

Making Hispanic Ministry The Priority!



Greetings from CHM Director David Byrne

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! And that coming makes all the difference for those of us who have received Him with joy. Our heart softens, our attitudes change. We learn to share the grace of God as we have seen it in Jesus the Christ and to treat others with that same compassion and patience. The greatest gift we can give to those around us is not the latest electronic gizmo, but a life lived fully in Christ's light and truth that will bless them and the world around them. That reality may not sell well in our materialistic culture, but at least let's not lose track of it ourselves. Many of the truths that we hold as self-evident are angrily rejected today, but it is incarnation, not social networking, that can show others the Way. So join with us, each in our own calling, to proclaim the Joy that has come to the world and the light that is for every creature!

The U.S. Election and Hispanic Politics

Over the years I have drawn attention to the fact that the region that I now live in was lost to its native land due to insensitivity to its immigrant community - both legal and illegally resident in the state. The state's name was Tejas, and because of the oppressive regulations and heavy-handed enforcement ("Remember the Alamo") the immigrant population threw off its chains, and the territory that had belonged to Mexico was thrown into turmoil and later became Texas.

This is not to say that immigration issues can be easily resolved politically, but CHM's position on immigration is not complex. As Christians we are called to love our neighbor. "Who is our neighbor?" It could be anyone, when we are willing to care for the nearby person in need who seems unlovely and unlike us, just as in the story of the Good Samaritan.

Immigration for our nation will always involve a sometimes painful international give and take to seek balance between opportunity for ourselves and for others. Immigration requires careful attention to tedious details and should not be a conservative or liberal issue to be manipulated through fear. As we learned in the recent election, it is not a winning strategy when candidates spend their time trying to "one up" each other on how tough they can be against a significant segment of our population.

In any case, CHM calls for all of you servants of Christ to meet with and serve others. Let's find ways to bless and not curse. Let's live and act in the Spirit of Christ.

CHM Needs Your Help

CHM serves the church in North America by dreaming about and putting in place the ministries that strengthen the Hispanic Church. From leadership development, united ministries, literature availability, church-planting and other areas, we are your partner in service. Since one key organizational sponsor was forced to withdraw this year, it has left CHM's cash flow thousands of dollars in deficit (it's always something), and we will always need your help to continue these efforts. Please consider an ongoing commitment in giving and in prayer for CHM. Thank you.

CHM Board:

Thomas Hoke	Dora Gutierrez Kerr
Jacob Estrada	Dr. Karl Newman
Paul Feaster	William Roeh
Kay Griffin	Mark Rubash
	Eric Royle

Cooperative Project



In mid November CHM cooperated with FWCC to host a dynamic Guatemalan woman who shared her testimony with groups around Houston, San Antonio and northern Mexico. We are thankful for the clear word of witness to God's power, protection and purposes that Karen Gregorio de Calderon shared with us. We are also thankful to FWCC for their generous support of this missionary venture.



San Antonio Event with Karen Gregorio de Calderon

2013 AMANA Conference

We are excited that the Hispanic Church "Amigos de Cristo" at Yorba Linda Friends Church has agreed to host next year's North American Hispanic Friends conference sponsored by AMANA (Alianza Ministerial Amigos de Norte América). Although there is still much discussion and planning going on to put things in place and establish the theme, we have a good start and are confident that this will be another event that will stimulate ministry and unity when we meet in October (10-13th).

One of the anticipated activities for the 2013 conference will be the participation of Nancy and Hal Thomas, who will present a workshop for authors. Nancy recently published a book of narrative writings of Central and South American authors that came out of workshops and classes presented there. You can read her reflections on that project on her Oct. blog at nancyjthomas.blogspot.com.

Our hope and expectation is to complete a similar project based on the life and experiences of Hispanics in North America.

News and Prayer:

- ☞ Pray for Pastor Jorge Reyes and family in the Matamoros area of Northeastern Mexico as the ministry adjusts to changes in support. After decades of reliance on stateside funding, the mission will be on its own soon and will be seeking God's direction for its ongoing ministry.
- ☞ Pray for the church in Logansport, IN just outside of Marion. There is a possibility that the group led by Pastor Uziel Isaias Gutierrez will be able to purchase a property soon. See more info in our online newsletter.
- ☞ Pray for the Byrne Family (See online for details).

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