

APOSTOLIC

JULY 2023

# THE HERALD



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# I will build MY church, YOU are the church!



SCHOOL OF PASTORAL FORMATION 2023

## IN THIS ISSUE

- SCHOOL OF PASTORAL FORMATION
- JOINT BISHOPS MEETING
- SCHOOL OF PLANTERS
- EDUCATION PROGRAMS
- APOSTOLIC MUTUAL
- REAL ESTATE



Former Bishop President, Daniel Sanchez & Current Bishop President, Felipe A. Salazar teaching and bring the word at SOPF 2023.

**BUILD THE CHURCH:**  
**MISSION**  
MATTHEW 16:18

# CONTENTS

EDITOR'S LETTER .....	3
A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT .....	4
JBM MEETING RECAP.....	8
WE ARE CALLED TO DISCIPLESHIP .....	10
VICE PRESIDENT .....	12
GENERAL SECRETARY .....	16
GENERAL TREASURER.....	20
INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS.....	22
NATIONAL MISSIONS .....	26
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION.....	30
SOCIAL ASSISTANCE.....	34
FLOR AZUL 50TH .....	37
SCHOOL OF PASTORAL FORMATION .....	38
CORPORATE OFFICE NEWS.....	42

## ON THE COVER:

2023 School of Pastoral Formation first and second year students, along with former Bishop President Daniel Sanchez and current Bishop President Felipe A. Salazar.



**BUILD THE CHURCH:**  
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MATTHEW 16:18

## APOSTOLIC HERALD - JULY 2023

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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

# THIS IS OUR TIME, IT IS THE TIME OF THE APOSTOLIC ASSEMBLY

Praise the Lord

We have a vision, it is a challenge that has been given and that we have all accepted with such great commitment that it has transcended the very phrase itself, provoking a movement of faith and inspiration in every corner of the United States, crossing the oceans and reaching the farthest continents in the international mission fields. Different languages, different cultures, different political and socio-economic realities, different challenges... but we are one Apostolic Assembly, and we have one faith, with one Vision:

**“Edifica la Iglesia: Misión” - Español**  
**“Build the Church: Mission” - English**  
**“Edificar a Igreja: Missão” - Portuguese**  
**“Jenga Kanisa: Misheni” - Swahili**  
**“Membangun Gereja: Misi” - Indonesian**  
**“Costruire la Chiesa: missione” - Italian**  
**“Zidirea Bisericii: Misiunea” - Romanian**  
**“Bâtir l’Église: la mission” - French**  
**“Charch ka nirmaan karen: mishan” - Hindi**  
**“Srāng kh ri st cākṛ: Phanth kic” - Thai**

And many more languages and dialects, but all with the same goal, that the Church advances, multiplies and grows as we have never seen. A project to continue planting new churches and opening new fields around the world and a challenge of 300 new congregations in 4 years in our country alone.

Everywhere we go we find our apostolic people with great enthusiasm, ready and willing to do what is already being done. Let us commit ourselves to change the popular phrase “the best is yet to come” for the particular phrase “the best is already here”. Apostolic people, you are the best in Christ Jesus and this is our time, it is the time of the Apostolic Assembly. Revivals, Baptisms in water and in the Holy Spirit, church planting, opening of new fields, new ministers and leaders taking their calling, the church developing its purpose, Glory to God.

In these months, very important events have taken place that are marking the course and direction we are taking: A successful Joint Meeting of Bishops was held, an international S. of J. committee has been established, the Confederations have held their activities and regional congresses, the School of Pastoral Formation workshop was held in Fontana, CA., and District and Regional Electoral Conventions are taking place all over the United States and Electoral & Administrative Conventions in different regions around the world, etc. And we want to share in this issue as much as possible, through brief reviews.

Our National Convention in Anaheim is coming up, it will be quite an event of great proportions with projects that will be presented for the first time and that will be of great blessing for our church in the years to come: Apostolic Homeschooling Network, Apostolic Private Schools, Christian Education for the local church, Pilot Program for Colleges of Church Growth, G-300 Jesus Strategy Network, The Bridge Counseling Program, Divorce Recovery Program, Blended Family Ministry, etc. We are confident that this convention will be life transforming with a great move of the Holy Spirit.

My prayer is that you will find this edition inspiring, that it will motivate you to be part of this Global Apostolic move from the place where God has placed you and that together we will say ***“This is our time, it is the time of the Apostolic Assembly”***.

In Christ,  
Bishop Armando Tamez  
Editor, The Apostolic Herald



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# A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

## THE ESSENTIAL MISSION

As the President of the Apostolic Assembly, I feel called to focus the leadership of the church on its mission. In a book entitled Essentialism, Greg McKeown invites the reader to focus on what is truly important in their lives and work. He urges the reader to eliminate distractions that doesn't contribute to their goals. Greg encourages the reader to say "no" to the different non-essential

that the Pastor had a servant's heart, but rather that the Pastor was not very organized. He said that during the service, the Pastor should be focused on the message. He should not be distracted with menial things that are not critical to that one thing he must do well that day: to deliver God's message to God's people.

Persons, or leaders, or even organizations for that matter, that are distracted by things that need attention but are not the main thing will eventually become ineffective. For example, a student can divide his attention between many unimportant matters and finally, because of his lack of focus, not do well in school. A parent can focus on many things like, keeping an immaculate house, making money, or having nice things, which in themselves are not bad. But if that is done at the expense of raising great kids, then it was all wrong. In order to be great at a few things, we must sacrifice other things. People who are successful in life must first figure out what is most important, then dedicate the necessary time to getting those few things done well. We must all be careful about our choices. We must discipline ourselves to give our attention to what's most important or we'll lose in the end.

demands that are made on his, or her, time. He says, *"If you don't prioritize your life, someone else will."* That is an important truth. The reality is that the demands on a leader's time and attention are great. For a leader to be effective, he must decide what things are most important and then give his time and attention to them. For us, the leaders of the Apostolic Assembly, I believe the essentials are evangelism, discipleship, and small groups.

I remember many years ago hearing a friend and prominent leader of our church say that when he visited a local church, if he saw the Pastor busy during service doing things others could do, his thoughts were not

As I have mentioned in past messages, some time ago, as I was thinking about the work of the President of our Church, I struggled to define the most important thing the General Pastor of our organization must focus on. After much contemplation, I concluded that the sole task was to focus the Church on its mission. Now, that is the one thing I feel I am called to do well during my tenure as President of our Church.

My challenge is to focus the leadership (national, district, sector, and local) on the Church's mission. It is to take the programs and events that we have grown



accustomed to celebrating and adjust them so that they are focused on winning the lost, helping people grow in their faith, and working in small groups. Those are the three large categories that we must primarily give our attention to while not neglecting other important things. Within those three categories are all the other things that are also important. The point is to prioritize the most important things.

