

LAM

LATIN
AMERICAN
MISSIONS
NEWSLETTER
SPRING 2022



BSA GRADUATION 2021

2021 LAM Financial Report

Check out the Net Income and Losses for last year

Tribute to Jack and Nancy Farber

A lifetime of proclaiming the Gospel among the nations

2021 BSA Graduation

Saluting our seven graduates and their families

Spread Your Wings and Fly, Graduates!

A personal look at Graduation time on the BSA campus

2022 Future Ministers Training Camp

Every January the BSA instructors work with young men



LatinAmericanMissions.org

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LATIN AMERICAN MISSIONS

CONTACT US:

(229) 242-1069

LAM@ForrestPark.org

STAFF:

Kirk Brothers

Cell: (731) 435-0026

John Farber

Cell: (904) 955-8680

Frank Williams

Cell: (731) 803-0831

Donna Swilley

Office Ext. 3

Rosalina Brathwaite

Office Ext. 2

UNDER THE OVERSIGHT OF THE ELDERS AT FORREST PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST:

Doug Daugherty, Don Garner, Travis Lewis, Robert McLeod, Donnie Swilley,
Donnie Wisenbaker

WHY WE SERVE:

"For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." 2 Corinthians 4:5-6

HOW WE SERVE:

Evangelistic Campaigns, Mobile Medical Missions, Benevolence, Native Preacher Training/
Support, Print Ministry, Construction, Disaster Relief

WHERE WE SERVE:

Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Perú, Panamá

WEBSITE: LatinAmericanMissions.org

GOD'S EMISSARIES



Agenor Rudas ~ Director, Bible School of the Americas, Panama

The prophet Isaiah wrote about the feet of those who announce the good news. There is no doubt that we can apply these words to our Gospel preachers, but it is also important to note that behind every preacher, there is a great story. One can learn all these stories from all the men who arrive at the Bible School of the Americas and bring their families with them.

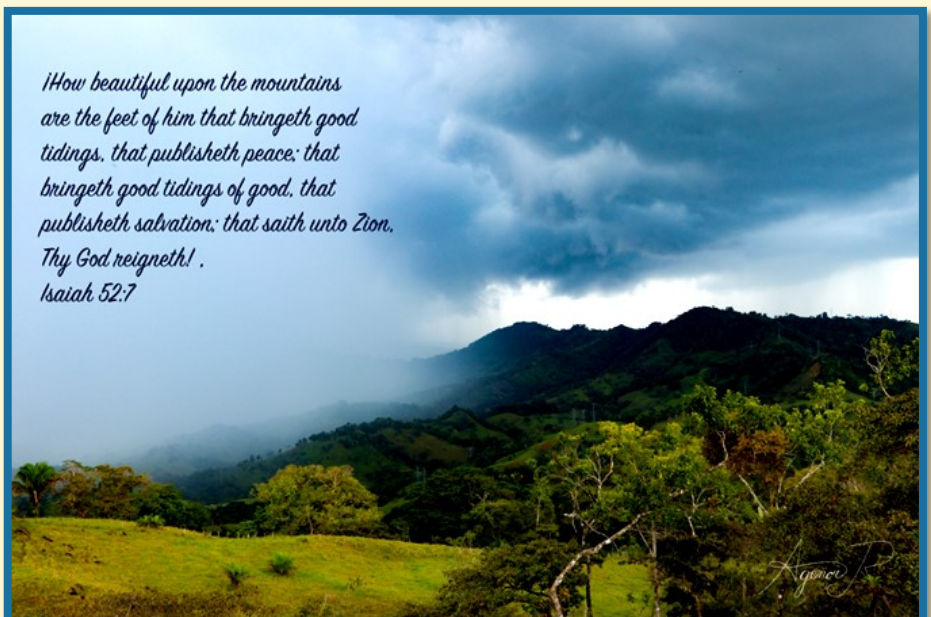
An arrival to the school in Panama begins with a fervent desire to be trained in deep learning of the Bible. But, converting that desire into reality is a path with many obstacles. It is choosing to leave the comfort of your native home and travel to an unfamiliar place, which means overcoming the fear that takes us when traveling to unknown locations which we are not yet familiar. It means leaving the job that sustains our family while knowing that in our countries a job is more and more difficult to find. It means convincing a wife and children that the decision is the right path to follow. It means having the children change schools with all the paperwork involved in each country. The uncertainty of being able to find another job when returning home after two years of Bible training because adequate financial support to preach the Gospel is rare. The fear of going back to methods to study almost forgotten to succeed in the Bible classes. It means leaving your extended family, your congregation, your community and so many things

that one treasures as the years go by.

