and the grandson lives in Denver, CO. Thus, Lionel and Marta prayerfully decided to move closer to their grandchildren (they will enjoy being closer to their daughters as well). Their son and daughter-in-law live in Alabama but they plan to visit them often.

We bid them God-speed as they step forth to a new stage in their lives. They are looking forward to worshipping with, teaching Bible classes, and being a source of encouragement to area Spanish-speaking congregations. They have given much and are blessed to have much left to give.

We are thankful that Lionel will continue translating the commentaries and editing *El Expositor Espiritual*.



The Growing Church



The Lord's People in Silico Creek in the Bocas del Toro region of Panama had a need to expand their meeting place. So, they contributed and saved \$7,000.00 and are now enjoying the camaraderie of working and building together. This is an inspiration to us and other congregations. **The church is maturing!**



Honors and Memorials from May 2009 to January 2010

Honor

J.C. & Ann Watkins
M/M Roger Leonard

Memory

Ashley Allbritton
M/M Paul Swanson

Charles Anderson
M/M Paul Swanson

Carolyn Barron
M/M Bill Ward
M/M Paul Swanson

Bruce Barwick
M/M Gayle Koenig
M/M Bill Ward
M/M Paul Swanson
Ann Hall

Ruth Crosby
M/M Bill Ward
M/M Paul Swanson

Ernest Black
M/M Bill Ward

Ray Black
M/M Paul Swanson

Frances Brown
M/M Paul Swanson
M/M Bill Ward

Mary Ann Reiter
M/M Paul Swanson

Margaret Brown
M/M Bill Ward
M/M Paul Swanson

Larry Callaway
M/M Bill Ward

Myrtle Sikes
M/M Paul Swanson
M/M Bill Ward

Bo Carroll
M/M Paul Swanson
Sky & Annie Hardin

Myron Carter
M/M Bill Ward
M/M Paul Swanson

Gabriel Cecil
M/M Paul Swanson

Virginia Cochran
M/M Paul Swanson
Sky & Annie Hardin
M/M Bill Ward
Barbara Cozart
Arnold & Brenda Ivey
Colin & Brenda DeLoach
Doris Englund
Douglas & Margaret Jones
Lola Landrum
M/M Robert Lester, Jr.
M/M Jim McLaughlin
M/M Elbert Robinson
M/M Roger Steis
Bubba & Charlotte Thomas
Blanton & Griffin Insurance
M/M Benjamin Blanton

Ashley Copeland
M/M Paul Swanson

Don Crum
M/M Paul Swanson

Danielle & Willie
M/M Paul Swanson

Nellie Dasher
M/M Paul Swanson
M/M Bill Ward

Tom McDonald
M/M Bill Ward
M/M Paul Swanson

Ollie Daugherty
Ann Hall

Contantia Davis
M/M Bill Ward
M/M Paul Swanson

George Delanio, Jr
Sky & Annie Hardin

Ada Jackson
M/M Bill Ward

Madge Doran
Jeffrey & Jeanie Wells

Ronald Drake
Ann Drake

Frank Exum
M/M Paul Swanson

Billie Alberta Farber
Plainview C/C
M/M Bill Ward
Mayfair C/C
Ann Hall
M/M Elwood Starling
Elizabeth McCutcheon
M/M Charles Smith, Jr
M/M Colin DeLoach
M/M Douglas Jones
M/M Paul Swanson
M/M Gene Benner
M/M Bill Staggs
Forrest Park C/C

Shirley Grace
Ann Hall

Sarah Rubye Hagan
M/M Paul Swanson

Dennis Harris
Amelia Armstrong

Jerry Hart
M/M Paul Swanson
Sky & Annie Hardin
M/M Bill Ward

Ruth Hayes
M/M Paul Swanson

Alex Hurst
M/M Paul Swanson

Mercy
M/M Paul Swanson

Mary Ingerson
M/M Bill Ward
M/M Paul Swanson
M/M Melvin Jones
Marilyn Hestle

Judy Ann Ives
M/M Paul Swanson

Shirley Ivey
Sky & Annie Hardin

Troy Jackson, Jr.
M/M Paul Swanson

Ella Jenkins
M/M Paul Swanson

Mike Jones
Ann Hall

Rachel Kersey
Jimmy & Julie Lott

Sandra Dasher
M/M Bill Ward
M/M Paul Swanson

Ray King
Ms. Ray King

Jessie Kinsey
M/M Paul Swanson

Jane Kissinger
M/M Paul Swanson

Sue Knighton
Rosie Howton

Mayfield Delk
M/M Tony Sowell

Frances Lochaby
M/M Bill Ward
M/M Paul Swanson

Janice Maynord
M/M Bill Ward

Nettie Bell Moore
M/M Paul Swanson

Al Murray
Andrea McAllister

Charles O'Neal
Ann Hall

John Padgett
M/M Bill Ward
M/M Robert Lester, Jr.
M/M Douglas Jones
M/M Paul Swanson