## HOW CAN WE IDENTIFY THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS?

My answer to that question is found in the things that were written in the gospels and in the book of Acts 40 days after the resurrection (Acts 1:3). During that time Jesus was commissioning His disciples. I'm sure there was a lot that He told them to affirm their faith during that period. However, of the many things Jesus must have told His disciples, just a few are written in the gospels and in the book of Acts. My assumption is that of all the things that were spoken by Jesus to His disciples, only those things that were essential were recorded in the scriptures. What was recorded was vital. Again, in his book, Mr. McKeown says, "We need to distinguish the trivial many from the vital few and concentrate our efforts on the latter." That is what I am challenged to do and what I am challenging the Church to do.


## WHAT DO THE SCRIPTURES SAY?

The last chapter of Gospels and the first chapter of the book of Acts speak of Jesus' post-resurrection appearances. During that period, Jesus did one thing while emphasizing three major points: First, he affirmed the discouraged disciples, then he spoke to them about

three things: the Gospel, the great commission, and the importance of the baptism of the Holy Spirit. These are the three things that Jesus imparted to his disciples before he ascended to heaven. He was concerned with the Church's mission and with the effectiveness of communicating the Gospel to a lost world. The mission (Evangelism and Discipleship) is mentioned in the Matthew 28:18-20. The mission (evangelism and power ministries) is mentioned in Mark 16:15-18. The mission (evangelism and the name) is mentioned in Luke 24:44-48. The mission (evangelism and the Holy Spirit baptism) is mentioned in Acts 1:4-8. In his gospel, John simply emphasized the affirmation of the disciples in Jesus' post resurrection appearances. It is interesting to note the four things associated with the gospel: discipleship, power ministries, the name of Jesus, and the baptism of the Holy Ghost. This is what Jesus wanted emphasized during the church era. This is what we must give our attention and time to. We need a move of the Holy Ghost and power. We need to focus on making disciples. We must continue preaching the name of Jesus. We need to spread the gospel to all people. This is our essential work.

## OUR VISION AND MARCHING ORDERS.

I envision the Apostolic Assembly as a healthy, growing, Spirit-filled, Apostolic cellular Church. In my mind, that vision statement encapsulates the mission of the church and the crucial elements necessary for its effectiveness. It is on fully becoming this kind of denomination that we must focus our attention. The Church's organization, its calendar, its programs, and the conversation of its people must all reflect its mission. In other words, the mission of the Church must be its



OUR GOAL IS TO DEDICATE OUR TIME AND RESOURCES TO WHAT WILL MAKE THE GREATEST IMPACT IN REACHING OUR WORLD FOR CHRIST. OUR ATTENTION MUST BE GIVEN TO WHAT WILL MAKE US MOST EFFICIENT AT WHAT JESUS SAID WAS MOST IMPORTANT.

BUILD THE CHURCH:

**MISSION**

MATTHEW 16:18

*"...it is critical to emphasize the truth that Jesus is the one who builds the church, not us. He is the one that died for the remission of our sins and rose from the dead. He is the one that convicts and then heals sinful hearts. He is the one who makes us saints then preserves us in his ways. We are his helpers, his assistants, his deputies in this great work. He gets the glory. He is the chief architect who gets the honor as we work wholly dependent on his strength and wisdom."*



core. Being busy is not our goal. Our goal is to dedicate our time and resources to what will make the greatest impact in reaching our world for Christ. Our attention must be given to what will make us most efficient at what Jesus said was most important.

### **THE STRATEGY OF JESUS.**

Where does the Strategy of Jesus fit in the mission of the Apostolic Assembly. It is at its core. Essentially, the Strategy of Jesus, although not all its components are found in the scriptures, its principles are and they do succeed in providing a system that has proven effective in directing the energy of the Church's membership on the mission. For the Pastors who have committed

themselves to implementing the Strategy of Jesus and have persisted in it, the result has been church growth. Church growth has to do with evangelism (opening wide the front door of the church), and Discipleship (closing the back door of the church), and finally with small groups (giving people a place to belong and exercise ministry). I am calling the church to refocus on the Strategy of Jesus. I'm sure there are going to be leaders that say, "my local church or group is already focused on evangelism and discipleship." To them I say, "Wonderful, that's the point, let's keep building the Church." I appreciate the Pastors and local churches that are dedicated to the ministry of the saints. They are setting the pace.



died for the remission of our sins and rose from the dead (Acts 20:28). He is the one that convicts and then heals sinful hearts (John 16:8-9). He is the one who makes us saints then preserves us in his ways (Philippians 1:6). We are his helpers, his assistants, his deputies in this great work (Matthew 16:19; I Corinthians 3:9). He gets the glory (I Corinthians 1:28-29). He is the chief architect who gets the honor as we work wholly dependent on his strength and wisdom.

A construction worker only follows the instructions given by the architect. Without them, the bricklayer's work would only result in the construction of a wall, not a building. With the architect's plans, the bricklayer becomes part of something much bigger. Jesus is the one who is building the church while we work on our segment of the overall construction project. He is building the church when the ministerial body gathers to plan the implementation of strategies to evangelize and disciple their community. He is building the church when we celebrate our cell group meetings. He is building the church when teachers give discipleship classes. He is building the church when we plan evangelistic cycles. We work; he builds. My call to our church leaders is, let's work on what is most important, let's focus our attention on what is our responsibility: organizing our congregations for evangelism, discipleship, and working in small groups. **LET'S BUILD THE CHURCH!**

In Christ,  
Bishop Felipe A. Salazar  
President



## **BUILD THE CHURCH**

The whole idea behind the Vision Statement, Build the Church, is church growth. Growth in every possible way. Church growth has to do with spiritual development, numerical growth, healthy families, healthy congregations, effective preaching, operational structures, efficient administration, and other things. I promise the church leadership that I will give my attention to all those things. But my message in this article is to make the point that at the core of all we do will be the grand idea of the church and its mission. Let's work together as God's agents to Build the Church.

Finally, as I conclude my message, it is critical to emphasize the truth that Jesus is the one who builds the church, not us (Matthew 16:18). He is the one that

# **BUILD THE CHURCH: MISSION**

**MATTHEW 16:18**

# JBM MEETING RECAP

## THE KIND OF CHURCH I DREAM WE CAN BE



Here is how I see the church. I see the Apostolic Assembly as a healthy, growing, Spirit-filled, Apostolic, Cellular Church.

That is the vision statement that will direct my term as President of the Apostolic Assembly. Ideally, here is how I see the Apostolic Assembly. I see the church as a healthy, growing, Spirit-filled Apostolic, Cellular Church. This is the dream we are going to pursue for four years.