However, all this is done to fulfill the desire of becoming an EMISSARY of GOD to preach the Gospel of salvation to lost souls. No wonder Abraham's decision is praised when he leaves his home and relatives without knowing where he would go, but with the firm conviction of being led by God.

These men and women who decide to go to the Bible School of the Americas and study for two years are deserving of our admiration, respect, and support in time and finances. They are heroes, but not of the kind that wears a cape and flies in the comic books. Rather, they are true heroes who overcome obstacles to collaborate in transcendental actions that help lost souls to come from darkness into the light of eternity. There is no doubt ... *"How beautiful are the feet of those who announce the good news of SALVATION!"*

*How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of him that bringeth good
tidings, that publisheth peace; that
bringeth good tidings of good, that
publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion,
Thy God reigneth! .
Isaiah 52:7*





Latin American Missions 2021 Financial Report

Donna Swilley, Bookkeeper for LAM



“Sending Forth the Word”

BIBLE SCHOOL OF AMERICAS:

2021 Income:	\$478,954.76
2021 Expenses:	<u>\$359,483.64</u>
Net Income/Loss:	\$119,471.12

BSA Graduates: 7

BSA students promoted to 2nd year: 8

BSA students accepted for 2022: 10

LAM GENERAL FUND:

2021 Income:	\$106,369.54
2021 Expenses:	<u>\$119,386.89</u>
Net Income/Loss:	\$(13,017.35)

CHILDREN’S HOME OF AMERICAS:

(closed in May 2021)

2021 Income:	\$113,075.29
2021 Expenses:	<u>\$ 93,299.61</u>
Net Income/Loss:	\$ 19,775.68

PREACHER AND CONGREGATIONAL NEEDS MET:

Preachers supported: 86

Salaries:

Panama	\$146,357.98
Costa Rica	\$ 86,971.97
Honduras	\$108,174.30
Nicaragua	\$103,496.04
Peru	\$ 49,454.96
Colombia	\$ 19,200.00
El Salvador	\$ 67,249.00
Chile	<u>\$ 4,800.00</u>
Total salaries met:	\$585,704.25

Rents:

Total rents met for ALL countries:
\$25,987.00

Benevolent needs met: \$166,561.29

THANK YOU! Latin American Missions could not exist without the love and support of the brethren across the globe. While this work comes forth from the Forrest Park Church of Christ, in reality, it comes forth from the hearts of all of YOU, likeminded Christians seeking to save the lost, serve the brethren, and provide for the children in need. Our prayer is that all the Glory will go to GOD, and we may continue to glorify him for years to come!

“One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want. Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered.”

Proverbs 11:24-25



A Final Tribute to **Jack and Nancy!**

Jack “Panama Jack” Farber

Because of health reasons Jack submitted his resignation from Latin American Mission to the Forrest Park Eldership on June 21, 2021 effective December 31, 2021. He and Nancy moved to Jacksonville, FL to be closer to their son, John. This brought to an end a forty-four year of full-time commitment with Latin American Missions.

Jack and Nancy began their work in Panama and Latin America in 1977 while working with Bob Bryson under the oversight of the Lincoln Church of Christ in Huntsville, AL. During this time Jack and Nancy were involved in numerous campaigns in Panama. In May 1982 the Forrest Park Eldership in Valdosta, GA resumed the oversight of the Pan-American Bible School. That same year, while working with Bob Bryson under the oversight of the Forrest Park Eldership, Jack and Nancy moved to Panama to work full time with the school. In January 1983 the Eldership appointed Jack and Julio Cruz as co-directors of the Pan-American Bible School.