John Clifton
M/M Robert Lester, Jr

Richard Parham
M/M Bill Ward
M/M Paul Swanson

Leota Greenleaf
Melba Simons

Elmer Parker
M/M Paul Swanson
M/M Bill Ward

Lupe Phipps
Tony Martinez

Leon Pierce
M/M Paul Swanson

Charles Poor
Forrest Park C/C
M/M Paul Swanson
M/M Bill Ward

Jane Yale
M/M Bill Ward
M/M Paul Swanson

Ronnie Porter
Jeffrey & Jeanie Wells

Howell Reeves
M/M Paul Swanson

Willie Roberson
M/M Paul Swanson

Kathy Roberts
M/M Paul Swanson

Bill Rodgers
M/M Bill Ward
M/M Paul Swanson
M/M Doug Daugherty
M/M Colin DeLoach
Ann Hall
M/M Douglas Jones

Marilyn Sanchez
Paul Sanchez

Tom Selhost
Forrest Park C/C
M/M Paul Swanson
M/M Bill Ward

James Shanks
M/M Paul Swanson

Jessie Brown
M/M Paul Swanson

David Shockley
M/M Robert Lester, Jr.
Forrest Park C/C
M/M Doug Jones
M/M Bill Ward
M/M Paul Swanson

Wynell Showers
M/M Paul Swanson

Carolyn Sisk
Jimmy & Julie Lott

Becky Southworth
M/M Bill Ward
M/M Paul Swanson

Nancy Cargile
M/M Bill Ward
M/M Paul Swanson

Emey Swilley
M/M Bill Ward
M/M Paul Swanson

Shirley Thomas
M/M Paul Swanson

Betty Upton
M/M Paul Swanson

Brittany Wade
M/M Paul Swanson

Minnie Wafford
M/M Jerry Griffin

Ethel Walden
M/M Paul Swanson

Charles J. Wells
Jeffrey & Jeanie Wells

W.J. White
M/M Paul Swanson

Charles Williams
M/M Paul Swanson

"Man" Williams
M/M Paul Swanson

Servants of the Lord in Need

NEEDS MET SINCE PRIOR NEWSLETTER

Olvan Diaz—partially	Evers Gallo, Jr.
Cristhian Gutierrez	Guillermo Hernandez
Mario Mendieta	Reyes Moran
Francisco Polanco—partially	Juan Nima
Carlos Ramirez—partially	Jose Rodriguez

El Salvador

Enrique Rodriguez and his wife, Issis, work with the church in Toncatepeque. They live above where the church meets. Though the church is thriving, they do not have the resources to pay monthly rent on the building. They need \$200.00 monthly to pay the rent on the church building and their home. *DH*



Honduras



Olvan Diaz and his wife work with the church in Villanueva Cortez. Part of their need was met since the last newsletter but they still need \$100.00 monthly. *DH*

Antonio Pineda and his wife, Ana, labor with the Lord's People in Sartenejas. They need \$40.00 a month or a one-time donation of \$480.00. *DH*



Carlos Ramirez with his wife and three children work with the church in Marcovia. Most of their need has been met but they are still in need of \$50.00 monthly (or one-time of \$600.00). *DH*

Elias Roque, Sr. and his wife, Ruth, have four children at home. They work with congregations in Tegucigalpa and La Cañada. Elias leads an evangelistic radio program, "Heralds of Truth." He and Ruth helped to get the container into Honduras and the supplies and food into the hands of those in need. They are hard workers and need \$95.00/mo. *DH*



Rufino Sanchez preaches for the church in Teupasente. He is married and has four children. They continue to be in need of \$325.00 monthly. *DH*



Nicaragua

Marvin Calero and his wife work with the Lord's People in El Crucero. They are in need of \$50.00/month or one-time for the year of \$600.00. *RL*

Roberto Martinez is married and has one child. He works with the church in La Esperanza and is in need of \$300.00 monthly. *RL*

Benito Medina and his wife labor with the Lord's Church in Chichigalpa. They have one child. This family is in need of \$25.00 monthly or a one-time contribution of \$300.00. *RL*



Marcos Pantoja, his wife, and five grown children serve our Lord and His church faithfully. He and his wife recently relocated to the port city of Corinto in order to fill a void left in that congregation from a preacher who moved. They are doing a good work with this congregation and are in need of \$150.00 a month. *RL*

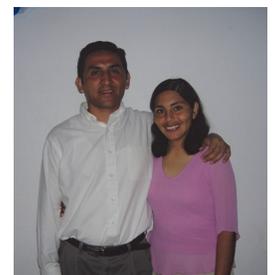
Francisco Polanco graduated from the Bible School of the Americas in December. Upon returning to Nicaragua, he immediately began preaching and teaching again. This man and his wife love the Lord and love teaching and serving. Part of their need has been fulfilled but they lack \$100.00 a month. *RL*



Manuel Sosa preaches for the church in Cuajiniquil. He is married and has two daughters. He has lost \$150.00 a month and may lose \$75.00 more, leaving him with only \$25.00 a month to support his family as he continues working for the Lord. *RL*

Peru

Ruben Chacon and his wife, Norma, labor with the Lord's People in the desert region of Ica. They graduated from the Bible School in Panama in 2006. Ruben and Norma steadfastly serve the Savior in Ica and are in need of \$400.00 a month. *JW*



We can't out-give our God...

“Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this,” Says the Lord of hosts, “If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it.” (Malachi 3:10)

Panama

Roberto Abregos and his wife have been serving the Lord in Cerro Vaca for the past nine years. They are in need of \$155.00/month. *RL*



José Blandford and his wife, Melva, work diligently with the Lord's church in Bugava. They have four children and teach many others in Bible classes. They are in need of \$44.00 a month or a one-time contribution of \$528.00. *RL*

Anibal Cedeño and his wife, Nely, are the houseparents for the Children's Home and he regularly preaches and assists with the Mañanitas congregation on campus. Anibal is passionate about teaching the Truth and truly loves the children. He needs \$100.00 a month. *DH*



Alicio Ellington is married and has eight children. He works with the church in San Felix in the province of Chiriqui. He is in need of \$100.00 per month. *RL*

Rubén Gallego preaches for the Lord's church in Valle Risco in the region of Bocas del Toro. He and Florentina, his wife, have three children and are in need of \$150.00 monthly. *RL*



Eugenio Racine preaches for the church in Bella Vista in Bocas del Toro. He is married and has one child. They are in need of \$25.00 a month or a one-time contribution of only \$300.00. *RL*

Esteban Rodriguez has taught in the Bible School of the Americas for nearly 25 years and has preached for the congregation in Mañanitas Afuera for about 15 years. He and his wife, Edilma, have three sons. Esteban and Edilma are very involved in the work of the Bible School and the church and they love serving the Lord. They need \$225.00 monthly. *JF*



Rigoberto Rodriguez teaches in the Bible School of the Americas and assists with the Mañanitas congregation. He is married and has two daughters. He and Eloisa work diligently with the students and the church and are eager to serve in whatever capacity needed. They need \$110.00 monthly. *JF*

Agenor Rudas is an instructor for the Bible School, legal representative for the Children's Home, and one of the evangelists for the church in Vista Hermosa. He is extremely diligently and passionate in his service to the Lord and needs \$467.50/month. *JF* or *ELD*



Pablo Sanchez and his wife work with the church in Barriada Don Bosco. He is in need of \$50.00 a month or a one-time donation of \$600.00.

Colombia



Fernando Ospina serves as a teacher for the Bible School of the Americas as well as the contact man in Colombia. He, Marta, and their three children live in Medellin. They need \$200.00 monthly. *LMC* or *JF*

Elkis Valenzuela continues to be in great need of support as he serves our Lord and His People in Sincelejo. Elkis and his wife need \$350.00 monthly. *LMC*

Gustavo Vasquez teaches in the Bible School of the Americas. He is married and has two children. He needs \$450.00 per month. *JF*

More information may be desired about these men and their work. Initials indicate staff members who can help. Contact us with any questions!

LMC - Lionel Cortez

JF - Jack Farber

DH - Dave Huffnan

RL - Roger Leonard

JW - Jonathan Winchester

ELD - Elders

See back page for phone numbers.

ELDERS

Don Garner, Doug Jones, Ray Joyner,
Robert McLeod, Donnie Swilley

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“Now it shall come to pass in the latter days *That* the mountain of the Lord’s house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And all nations shall flow into it.” - Isaiah 2:2

Welcome New LAM Staff Member

Phil Randolph grew up in Chattanooga, TN. His father was a gospel preacher and served as an elder. His mother is a sister to Roger Leonard’s dad, thus he and Roger are first cousins.

Phil has a degree in Mass Communications from Freed-Hardeman College. He married Kay Keene in 1978, and they have one son, Matt, born in 1987.

Phil worked for 25+ years in radio broadcasting in the Chattanooga and Nashville markets. He was an announcer, news reporter/anchor, program director and general manager.

He served as a Deacon and Education Director at Minerva Drive church of Christ in Murfreesboro from 1986-2002, associate Minister at Meads Chapel in Nashville from 2002-2006, and as the Associate Minister at Highland Heights in Lebanon, TN from 2006 to the present.

He has been the Curricula Coordinator of the Middle TN School of Preaching and Biblical Studies from 2002 to the present. He is a song leader and started preaching in 2000.

Phil made his first foreign mission trip to Honduras in 2009 and got the “bug”! He is making the trip to El Salvador in March of this year to get his feet a little wetter. For the present he and Kay will live in Murfreesboro and Phil will work from there, making contacts and raising funds. We welcome him to the LAM staff!



Where You Can Help!

- General Fund (placed where needed most)
- Bible School of the Americas
- Preacher in Need. Please write in name:

- Printing Ministry
- Benevolence / Relief
- Children of the Americas

My donation is a One time gift or Monthly commitment of : \$ _____.

Memory of: _____

Honor of: _____

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Name: _____

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