### LET ME EXPLAIN WHAT THIS STATEMENT MEANS

By HEALTHY I mean at least three things. First, a healthy church is a loving church. By that, I mean a church that loves God passionately and that without discrimination loves people. Love is essential because Jesus said that it was by this one virtue that all men would know that we are His disciples (John 13:35). Love is the clearest sign that we are His. That is essential.

Second, a healthy church is a united church. President Fortino made Christian unity a central theme of his administration with the themes that he gave the church, which always included the word UNITED. Love is essential to Christian unity and unity is essential to the mission of the church. We cannot be effective without unity. Love unites the church and hence testifies to the truthfulness of our claim that the God who loved the world and gave Himself for it lives in us. A loving

church is a united church (Philippians 1:1-2).

Third, healthy families are essential to the church's well-being. Roadmap, the vision that was presented to the Pastors during the first administration of President Daniel Sanchez (2005 - 2011) put the health of the Pastoral Family at the center of the church's mission. Healthy marriages and healthy families made a healthy church. That is a truth that we must keep at the center of our agendas. What good does it do us if we are effectively winning people and at the same time losing our children or even in some cases our marriages? Healthy Pastoral homes are essential to the long-term success of our ministries. In our efforts to grow the church we must not forget that the Pastoral Family is essential to that growth.

By GROWING, I mean a church that is growing spiritually and numerically. Jesus envisioned a growing church. He often spoke of the growth of the church (Matthew 13:31-33; Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 4:26-29; Luke 8:1). In fact, the great commission foresees both numerical and qualitative growth. In the mind of Jesus, as seen through the lens of the great commission, the church was growing until entire nations were converted. The Apostolic Assembly must be a growing church.

Bishop President  
Felipe A. Salazar



# STRATEGY OF JESUS (SIMPLIFIED)

## WE ARE CALLED TO DISCIPLESHIP

At our July 2019 convention, I was re-elected Bishop Supervisor of the Washington District. We started our new term with enthusiasm, passion, and in prayer that God would give us the necessary direction for the next four years. It seemed that everything was going well, and we entered the year 2020 with a clear vision to work hard in the kingdom of God.

The initial plan was to establish new works and find a way to buy our own district campground. However, 2020 surprised us with an unexpected pandemic full of challenges and frustrations.

For the month of June 2020, a servant was feeling frustrated and discouraged. I received messages, calls, and emails every day. I felt the despair of some pastors. I thought, 'I did not sign up for this.' In my despair, I thought that the best decision would be to resign as bishop and let someone else worry about everything that was happening. I told no one about what was going through my mind, and I decided to take it to the Lord in prayer. I felt in my spirit that the Lord told me: I chose you for this time. It was at that moment that I decided to make the necessary changes and readjust my schedule to help the pastors.

2020 was a year where the focus was to guide the pastors through pandemic as it pertained to the State and the Apostolic Assembly. In late 2020 and early 2021, we took several steps to restructure the district in the Jesus Strategy (SOJ).

Firstly, as a district board of directors, we decided to follow the national example and appoint a Jesus Strategy district committee. I asked Pastor Rogelio Razo to head said committee and I shared my heart with him. Pastor Razo made himself available and accepted this nomination. He focused on helping pastors. To begin, Pastor Razo suggested adding each elder to the committee to supervise the Strategy in each sector. We added the pastors and a man from

each local church to serve on this committee. The initial purpose of the committee was to help churches that had not started the SOJ to grasp the small group concept. In addition, they were going to help form and train the small group team.

Secondly, we did an analysis of the churches that had not made the transition to the SOJ and categorized them as Level 1 and those that had already started working in the SOJ, as Level 2. For the churches in Level 1, we helped them to define between the traditional model and the small group model. For Level 2 churches, the committee assisted them in organizing the supervision structure and how to fully transition into a small group based church. The videos that the Assembly put on YouTube about the Simplified SOJ, were sent to the pastors to keep them focused on the mission, although these videos had already sent via email to all the pastors by the Assembly.

Thirdly, and by the end of 2021, the SOJ committee scheduled the district calendar for 2022 around the Strategy on a quarterly basis. We used the guidance provided by the national committee found in the Simplified Strategy manual. However, looking at the progress we had made as a district and with the SOJ committee, we felt something was missing. How could we know the progress of each pastor and the achievements they were having with the Simplified SOJ? Therefore, the committee sent a questionnaire to all the pastors:

- How many visits did you have on Friend's Day?
- How many of these visitors enrolled to the School of Discipleship?
- How many baptisms did you have in that quarter?
- How many small groups does the church have?

After each quarter, each pastor reports to the elder and the elder sent the report to the director of the SOJ. We held a meeting with the pastors to hear the director's report. Time was also given to listen to the questions of the pastors that participated in the Strategy during that quarter.

Finally, and at the end of the year 2022, we decided to include the dates of each quarter in the district calendar for the year 2023. In addition, together with the SOJ team, we decided to make one more change: Make the spiritual retreats by sector. Pastor Razo, as director of the SOJ, made a schedule for each sector to have a retreat on the same day. We held a meeting to inform the team of the plan and then we informed the pastors of the work plan regarding the spiritual retreat. Each elder was responsible for organizing a team in his sector to have the speakers, the food, the helpers, etc.

It was a risk to do something like this since we had never done this before. I think all the team members and the pastors were nervous. However, we could see the hand of God at work in each sector. Although more than 150 brothers attended the retreats, we had 130 visitors in the sector retreats, and several of them (about 50%) requested baptism. It was the

first time we had done this, but due to the number of people who attended, the goal we now have is to do the retreat in two different places in two of the three sectors.

We had a pastors' conference at the district men's camp. Several of the pastors present reported that they had several candidates for Baptism Sunday at the end of the quarter. To God be all the honor and glory!

I thank God for leading me in this direction and for not allowing me to quit the job that he called me to in this second term as bishop. Although not all pastors are at the same level, they are all working SOJ in their local church. The SOJ has had a great impact on our district and the results have been very evident. We continue to hear testimonials from pastors that more souls are asking for baptism in their local churches after the Harvest Celebration. Let us go for more!

Bishop Gabriel Calderon  
Washington



# A WORD FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

## THERE IS STRENGTH IN UNITY

Greetings in Jesus Name!

I first want to thank the Lord for permitting me to serve our Apostolic Assembly Pastors and Churches. Among several of my responsibilities, I was asked to serve on the executive board of Apostolic Mutual representing our President, Bishop Felipe Salazar. I am honored to serve at this capacity. I selected as my topic, for this edition of the Herald, to write an article based on Apostolic Mutual.

It is with great delight and enthusiasm, that we communicate the vision and the plans for continued growth of Apostolic Mutual. No doubt, the previous administration's accomplishments merit special applause and recognition for the vision and implementation of Apostolic Mutual. Thank you for your sacrifices and hard work!