After three years in Panama, Jack and Nancy made the decision to move back to the U.S. In August 1985 Jack, Nancy, Jack David, and John Alan placed their membership with the Forrest Park Church in Valdosta, GA. Jack continued to work closely with Bob Bryson in our efforts to expand the work through the cooperation of the many churches of Christ that had become partners in this work. Jack wrote the following in a 1986 Forrest Park bulletin in response to the question, “*Why Panama?*”

“The easiest, and yet the most important, reason is because Jesus said, ‘Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the



Robert McLeod, Valdosta, GA

name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost.” (Matthew 28:19) I went to Panama for the first time in 1977. I did not know what to expect; but once I got back, I knew that I would have to return. I had gotten a taste of what the Apostle Paul must have experienced. We had just planted a church in a location where there had never been one before. There was something special about the people and their hunger for the truth. Since that first encounter, all my other contacts in Panama have been the same. Latin America is a part of this world that is hungry for the truth. I believe with all my heart that Panama is the ripest field in all the world. With its influence throughout Central and South America, Panama truly serves as a location from which the Gospel can be spread to all of Latin America.”

The graduate preachers of the school have always been a key element of planting churches through our evangelistic and medical campaigns. As co-director of the now Bible School of the Americas, Jack led in these efforts. In the beginning the name “Panama Jack” was truly fitting for Jack Farber, and maybe “Latin America Jack” would be more fitting today. Jack has served the Lord faithfully taking the Gospel of Jesus Christ to almost every corner of Central and South America. Even though Jack and Nancy are currently living in Jacksonville, they will always be a part of the Forrest Park Church of Christ Family.

For the Eldership

Forrest Park Church of Christ
Valdosta, Georgia



A Lifetime

Jack Farber Retires from

"He always directed us back to the Scriptures on decisions that impacted someone's salvation." ~Buddy Pickler

I met Jack in 2000 on a campaign for the community around the Bible School of the Americas. Shortly after, Bill Staggs told Jack that the Mt. Juliet elders were looking for a location in which to concentrate their work. Just six months later a devastating earthquake hit in El Salvador. LAM was not doing work in that country, and Jack went there to scout things out. That began a 20 year effort by LAM, Mt. Juliet, and Jack. Jack recruited and led numerous medical and evangelistic teams. He recruited men and families, young and old, to attend BSAM and then return to El Salvador to preach and work for the Lord. Over the next two decades I had the privilege of working with Jack during these campaigns.

Panama Jack was a 'big teddy bear' of a man with a great smile and great laugh. He loved to sing, particularly at 6 AM, *"Good Morning, Good Morning, It is time to..."* and wake up the teams. It was such a joy to see him greet the brothers and sisters when they arrived for the campaigns with big smiles and big hugs all around.

Use of the Lord's money was paramount with Jack. On our first campaign the team was on the bus ready to leave camp and head back to the hotel for the last night. We spotted a little old lady carrying an empty plastic oil drum on her back. Team funds had been used to pay a deposit on that drum. Jack was off to retrieve the drum. He always made sure that any funds donated for the work were used in the most effective way possible. Jack's excellent knowledge of the Scriptures was extensive. He always directed us back to the Scriptures on any decisions that impacted someone's salvation. Jack loves the Lord, His Church, and His people, and that permeates everything he does.



*"Oh, sing to the LORD a new song! Sing to the LORD
Proclaim the good news of His
Declare His glory among the nations, His*

of Service

Latin American Missions

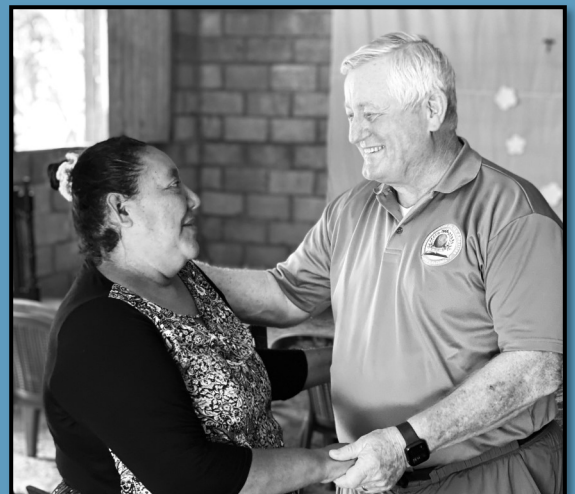
*"Sought the best of me and the Church,
always seeking to please Jesus Christ."*

~Johnnie LeMaster, Paintsville Church of Christ~

It was Spring Training 1979. I was in camp with the San Francisco Giants in Casa Grande, Arizona. Jack Farber, a youth minister at that time, encouraged me to speak to the youth group. I was a seasoned baseball player but an unpolished, rough, public speaker with limited Bible knowledge. He helped me, encouraged me, and made me feel I did some good.

