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LATIN AMERICAN LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Developing Healthy Churches and Church Leaders in Latin America and Beyond

Mission and Ministry Newsletter

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We Will Glorify...

A favorite song echoes the words, "We will glorify..." **Glorify** is my 2025 Word of the Year. John's Gospel is all about glory—27 verses in the first seventeen chapters (John 1-17). Jesus shows us God's glory. Jesus glorified the Father by accomplishing the Father's will.

What does it mean for you and me to glorify God? Do we glorify God in all we do? Do we ever take time off from God? Do we direct God's abundant gifts to us and our own desires instead of surrendering all to Him?

God's mission in this world continues. God's eternal saving purpose accomplished in Jesus is unchanging. How committed are we to the words we sing? "We will glorify..." Do you glorify only by the words you sing? Does glorify happen only in your worship, or is it the entire tenor of your life? Glorify—how you invest your time, your treasures, your talents!

2025—Already Winding Down!

Fall is in the air. As I write, I am already aware that 2025 is winding down, coming to a close. What was accomplished for God? What will be accomplished? Our plans for the rest of 2025 are pretty much in place—I am already dreaming and praying about 2026—and a new Word of the Year.

That God is working among and through his people to accomplish his saving purpose is certain. We are blessed to be a small part of God's eternity, even as we live here on earth. God opens doors. God puts us "here and there." We make plans and then change those plans. Opportunities arise and we seize them. God already knows where and how he will use us. Our part is to remain available. <u>Our Christ-commitment</u> is much more about availability than it is about ability!

August 2025: Two Weeks in Ecuador and Colombia



Preaching at Pilanquí in Ibarra (right)

Visiting the new church building in Urcuquí (left)





Baptisms in Ibarra (left), church members present on Saturday afternoon in Tulcán (below right)





United Worship in Túquerres



Teaching at Cumbal (left)
The church in Pasto gathered midweek (lower right)



Mission Updates

<u>Chimbote, Peru</u>. The studies and activities described in the previous newsletter continue. Please continue to pray for this church planting renewal.

<u>Bogota</u>. Due to various factors, the October trip to Bogota has been cancelled. I will be working over the next two months to provide recorded resources. Pray for the Los Ángeles church and the process of naming elders and deacons.

<u>Putumayo</u>, southern Colombia. updating my previous report, the cost of renting a larger facility for worship will be \$250-300 per month.

Dominican Republic Updates

God is blessing these efforts. The ministry funding project is growing--six preachers have become eight due to the growth of the churches. In addition, the elders at Neyba are committed to continuing support for the two widows of preachers. For 2026, total ministry funding will be \$6000 (\$50/month x 10). Six of these ministers are funded by three families at Fort Gibson, Oklahoma.

At La Descubierta, providing additional ministry resources has boosted the work (see picture at the bottom of p. 3). The cost for Eliu's presence at La Descubierta while maintaining the ministry at Angel Felix is \$220/month (with transportation, lodging and meals), totaling \$2640 in 2026. (The funds for 2025 were sent immediately when Eliu agreed to help.) The continuation of this additional ministry support will be evaluated at end of 2026. A goal is to increase security with the perimeter wall and other details.

It is a great blessing to have a bilingual worker (Spanish and Haitian Creole). Básico preaches at Guayabal, but also provides ministry and evangelism support at La Descubierta. He will be of greatest value when he can travel independently, without depending on Manuel or public transportation. The cost of a new moto with monthly fuel and maintenance will be about \$3700 in 2026 (\$2500 + \$1200). I am confident your generosity will provide these funds!

New efforts and conversations are including more people with more potential resources. The involvement of Liberte Ministries has been a great blessing, especially in upgrading the provisional buildings. Conversations continue with brothers and churches who could help with the work in teaching and training. Online conversations are seeking ways to integrate and mutually support God's work in Haiti and God's work on the western Dominican border.

Update: Dwelling in the Psalms

The preliminary formatting has been completed by the publisher. The next step is intensive editing and proofing (which is always time consuming!). The adjusted target date for release is spring 2026 in time for Easter, and gifts for graduation and weddings, Mother's Day and Father's Day.

Note: The proposed cover at left is based on my *Dwelling in the Word*. The colors and other details will likely be changed in the final version.

Praying about the future....

My days fill up and I have to look back to my calendar to remember what was done. I continue to meet with elderships to firm up transitional plans, preach mission Sundays and give mission reports. I also continue to teach online. Fall will bring mission reporting season.

The fall calendar and 2026 commitments as of right now include Baxter in November and Curahuasi, Peru in February 2026. Also, in 2026 I hope to return to the Dominican Republic to work on strengthening the churches. We thank you for your faithful partnership and look forward to what God will do in us and through us!

PRAY ALWAYS FOR THE ADVANCE OF THE GOSPEL AROUND THE WORLD



Here's How You Can Partner. Thank You!

God has always been at work to accomplish his eternal purpose. That mission, while it is often beyond our dreams and imaginations, excites and energizes us, sending us forth with the Good News of the Kingdom. Thank you for your prayers, partnership, and encouragement. Jan and I see already that our slowing down will occur slowly!

Through my host congregation (Main and Oklahoma, McAlester, OK) you can make tax-deductible gifts, payable to "Church of Christ," memo line "Latin American Leadership Development" [LALD]. ALL **CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE MAILED TO THE TULSA OFFICE ADDRESS** (10704 S 89th East Ave, Tulsa, OK 74133).

Dios le bendiga (God bless you), Bob and Jan Young 918.470.0421 (cell) bro.bobyoung@yahoo.com



The picture on the right shows what God is doing through the new building and renewed efforts at La Descubierta, Dominican Republic. Your generosity coupled with the faithful work of Dominican and Haitian brothers and sisters is reaping the harvest in difficult places.



Latin America Leadership Development works within an international 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.