As a new administration, our desire is to follow the vision of our beloved Apostolic Assembly, to Build the Church: MISSION! The Apostolic Mutual foundation has been laid, and our endeavor is to continue building there-upon. Growth is our mission.

We are living in perilous times. We are conscious of the many challenges our churches are facing today, and how the global economy has suffered and has affected the certainty of the financial future of the church.

Many churches are still navigating their way out of the global pandemic of COVID. However, since Apostolic Mutual is a faith-based institution, we trust in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who has control over all things. The secular banks are raising their mortgage interest rates dramatically. But Apostolic Mutual is sustaining its footing and continues to serve our churches in these difficult and challenging times. This is God's church, and Apostolic Mutual belongs to God! Through it all, the Lord has sustained us and we are now passing the blessings to our churches.

There is strength in unity. A cord of three strands is not easily broken. (Ecc. 4:12) As a church, we are united. In an Old Testament passage, Genesis 11, "God said, the people is one", "and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they imagined to do". Unity is essential in building. When God's people unite, only God has the power to stop our endeavor. In the midst of economic uncertainty, we shall prevail in our dream to bless God's Kingdom people!

"The Lord will send rain at the proper time from his rich treasury in the heavens and will bless all the work you do. You will lend to many nations, but you will never need to borrow from them." (Deuteronomy 28:12) We are the head, and not the tail. Through all the twists and turns of the economy, we are still God's people, and with great certainty, God will rain upon us from His heavenly treasury, and we are moving forward with Apostolic Mutual.

This is our season. It is time to plant, time to invest, and time to harvest the blessings of our Lord. The more we invest into God's Kingdom, the greater the reward. We encourage you to invest into Apostolic Mutual. The dividends are certain, and the reward is two-fold. You will enjoy the monetary benefits of your investment, and the spiritual dividends of investing into God's Kingdom work. Let's partner together in this season of the Apostolic Assembly, as we Build the Church together, by investing into Apostolic Mutual!

Apostolic Mutual is expanding. As more and more believers are investing, the opportunities are increasing. There are a variety of options for investment. You select what best fits your church or person and enjoy the benefits of a win-win for God's people.

Our churches are the benefactors of our own investment. We invest, and we benefit. Many loans have been processed and obtained by churches, that have not otherwise qualified. We are saving money in many different ways from a normal mortgage lender. We encourage you to contact our professional team of Apostolic Mutual experts, and see how you can benefit in many ways. To God be the glory!

Apostolic Mutual has embraced the vision of our Assembly, Build the Church: MISSION. As we march forward, we are proud to be part of the corporate vision.

“And the Lord answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that

readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry. (Habakkuk 2:2-3)

As Vice President, I am fully committed to reach the world and build the church. The vision and mission of our church is written in my heart, and I encourage every Apostolic Assembly leader and member, to write the vision in your heart, and run with it.

We covet your prayers as we move forward with Apostolic Mutual.

In His service,  
Bishop Joseph V. Rodriguez  
Vice President



## SWITZERLAND REVIVAL

“What is our why? Why are we in Switzerland? Why give our best this week? What is the sustainable outcome that measures this why?” Questions asked by Messengers of Peace President, Dr. Oswaldo Moreno, to the Switzerland Revival team. Questions that are present in the mind of any believer who has been called to an unknown land, with an uncommon language to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In the midst of these questions and new territories, we see the hand of God at work lives transformed. “Never would we think that we would spend the midnight hour giving Bible studies on salvation, oneness, and baptism...” said Dr. Moreno in a social media post. This was not the only testimony given by the Switzerland Revival team however, during the trip, the Messengers of Peace were able to baptize the first native Swiss (who speaks four languages) and the first MOP from our Apostolic Mission church in Zurich.

In addition, we rejoice with the missionary family in Switzerland as they were able to see their son (who speaks six languages) be baptized in Jesus name! This young man and those he will reach are just a small representation of communities of Switzerland that will be impacted by the Gospel. Dr. Moreno joyfully expressed, “This trip has been a week of so many confirmations,



so many testimonies and so many experiences. God is good! This is our ‘why’.” Although the team could only stay for a short time, we believe that this is just the beginning of revival in Switzerland and we know that the seeds planted will bear fruit in due season. Just as the Apostle Paul declares, there are some who plant, others who water, but it is God who gives the growth.

¡Suiza para Cristo!  
Minister Alex Tarin

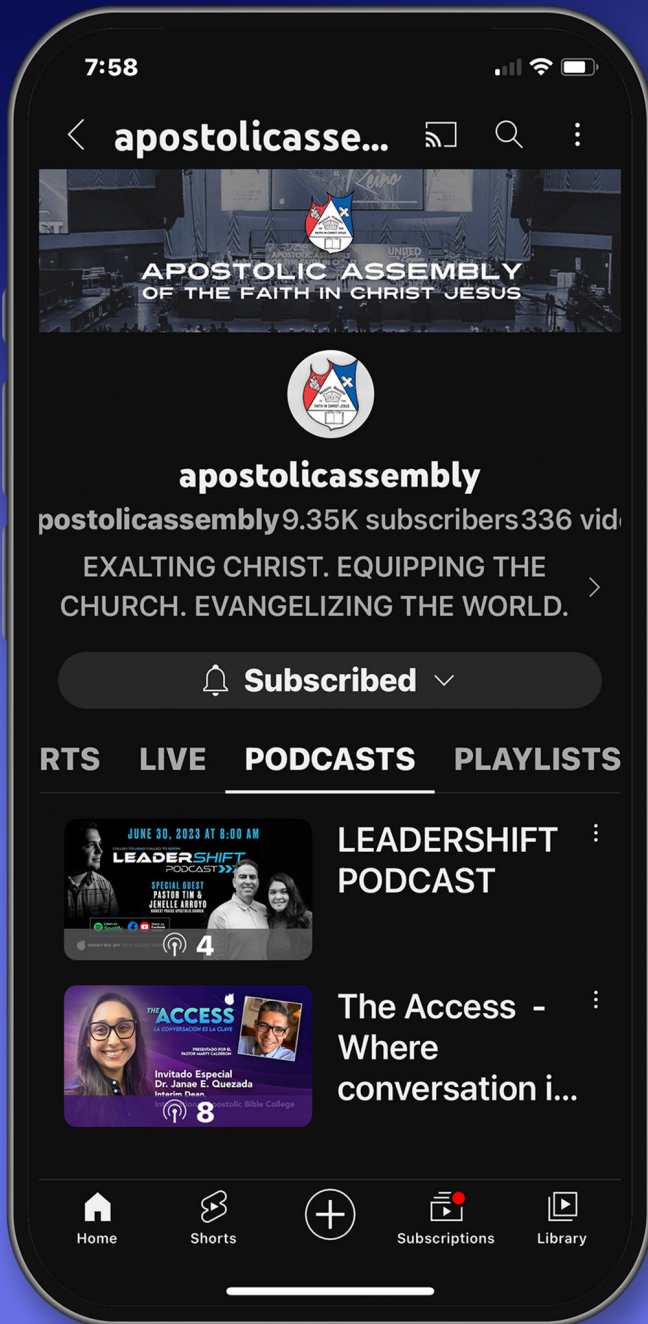


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Insightful podcast that will boost your spiritual growth by helping you understand and apply God's Word to your everyday life. @aafcjintl