Jack moved from Arizona and became involved with Latin American Missions. He would from time to time ask me to go with him on a mission trip. His constant plea for me to get involved, personally, finally resonated in 2002. It took twenty-three years of consistent gentle nudging from his first plea to get me involved again. I had grown in the Word, retired from baseball, and was serving as an elder. Jack had me go to Panama with him and do a baseball clinic with devotionals before, during, and afterwards. I was a one man band. He worked me, pushed me out of my comfort zone, and caused a love reaction for mission work in myself. I have gone to Panama, Peru, India, Greece, and Africa. I owe a deep debt of gratitude to Jack Farber for his not giving up on me and lighting the passion of spreading the gospel. He helped me be a better man and ambassador for Christ and the Church.

Having conducted himself in the highest standards of Christian living, Jack Farber served without watching the clock and an unlimited job description. He was a man you could have full confidence in to complete the mission. I've been blessed to know him, be loved by him, and have a loyal friend who always sought the best out of me and the best for the Church, always seeking to please Jesus Christ.



*, all the earth. Sing to the LORD, bless His name;
His salvation from day to day.
His wonders among all peoples." Psalm 96:1-3*



Bryan Sanchez
San Marcos Congregation
Jinotepe, Nicaragua

Saturday, Dec



Eacnoli Soto
La Cauchera de Escobal
Congregation
Colon, Panama

20

BS



**Jonatan Obed, Perla,
& Jason Aguilar**
Ocosingo Congregation
Chiapas, Mexico



GRADU



December 6, 2021

2021

SA

GRADUATION



Roger & Olga González
Caucacia Congregation
Antioquia, Colombia



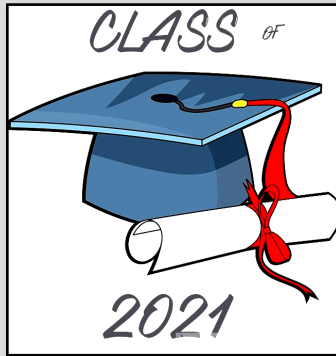
Eduardo, Dafne, David, Evelin, & Neydy Garcia
San Vicente Congregation
Ocosingo, Chiapas, Mexico



Juan, Jessica, Engel, Dayana, Maria, & Axel Martinez
La Esperanza Congregation
Managua, Nicaragua

Juan Carlos, Elizabeth, & Timothy Benitez
San Borja Congregation
Lima, Perú





GRADUATION PHOTOS



SPREAD YOUR WINGS & FLY, 2021 BSAM GRADUATES!

Frank Williams, Director of Development, Henderson, TN

I was privileged to attend the 2021 Graduation ceremonies in December at the Bible School of the Americas. While there I realized what an important and exciting event I was blessed to attend and want to share some of my thoughts, experiences, and observations with you.

During their two-year stay (especially during the pandemic) these men and their families had to depend on and support each other as they studied for their degrees. It was obvious that their love for Christ and each other permeated the deepest parts of their hearts. There were hugs, laughter, and love that was so evident; it did not need a translation to be understood. It was heart-warming to watch how the children interacted with each other and the adults. Our teachers and students also focus on training the children *"in the way they should go."* Leading their own families is a great quality our students possess! On Thursday night before the Graduation, there was a dinner for all the graduates, their wives, and families. I did not need to understand their language to see the love that they had for one another and the bond they had in the Lord.

The 2021 Graduation had something very special about it. It took place on Saturday afternoon at the church building on the BSA campus. It was a hot and humid day, even by Panamanian standards...no air conditioning, just ceiling fans. That didn't deter the importance of what this graduation meant to the students and teachers. The graduates were dressed in suits and ties, their wives in beautiful dresses, and the children were dressed accordingly. Each student was given an opportunity to speak. The words expressed to one another and to the teachers brought many laughs and several tears. Since laughter is contagious, I joined right in! It was fun to enjoy their joy! Their love and appreciation for

their instructors were obvious. The teachers, also, expressed their love and appreciation for the students. How did I know without understanding Spanish? Handshakes, hugs, smiles, and laughter from teacher to student. I hugged them, too, and wished them well. I even used one of my few Spanish phrases, "Dios te bendiga." (God bless you!)

