

ESPERANZA ETERNA

Bringing Hope for Eternity to Latin America and Beyond

Mission-Ministry Newsletter

Bob and Jan Young, 10704 S 89th East Ave, Tulsa, OK 74133

www.bobyongresources.com



This has been a wonderful and productive year in our work for the Lord and his church. The year has flown by too fast. Is that a result of increasing age? Some of my “friends” who wrote birthday greetings last month noted that I am growing older but that Jan is not! In this ministry, the end of the year is a time of finishing up various tasks, evaluating the past year, and planning and preparing for the upcoming year.

In 2013 I made nine international trips, visiting and working with churches in Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Chile and Uruguay; and five trips in the U.S. to work with churches in Kentucky, Michigan, Tennessee and Texas. I also presented a seminar for the Hispanic churches in Tulsa. Jan and I attended the 50th Pan American Lectureship in Guatemala in November and I was in Honduras in December for the annual board meeting and graduation at Baxter Institute. Unfortunately, Jan was able to accompany me on only a couple of the trips, primarily due to her need to stay close to home with her mother’s deteriorating health condition.



Guatemala and the 50th Pan American Lectureship

The opportunity to be part of the 50th Pan American lectureship in November was special. About 4000 Christians assembled in Guatemala City on the first Sunday of November for an area-wide worship assembly. In addition to the attending the lectures, I was able to visit and teach at a new congregation in San Juan del Obispo—the congregation is one year old and averaging 30-35 each Sunday. I will return to San Juan del Obispo in January 2014. I also met with Byron Huertas to finalize arrangements for a seminar in northeastern Guatemala in February 2014.

Honduras and Baxter Graduation

A part of my work that I do not mention frequently in these reports is my service as board chair for Association Amicus in Honduras. Jan says that my work with Baxter and the JMA Clinic is at least a third-time job. That seems pretty accurate; I probably average at least 15 hours of Baxter related work and activities each week.

It is always a blessing to attend graduation at Baxter and see the proud graduates cross the stage and to hear of their dreams for future ministry and mission work. This was a special year as Baxter completed 50 years of service in ministry training in Latin America.



Looking Back on 2013

It is difficult to keep up with and record the activities of my trips and of the churches visited. In 2013, I formally preached and taught over 200 hours on my visits to Latin America. I worked with over 2000

members and leaders from at least 130 churches in about 45 locations across Central and South America. I preached and taught numerous times in the U.S., both in Hispanic and English-speaking congregations. I assisted with the installation of one new elder and was privileged to participate in 11 baptisms. (There are many more baptisms in the churches where I worked, but those are the result of many workers. For example, in the church in Barinas, Venezuela where I spent four days in July working the evangelists and teaching and preaching, there have been 122 baptisms this year. Conservatively, it appears that in the congregations where I have worked there have been over 2000 baptisms.) Finally, new churches are being planted by mission churches without the financial support of North American congregations. I share these things to encourage you and to let you know that this work is bearing fruit, although ultimately only God knows the results that we will celebrate together in eternity.

Getting Ready for 2014

The next few weeks are traditionally holiday break and family time, but I will also use them to get ready for next year. One priority is to renew our passports—they are valid for international travel only through February 2014. In addition to planning my 2014 calendar of activities, I will help with planning for several other mission works. I have received requests for written Spanish materials on special themes, and I will work on those as well as preparing new presentations and seminars. I also want to evaluate the evangelism training program and develop a plan for more and more effective workshops. I plan to fill my spare time with some stateside presentations, working on classes I need to prepare, website development and maintenance, and my ongoing writing projects. The cartoon to the right ultimately says what we are about.



“What are we going to do today??? That which we should do every day... Conquer the world for Christ!!!!”

How You Can Help

Several have asked how they can help. Generally, I try to connect supporting churches or individuals with specific trips. The cost of a trip varies depending on location, distance, and other factors, but \$100 per month will pay most of the costs for a trip to Central America. Trips to South America usually require about \$2000. Any amount is helpful. Checks should be made payable to “Main and Oklahoma Church of Christ—Bob Young Missions” and sent to the address on the front of this report. We covet your prayers, and your assistance in helping us find new networks and interested churches. **I love to tell the story—let me know if I can visit your congregation for a mission report or mission focus Sunday.**

Thank You!

Jan and I never tire of saying thank you to those who have an interest in, pray for and support this work!

We believe that this is a unique work in many ways. There are very few workers whose ministry specifically focuses on strengthening and edifying local churches to develop healthy model churches, to develop biblical leadership, and to equip local churches for ministry, evangelism and church planting. This work is possible only with the help of God and his people. It is God who calls us, places us in service according to our gifts, and opens doors for ministry and missions. It is the people of God who help make possible the ministry that seeks to advance God’s purpose around the world.

[Note: all reports are available at www.bobyongresources/missions/mission-reports.htm.]

Que Dios le bendiga (may God bless you),

Bob and Jan Young

918.470.0421 (cell)

bro.bobyong@yahoo.com