## LEADERSHIFT

Last Friday of the Month - 8am



A focuses on leadership development and growth in your personal life and in your ministry. It dives deep into leadership from a biblical lens and provides leaders with tools and resources to expand their leadership. @leadershiftpodcast

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# A WORD FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

# LET US PREACH THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM TO ALL NATIONS!

## OUTLINE OF THE APOSTOLIC ASSEMBLY'S HISTORICAL GROWTH FROM 1906-2022

### THE GREAT COMMISSION AND PENTECOST.

*The Lord Jesus Christ clearly gave the Church its mission: "Go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19); "And that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in his name to all nations" (Luke 24:47).*

However, upon resurrecting and before ascending to heaven, he instructed the Church to first wait for the promise of the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

And so, Pentecost was the starting point of the Great Commission: "And you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

### THE MODEL OF JESUS IN THE EARLY CHURCH

- Jesus ministered and reached the largest number of followers through homes.
- Jesus performed many healings in homes.
- Jesus used houses to train and teach his disciples.
- Jesus forgave sins and transformed the lives many people in homes.
- The Holy Spirit was poured out for the first time in a house.

The model of Jesus was the model of the Early Church, during the first century. The Church spread throughout all nations, through homes, under persecution, first from Judaism and then from the Roman Empire.

During the second and third centuries, the Early Church continued to carry out the Great Commission under the model of Jesus through homes since the church endured ten imperial persecutions, from the year 64 with Nero to the year 313 with the Edict of Milan and also because the Empire made it illegal for Christians to build or have temples. Using the Jesus Model, churches won half the population of the Roman Empire to Christ.

### 1906 TO 1912 FROM HOMES TO CHURCH PLANTING

- The Azusa Street Revival began in a house.
- The first Mexican Pentecostal believers conducted Bible studies in their homes in addition to attending services at 312 Azusa Street.
- The Apostolic Assembly was born with a group of Mexican believers on Azusa Street. This group was expelled in 1909 upon receiving the revelation of the name of Jesus Christ. And this group continued to hold services and Bible studies in homes.
- In 1912 there is already a record in the city of Los Angeles of the first two congregations of the Apostolic Assembly. These were established in the home of Pastor Genaro Valenzuela (627 Alpine Street) and in the home of Minister Juan Navarro (1514 St. James Street).

Among the oldest reports of the Apostolic Assembly, we find records that measured growth by decades:

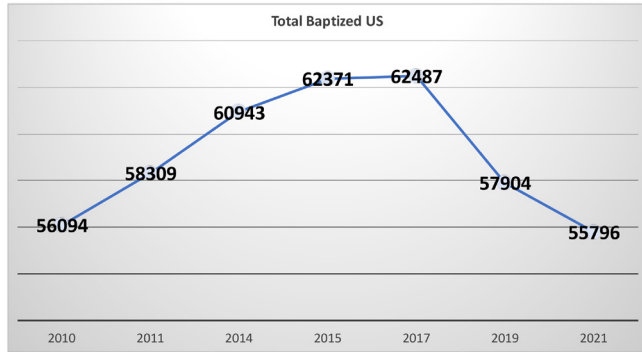
### 1912 TO 1920 FROM 2 TO 11 CONGREGATIONS: A GROWTH OF 450%

Historical records reflect that by 1920 there were eleven apostolic congregations, ten in California: (Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego, Watts, Oxnard, El Río, San Bernardino, Colton, Riverside, and Calexico), and one congregation in Yuma, Arizona.

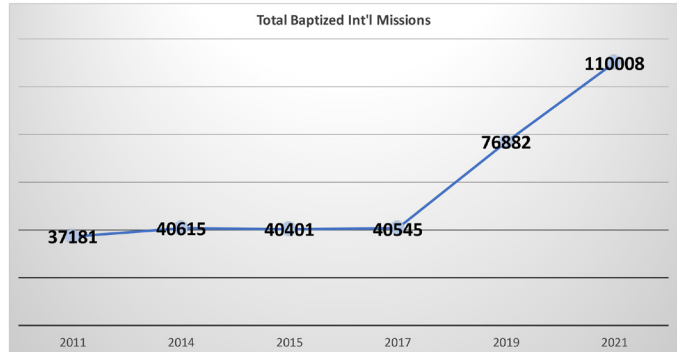
In this decade, the pioneers are characterized by:

- Seeing every new convert as a potential minister.
- Being church planters
- Visiting homes to give Bible studies, hold services, or give testimony.
- Using essentially Pentecostal and Apostolic preaching. They emphasized the baptism of the Holy Spirit by speaking in new tongues and water baptism in the name of Jesus Christ.
- And by planting new churches during the Spanish Flu Pandemic.

	2010	2011	2014	2015	2017	2019	2021
Total Baptized US	56094	58309	60943	62371	62487	57904	55796



	2011	2014	2015	2017	2019	2021
Total Baptized Int'l Missions	37181	40615	40401	40545	76882	110008



## 1920 TO 1930 FROM 11 TO 33 CHURCHES: A GROWTH OF 200%

During this decade, our pastors and ministers used the ministerial credentials from the “Pentecostal Assemblies of the World” (PAW). This apostolic organization was multiracial in its origin but ended up being a majority African-American corporation.

The Apostolic Assembly affirmed its doctrinal identity at its first convention in 1925.

Our organization had a team of leaders who complemented each other very well with their different gifts and abilities. Among them stood out Francisco Llorente, Marcial de la Cruz, Antonio C. Nava, Ramón Ocampo, Bernardo Hernández, Arturo Hermosillo, Pedro Torres, and Pedro Banderas.

## IN THIS DECADE, OUR FLEDGLING CHURCH:

- Maintained its Pentecostal-Apostolic preaching. This emphasis allows them to win many believers from trinitarian churches, who did not have the experience of the baptism of the Holy Spirit nor practiced the baptism in water in the name of Jesus Christ.
- Establishes its values and disciplines in its conventions from 1926 to 1930.
- The leadership instructs churches on how to train and select ministers.
- And it embraces the self-dependent model of the Church in the book of Acts. In other words, financial assistance or leadership assistance from other organizations is not sought, but each congregation establishes itself and sustains itself with its own resources.

