

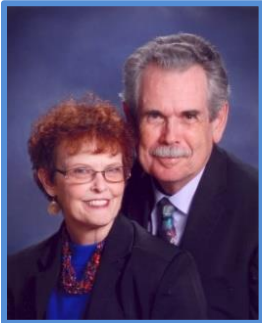
# LATIN AMERICAN LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Developing Healthy Churches and Church Leaders in Latin America and Beyond

## Mission and Ministry Newsletter

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[www.bobyounresources.com](http://www.bobyounresources.com)



### Reporting what God is doing....

When Paul arrived back in Antioch after the first missionary journey, the Bible says that **“they gathered the church together and reported all that God had done through them and how he had opened the door of faith” (Acts 14:27).**

In this special report, I update the progress of the church planting effort in the southwestern part of Dominican Republic, near the Haitian border. The effort primarily targets Haitians who are living and working in the Dominican Republic. A network of churches is being established, resulting in many new Christians and new churches. This work is overseen by the elders at the Neyba, Dominican Republic church. Thank you to all who give generously to this work!

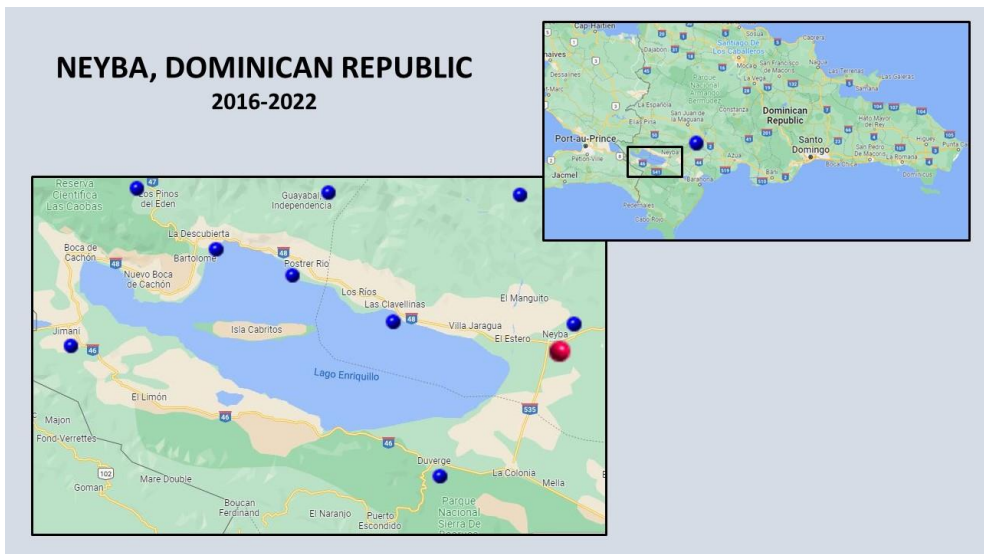
On the maps to the right, the general location of the works in the southwest part of the Dominican Republic is shown on the smaller map. You can see that one of the new churches exists outside the area of the larger map. On the larger map, the location of the church is Neyba is indicated by the red dot. The blue dots scattered around the lake are the new churches.

The churches were established and growing before the pandemic began. There was a temporary plateau during the pandemic but now the churches are reactivated and evangelistic outreach and church growth continues. Current attendance totals 400-500.

With the assistance and oversight of the Neyba elders, all but one of the churches have purchased land to erect simple buildings. The eighth church, in La Descubierta, currently meets in a rented house with the rent paid by the Neyba church.

La Descubierta is in a strategic centralized location among the churches. A larger, more permanent building will provide a regional meeting location as well as serving the local church. Therefore, the Neyba elders requested assistance in prayer and funding to help with the construction project. In 2021, with the help of two U.S. brothers and the Northside church in Mena (AR), a piece of property was purchased and clearing, fencing, and cistern construction began.

In 2022, construction has continued on the La Descubierta church building with funds provided by LALD donors. (As I have continued to do most of my mission work via technology with minimal travel, travel-work funds have been made available to assist with the project.) The Crieve Hall church in Nashville (TN) has also partnered with the project.



Congregación de la Descubierta





*Left, some church members at the construction site with evangelist Maché (with tie). Right, the roof will soon be poured.*

Some commitments from donors and churches have not yet been received. The Fort Gibson (OK) church has generously provided funding that will finalize the project, assuming the receipt of existing commitments (and with the possible exception of some inflationary increase in cost).

If you would like to participate in this church planting effort, several opportunities exist. **First**, help with funding to make up for unfulfilled commitments, to cover inflationary increases in construction costs, and to help with simple furnishings for the building. **Second**, assistance with a small monthly stipend for evangelism transportation costs (\$30/month in each church plant). **Third**, any funds received beyond the construction costs will be applied to the ministry and evangelism of the churches. As the churches come out of the pandemic, they are still surrounded by many benevolent needs.

### **Thank you!**

Contact me for updated information on the needs described above. Tax-deductible gifts can be made through my host congregation (Main and Oklahoma, McAlester, OK) with checks payable to "Church of Christ," memo line "Latin American Leadership Development" [LALD]. **ALL CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE MAILED TO MY ADDRESS** (10704 S 89<sup>th</sup> East Ave, Tulsa, OK 74133) since I handle all deposits, acknowledgements, and accounting.

*Dios les bendiga (God bless you),*  
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*Elder Manuel Aquino teaches a small group Bible study. Please pray for the churches in Latin America that they can effectively share the glorious gospel of Jesus, the light of the world.*

*Multitudes are receptive to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Many Christians hunger and thirst for the word of God and want encouragement and training in evangelism, discipleship, healthy church development and effective church leadership. Thank you for helping us make that happen as we seek to fulfill God's purpose in this world – to save as many as possible!*

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***When you support Latin America Leadership Development, you are part of a network of Christians committed to taking the gospel to Latin America. Through evangelism, discipleship, and leadership training, spiritually healthy and mature Christians and churches are developed, capable of reproducing themselves. A primary goal is training those who will train others (2 Tim. 2:2), recognizing that the most effective kingdom workers are national Christians who understand the culture and language, are known and trusted, and easily develop friendships and relationships that carry the gospel to their own nations.***