While flying home from Panama City, Panama, I reflected on the past week. During the last two years, these graduates were under the guidance and protection of the teachers...just like a bird protects her chicks with her wings until they are ready to leave the safety of the nest. Within a few short days, they will be testing their wings and flying back to their home countries eager to spread the gospel. In nature, many young birds never make it, but I have every confidence that these men and their families are going to serve the Lord with greatness and faithfulness. From this day forward, they will be under the wings of our Lord as he protects them from the world. Flying home from Panama at 35,000 feet led me to the idea that these men, with their knowledge and talents, may fly even higher! They are ready to work in the kingdom.

Our responsibility to these BSA graduates is not over. All of us should continue to pray for them and their families as they minister to and work in their prospective communities. We thank God for the opportunity to have participated in a very small way in their quest for knowledge and understanding of the Scriptures. *"...they shall mount up with wings like eagles..."* Isaiah 40:31

***SPREAD YOUR WINGS AND FLY,
2021 BSA GRADUATES!***



Future Ministers Training Camp

A Labor Contributing to the Training and Mission of Servants for the Lord!

Simión Vásquez, Bible School of the Americas, Panama



A big "Thank You" goes to the congregations of the Church of Christ in Rolling Hills and North Lexington, Kentucky for funding this camp. Without your financial support, this camp would not have been possible. Also, thanks goes to the Elders of Forrest Park for granting the facilities of the Bible School of the Americas to carry out this event. This year the camp was held from January 24-28, 2022, and at the last minute, we had to shorten the camp due to the alarming increase of Covid infections in the country.

The theme of the camp was: **"Young People Marching Toward Conquest."** (Book of Joshua)
Objective: Young men will find the qualities in Joshua to march toward the conquest of God's call.

Total number of campers: 26

from Bocas del Toro, Chiriquí, Veraguas, Coclé, and Panama. (17 congregations represented)

Instructors: 5

Cooking Team: 8

Counselors: 4

Baptism: 1

Campers were divided into two groups: **Titus** (ages 17-22) and **Timothy** (ages 12-16). The *Sermon Preparation* classes were taught during the week by José Rodríguez, Agenor Rudas, Simión Vásquez, Francisco González, and Rafael Paguaga. In every class and activity, current BSAM students made rounds in every group and gave good guidance

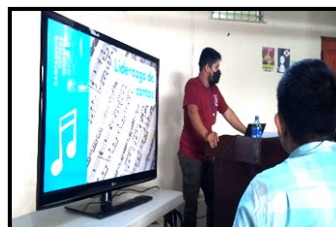
to all the campers. Other classes included: *How to Read Scriptures, How to Lead Singing, and How to Serve the Lord's Supper.*



After lunch on Thursday, campers delivered their sermons prepared during the week. Three judges evaluated and scored each camper. The best score of each group was announced. Next, the best song leader was chosen. These served during graduation the next day. We had a DINNER for everyone that night, and it was wonderful to see everyone as a family! Afterwards, we built a campfire, and each camper

took the torch and shared how they had been challenged during the week of camp.

"One of the things that stood out about these young people was the interest that each one showed in the teaching and activities carried out. Some said their aspiration is to come to the Bible School of the Americas and better prepare themselves as a more effective laborer for God."



**Ladies
of LAM**



Fulfilling a Prayer

Rosie Howton, Stamps, AR

On LABOR Day Weekend of 1993, some family members and I visited my sister, Wanda Crews, in Marshfield, Missouri. On Sunday. We heard Bob Lewis give a presentation on his mission trip to Panama. I asked him for some information about what was then known as Central American Missions. When I got home, I talked to my husband, Allen, about the work in Panama, and he decided that it was something we could do.

Our first trip was with Charles White to Buenos Aires, Panama in March of 1994. They were working on the church building there. The building team finished the church building and poured the slab for a house for the preacher. The preacher there was Secundino Mendoza. It was a wonderful first experience in mission work for us. I will be forever grateful to Bob and Kay Lewis. Two young men who worked with us were **Jose Rodriguez** and **Simi3n Vasquez**. They had to leave a day early to attend a satellite school to prepare them to attend the preaching school in Panama City. We have worked with both of them many times over the years. Simi3n is now a teacher at the Bible school, and Jose is a necessary part of many campaigns in Panama.