## 1930 TO 1940: FROM 33 TO 66 CHURCHES: A GROWTH OF 100%

Under the leadership of President Antonio C. Nava, the Apostolic Assembly registered as a religious corporation in the state of California. This consolidated its identity as the oldest Hispanic apostolic corporation.

Patriarch Nava focused his leadership on winning over the Spanish-speaking Mexican immigrant workers who made up the vast majority of the Hispanic population in the United States.

The team of leaders of this generation managed to make a transition towards a stable form of organization, which protected it from depending on the charisma of one leader. This dependence caused other organizations to disappear. And this generation also gave our Church a doctrinal and organizational model with biblical balance, without extremism.

This generation of pioneers was also visionary, immediately working to create resources such as its hymnbook, monthly Bible lessons, and the publication of its Official Newsletter:

In this decade, the Apostolic Assembly:

- Learned to be a Resilient Church in the face of the Spanish Flu Pandemic, the Great Depression, and the first waves of mass deportations.
- Embraced the economic model of tithing.
- Organized its societies: Dorcas, Youth “Messengers of Peace” and Men.
- And established its form of organization with bishops (episcopal government).

## **1940 TO 1950 FROM 66 TO 105 CHURCHES: A GROWTH OF 59%**

- The Apostolic Assembly benefits from the maturity and experience of its first generation of leaders.
- In 1944, the leadership produced a their first Constitution. And this document is the answer to the challenges of the accelerated growth of the Church.
- And the Assembly grows by winning many “braceros” (immigrant farm workers) and many Mexican-American veterans, upon their return from World War II.
- The institutional model of the Assembly is consolidated with the transition of leadership to President Benjamín Cantú. This will be key to consolidating the growth of the Apostolic Assembly. The Church will advance through agreements made by leaders and ministers and members, not through the charisma of any particular leader.
- There is an increase in the purchase and construction of temples.

## **1950 TO 1966 FROM 105 TO 236 CHURCHES: A GROWTH OF 124%**

- In 1949, work in International Missions began.
- “We speak English”: a new generation of Mexican-American leaders emerges.
- A second key team of leaders comes together. This team includes Benjamín Cantú, Antonio C. Nava, Epifanio Cota, Ernesto Cantú, Lorenzo Salazar, Phillip Rangel and others.
- “Towards New Horizons” is the motto of the new decade.
- There is a new and strong emphasis on personal evangelism and evangelistic crusades.
- The culture of church planting continues among its bishops and pastors.
- 66 new temples are consecrated. A record number.
- The Assembly creates the Departments of Missions and Christian Education.

## **1966 TO 1986 FROM 236 TO 445 CHURCHES: A GROWTH OF 88%**

- In 1970 the pastors affirmed the institutional model of the church.
- Preaching during this time takes on an eschatological emphasis: “Revival before the King’s Arrival”.
- Apostolic preaching gains a new and very charismatic style.
- The Apostolic Assembly expands beyond the American Southwest and new districts are born in different regions of the country.
- A new leadership team arises for the moment, leaders such as Lorenzo Salazar, Antonio C. Nava, Daniel Jauhull, Roberto Ramírez, Baldemar Rodriguez, Manuel Vizcarra, Elías Duarte and Isaac Cota among others.
- The first church growth program arose, proposed by Bishop Richard Almaraz.

## **1986 TO 2010 FROM 445 TO 712 CHURCHES: A GROWTH OF 60%**

- The Assembly continues to grow under its institutional model.
- In the United States, the Apostolic Assembly reaches almost every state in the nation. International Missions reaches more than 20 nations.
- A third generation of apostolic leaders arises for the task of leading the Church.
- Leaders search for new models. Many bishops and pastors implement the “Purpose Driven Church” model.
- At the 2004 General Convention, 52,000 baptized members were reported.
- In 2004, the seminar “*Why and How the Assembly Grows*” was carried out: a study of 20 growing congregations at that time.
- In 2005 Road Map plan was launched: a plan to promote a spiritually healthy corporation and healthy congregations and families.
- The small group model of the church begins to influence the Apostolic Assembly.
- The “Jesus Strategy” program was created in 2007 and presented at the 2007 Ministerial Convention.
- In July 2008, a National Seminar on the “Jesus Strategy” was held, but in September 2008, the cell-group program stopped as the national program.
- In 2009, an evaluation of the baptisms in water carried out in recent years shows that the retention of newly baptized in our congregations is just only the 10%.
- In 2010, 56,094 baptized members were reported, a growth of 7.87%.



• In 2010: a record number of 10,335 baptisms in water is reported.

## 2010 TO 2022

• In November 2010 the “Jesus Strategy” program was relaunched as the national program of the Apostolic Assembly. Pastors report every month their baptisms in water.

• In May 2013, the monthly monitoring of baptisms in the churches is canceled.

• In 2013, 60,953 baptized members were reported, a growth of 8.66%.

• In 2013, 9,836 water baptisms were reported.

• In 2014, 60,943 baptized members were reported in General Convention.

• In 2015, 62,371 baptized members were reported.

• In 2017, 62,487 baptized members were reported in the United States.

• In 2019, 57,904 baptized members were reported.

• In 2021, 55,796 baptized members were reported (General Convention report).

• In 2021, International Missions reports more than 110,000 baptized members and mission work in 43 countries.

• In the census, as of December 31, 2022, 55,810 baptized members were reported in the United States.

## CONCLUSION:

The Apostolic Assembly has in its spiritual DNA, to be a Church that believes in the power of the Holy Spirit, that believes in the perfect Word of God and that believes that God has given it the Mission of preaching the gospel to all nations, baptizing disciples in the name of Jesus, and teaching them to keep the commandments of Christ.

There are no excuses, because in the past our Church has flourished through world wars, pandemics, financial collapses, and mass deportations. Christ continues to build his Church!

Let us resume the Model of Jesus, like the Early Church, sowing the gospel in thousands of homes every week! In the name of Jesus Christ, let us plant new churches in the five hundred thousand cities in all the nations that need the gospel!



Bishop  
Ismael Martín del Campo,  
General Secretary

# PROPOSALS-INITIATIVES TO THE CONSTITUTION



Dear Bishops, Elders, and Pastors,

Praise the Lord!

I officially inform you that the General Board of Directors agreed in the month of June 2023, that new Proposals-Initiatives to the Constitution can be presented during the 2023 Legislative Ministerial Convention.

We will begin to receive new proposals starting today, July 10, 2023, these new Proposals-Initiatives:

1. As indicated in Article 86, Clause I, must be sent to the General Secretary and I will be receiving them at my email [ismaelmdc@apostolicassembly.org](mailto:ismaelmdc@apostolicassembly.org) or that of my Administrator, Pastor Ben Pacheco: [bpacheco@apostolicassembly.org](mailto:bpacheco@apostolicassembly.org)

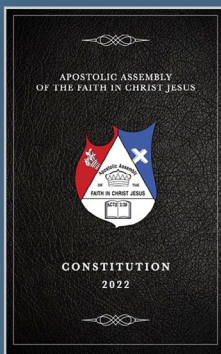
2. You can also send your Proposals-Initiatives by mail to: 5401 Citrus Ave. Fontana, CA 92336.

3. I will present the new Proposals-Initiatives for 2023 at the Convention in the chronological order in which they are received.

4. The deadline to receive the new Proposals-Initiatives will be September 30, 2023.

5. All Bishops and Pastors have the right to present a maximum of five amendments per year (Article 86, Clause V).

6. On Monday, October 16, 2023, I will send to all the Bishops and Pastors, the new Proposals-Initiatives that have been received in 2023 (Article 86, Clause VI).



We pray that God will guide your Proposals-Initiatives!

  
Bishop Ismael Martín del Campo,  
General Secretary

# A WORD FROM THE GENERAL TREASURER

## WE CAN BUILD THE CHURCH!

Brethren of the Apostolic Assembly, Greetings in the Name of JESUS!

The Apostle Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 4:2-4: “Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful”. It is an honor and a privilege to serve the Apostolic Assembly as the General Treasurer. My desire is to faithfully serve our beloved organization by providing financial oversight.

As the General Treasurer, it is my responsibility to ensure that all funds received are being used for its intended purposes and to give an account of how all funds are allocated for expenses, programs, and major purchases. Currently, the General Treasury has four goals that we are working towards.

### GOAL #1 – A BALANCED BUDGET

This goal during my tenure is to work hard in creating a balanced budget that supports the vision and mission of the Apostolic Assembly. This includes evaluating expenditures and making necessary budget cuts in order to free up resources for other needs.



We understand the importance of the preaching of the Gospel, and it is our desire to ensure that there is sufficient funding to carrying out the plan for church growth and expansion.

### GOAL #2 – MISSIONS

Prior to becoming the General Treasurer, I served a total of eight years on the national level as the Secretary of International Missions. You can say that I have a heart for missions. It has been my passion for years.

Our goal is to see our International Missions department continue to grow and establish churches throughout the world. To accomplish this, it is my responsibility to ensure that there are more than enough funds to cover these programs.

### GOAL #3 TRANSPARENCY

It is important that we are transparent by providing updated and accurate reports. Part of this transparency is going through the annual audit process in which the books of the Apostolic Assembly are examined thoroughly. The purpose of the audit is to receive certified financials which increases the confidence of the Pastors, Banks, and Investors.

### GOAL #4 - APOSTOLIC MUTUAL

The General Treasury would like to see more churches and individuals invest in Apostolic Mutual. If you haven't heard of Apostolic Mutual, it is the Loan Fund of the Apostolic Assembly. Churches and Church Members from certain states can open a Certificate of Deposit.

These deposits are in turn lent to churches for major repairs or purchases. Part of the vision statement for Apostolic Mutual is to become the “primary lender” of the Apostolic Assembly.

### CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it is my heart's desire to do my best to serve our organization. I believe that the goals that we have set for the General Treasurer's Department are realistic and achievable. We look forward to working together with you as a team to help reach the goals, for together WE CAN BUILD THE CHURCH!

God bless you richly,  
Bishop Andy Provencio  
General Treasurer



BUILD THE CHURCH:  
**MISSION**  
MATTHEW 16:18

*And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church,  
and the powers of death shall not prevail against it.*



We are celebrating the progress of the  
3rd phase of our Corporate Office remodel.

Jesus said in Mark 16:15,

*“Go into all the world and preach the gospel..”*

The Globe represents the 44 countries the Apostolic Assembly has preached the Gospel message in and reminds us of the work that still needs to be done.

# INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

## “SEE, I AM DOING A NEW THING!...”



*“See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the deserts and streams in the infertile land.”* Isaiah 43:19

Paz de Cristo Amados Partners of International Missions

Our joy is being able to share with everyone the new exciting works that God is doing around the world with the focus of fulfilling the Mission: Build the Church.

Here are some of the achievements in the International Mission Field:



### DECEMBER:

Missionary Jesus Perez turned over the responsibility of the island of Puerto Rico to the new missionary family which includes Missionary Isaac Soberano and his wife Sister Nohemi and their four children to continue with the Mission of Building the Church on the island of enchantment. We were able to rejoice with the brethren launching and declaring the words of the prophet Isaiah that the Lord will do a “new thing” in Puerto Rico.

### JANUARY:

In the month of January, we were able to join our brethren in Costa Rica where a wonderful general

electoral convention was celebrated for the first time since the pandemic. More than 1200 attended including dignitaries and brethren from other Central American countries where the glory of God was present with healings and an outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Services included ordination and graduation ceremonies that were carried out with excellence. Bishop Tulio Cerda passed over the responsibility of the presidency to the newly elected Bishop President Fidel Sanchez accompanied by his newly elected general board. Their theme of “Proclaiming the Vision” was a harmonious parallel with the Mission: Build the Church.

### FEBRUARY:

In Honduras a powerful General Electoral Convention in Honduras, with the theme “Revive Your Work”, was celebrated with more than 1000 brethren in attendance. The Spirit of the Lord was present with a powerful outpouring of the Holy Spirit with many speaking in tongues for the first time. Bishop Luciano Dominguez passed the leadership of Honduras to President-elect Jaime Torres and his new National Board of Directors. There were ceremonies for both ordination and graduates from the IABC.

### MARCH:

In the region of Asia, we were able to attend the official inauguration of a beautiful church in Hetauda, Nepal where we celebrated two days of beautiful conferences organized by Pastor Ashok where there were healings, deliverance and several were filled with the Holy Spirit. Pastor Campa, whose church contributed a great portion of the construction of the temple, was present on this trip together with Bro. Angel Rangel and Bro. Robert Figueroa all of whom God used mightily during the conferences. Two more pastors were formally ordained as pastors there in Nepal.

We were summoned to pray for a member in her home who could not walk being confined to her bed after falling off a tree. On the last day of the conference after service she came through the back door walking towards the altar with such joy declaring Jesus had healed her! At

a nearby river, we were able to baptize 14 in the name of Jesus. Although persecuted by the government and the general population, those who cling to Buddhism the brethren in Nepal remain strong focused on the Mission of Building the Church. In the city of Kathmandu, we visited two hostels where 20 girls who had been rescued from the streets by Pastor Kamel living under the auspices of a special couple from the church.

## **APRIL:**

In late March and early April, we were able to finish the required courses for 35 IABC Kenyan and Ugandan students to graduate towards by the end of this year. The students received a special anointing by our International Presiding Bishop Felipe Salazar. Bishop Salazar made history, in that since the work began in Africa in 2006, he is the first president of the Assembly to have arrived in Africa.