Over the years, many of my family members and I have gone on trips with LAM. We have worked with so many of the students and graduates of the Bible School of the Americas. They work hard and give up so much to serve the Lord. They have so little in material wealth, and we have so much. We pray that God will provide them with their needs. What are YOU willing to give to help fulfill this prayer?



Add *heart* to your Tax

**Consider giving a portion of your tax refund
to support a BSA student scholarship!**



Honors & Memorials

October - December 2021

In Honor of...

Gregg & Trina Floyd

M/M Clarence Floyd
Amanda Floyd
Nicole Floyd
M/M Patrick Brimberry

M/M David Olbricht

M/M Jarod Olbricht

Charles Renfro

M/M Jarod Olbricht

Alan Fonville

Christopher Hosmer

In Memory of...

Nikki Foster

Lawanna Batten
M/M Donnie Wisenbaker
M/M Bill Ward

Carol Hodge

M/M Donnie Wisenbaker
M/M Bill Ward

Anne Lineberger

M/M Donnie Wisenbaker
Lawanna Batten
M/M Paul Swanson
Geraldine Dailey

Douglas & Carol McClelland

Earl D. Wright

Lucy Couch

M/M Bill Ward
Lawanna Batten
M/M Paul Swanson
Geraldine Dailey

David Wilkinson

Lawanna Batten
M/M Paul Swanson
M/M Bill Ward
Geraldine Dailey
M/M Donnie Wisenbaker
M/M Donnie Swilley
M/M John Wilkinson
M/M Troy Black
Patricia Lester

Kevin Heath Persiani

Jesse & Dania Persiani

Raymon Jones

M/M Paul Swanson
M/M Bill Ward
Geraldine Dailey
Lawanna Batten
M/M Donnie Wisenbaker

Jeff Hale

M/M Donnie Wisenbaker
M/M Troy Black
M/M Paul Swanson

Gary Lee Orr

Lawanna Batten
M/M Bill Ward

Hannah Fritz

Lawanna Batten

Shiloh Black

Lawanna Batten

John Hughes

Mary Ann Hughes

Michael Bumbalough

Douglas Downey
Charles B. Downey
Gary Downey

Spencer Broome

M/M Jarod Olbricht

Gene Collings

Yolanda Collings

Roy Shannon

Clara Shannon

Mrs. Lupe Phipps Martinez

Tony Martinez

About HONORS & MEMORIALS

You may "HONOR" a special person or group of people by making a donation of any amount to LAM. You may also make a "MEMORIAL" donation to LAM in memory of a loved one who is deceased. Please use the printed form on the back page of this newsletter when sending your donation to the LAM office.

Servants in Need of Financial Support!

BIBLE SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS: Student Scholarships & Recent Graduates

PANAMA:

Alicio Ellington
Francisco Gonzalez
Herminio Gonzalez
Elio Quiroz
Alonso Racine
Eugenio Racine
Agenor Rudas

NICARAGUA:

Juan Lopez
William Munoz
Manuel Sosa

PERU:

Alberto Calderon
Pablo Calderon
Ruben Chacon

HONDURAS:

Javier Arriaga
Olvan Diaz
Javier Flores
German Gamez

COSTA RICA:

Daniel Chavez Mora

CHILE:

Wilson Vilorio

EL SALVADOR:

Tonaca, building rent

Please consider supporting one or more of these Godly men and their families. Your support of \$25, \$50, \$100, or more per month has a tremendous impact on the lives of these faithful ministers.

*Being a Partner in LAM is a
Gospel Opportunity
to help carry the Gospel story of Jesus
into eight Latin American countries.
Contact LAM today!*



LatinAmericanMissions.org



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Please fill in and enclose this form when mailing your charitable contributions.

AREAS WHERE YOU CAN HELP!

MY DONATION IS FOR:

- Where most needed
- Bible School of the Americas
- Preacher in need (Please write in name)

- Benevolence / Disaster Relief

MY DONATION IS:

- one time gift
- monthly giving of: \$ _____

IN MEMORY OF:

IN HONOR OF:

Given by: _____

Address: _____

City, St. ZIP: _____

SEND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State ZIP: _____