Over the weekend we celebrated our Electoral General Convention in Kenya where more than 400 brothers from different parts of the country attended in a glorious harmony where God's promises of blessings and eternal life came to fruition. We concluded with 27 being baptized in the name of Jesus Christ by our president and this humble servant! Bishop Duncan Ndegwe Nderi having been president since the work began in Kenya handed over the responsibility of the church to the new president-elect, Bishop Philip Gichohi Muriithi and his newly elected Board of Directors to continue the Mission of Building the Church!

In the Caribbean region, the fiftieth anniversary of the work of the Caribbean was celebrated. The Missionary Fidel Almaraz, his wife Sr. Petra and his family arrived in Puerto Rico in December 1972 and thus began the work that was to be the birthing center in establishing the work in the Dominican Republic. Sis. Petra Almaraz, who will be 95 years old this year, and her children were able to attend where our Bishop President Felipe Salazar gave a prophetic declaration of expansion over Puerto Rico in the building where the first services were celebrated in 1972 which was both the missionary house and church.

Services were celebrated in Caguas, Guaynabo and Aguas Buenas, the church which was built by the Missionary Fidel Almaraz. Brothers arrived from the United States and the Dominican Republic, including former missionaries and their wives who added their "grain of sand" for the work to grow. Let us continue to pray for the new missionary Isaac Soberano and wife Nohemí and family that God will use them mightily to

expand the kingdom of God throughout Puerto Rico! Our International President Salazar challenged all of the members to make their homes as "cities of refuge" to reach the whole world by bringing them Jesus Christ who can do all things.

In Cuba, even though there is an economic crisis throughout the country National Conferences were



able to be celebrated in Guantanamo where brethren arrived from the east and west of Cuba. We were able to celebrate the Lord's Supper, marry 2 couples, present some children, initiate a deacon, receive 2 pastors and baptize 26 in the name of Jesus Christ with a total of 52 for this trip, the majority the results of the Friendship Groups of the Strategy of Jesus!

We did a tour Eastern Cuba, even though we had to obtain gasoline from the outside market as there was no gasoline in the gas stations. A liter of gasoline was priced at up to \$8 per liter. God opened the door where we were able to secure gasoline and we were able to make a trip to the most eastern tip of Cuba where we baptized 8, glory to God! Pray, as has opened a channel where we could possibly obtain legalization in Cuba which would be a miracle in itself!

## **MAY:**

In the month of May a great congress of Dorcas was celebrated in the country of Paraguay where approximately 200 Dorcas came focused on the theme: "the Heart of a Woman that Builds". They were launched to build their marriages, families, and communities through small groups to expand the Kingdom of God. In this same trip new pastors were presented, and we inaugurated the church of Bella Vista.

*continued on pg 24*

At the end of the month of May, we celebrated an Electoral Convention where Bishop Kelly Chitwaka was elected as president together with a General Board to continue the Mission of Building the Church in Zambia. More than 40 pastors are now preaching the Apostolic Message.

## **JUNE:**

Mission Brazil, with a group of more than 80 participants, led by Evangelist Mingo Gracia arrived in the city of Rio de Janeiro where they met with Missionary Abrelino Alves. We flew to the north of Brazil to the city of Macapá where we boarded a boat to take us down the



Amazon River to minister to some children, pray for a community project and minister in a trinitarian church where the glory of God came down. Missionary Alves has now connected with Pastor Paolo of Afua who attends to the children in order to begin a work in the north of Brazil with the Apostolic message where we have no work today.

## **SPECIAL PROJECTS:**

### **Orphanage/School in Kenya:**

A water well with its tower is almost finished that will be able to bring water to the orphanage and even enough to sell to the surrounding community as means of generating income for the same orphanage / school. We are supporting an Apostolic Academy of 70 low income children, 25 of which are orphans that we can transfer to the new orphanage/school when it is finished that will have space to house up to 60 children.

We once again invite you to be a donor in making this project a reality. We need only 250 people who to donate \$1000 and we can have it already built by the end of this year. Please help us achieve this historic goal!

In South Africa we are about to finish the construction of the first temple of the Apostolic Assembly there in

Johannesburg. The government donated the property with the stipulation that a church be constructed there.

In the country of Ecuador, aid was sent to finish a temple there in Ecuador to continue in the vision of the Mission: Build the Church.

In India, funds were sent to complete the purchase of land to establish a conference center.

In Kenya we have bought a church with a large amount property for only \$4000, glory to God!

In the French-speaking Democratic Republic of Congo funds were sent to establish headquarters there with their sanctuary where God through Bishop Moise are doing a wonderful job in that in two years the work has grown from 25 churches now to 107 churches with a membership that has grown from 695 to over 15,000 for the honor and glory of the Lord Jesus Christ!

In Equatorial Guinea, the only country in Africa where Spanish is spoken, we are in the process of buying land to build a temple and school there.

Truly, in all regions (North America, Central America, Caribbean, Southern Cone, Europe, Africa and Asia) where we have an Apostolic presence, new works are being raised, with new temples being inaugurated, new Friendship Groups being established, the baptism of lost souls, outpouring of the Holy Spirit with new disciples being formed as we continue in the Mission: Build the Church.

Thank you for your prayers and efforts in embracing the vision of Global Missions. How many times have my wife and I have not felt the pain as parents of children who ask for our help but we have no more to give them. Thank you, Dorcas, for your continued effort of Blue Flower, but we are asking everyone to please join the “one dollar a day” project to support the Mission Field.

We are believing that this year we will raise more than the goal of \$3 million in order to continue expanding the Kingdom of God throughout the world with the Apostolic message!



Bishop Steven Moran  
International Missions

# HELP FULFILL A CHILD'S GREATEST NEEDS

## "Build The Orphanage" Kenya, Africa



*"Whosoever shall receive one of such children in my name, receiveth me: and whosoever shall receive me, receiveth not me, but him that sent me."*

*Mark 9:37*



For more information visit  
[www.apostolicasassembly.org](http://www.apostolicasassembly.org)

**Precious**  **Hearts**  
**Orphanage**

Please make a gift today.

# NATIONAL MISSIONS EDUCATE, ORGANIZE AND MOTIVATE



Praise the Lord!

I thank God for granting me the privilege of working in the Department of National Missions during these first months of the present administration. In our Assembly, I can perceive a clear, precise and concrete vision from our Bishop President Felipe Salazar. The mission of our church is evangelism, discipleship and small groups.

Our purpose is “Educate, Organize and Motivate the church to grow through the Strategy of Jesus.” We envision a church that is Cellular, Healthy and Growing.

Based on the vision of our Bishop President Felipe Salazar (2023): “Build the Church: Mission “ Matthew 16:18, National Missions joins this vision with the motto: “Build the Church, Beginning in Jerusalem (Acts 1:8).”

In these first months, we have connected with the Regional Elders, Missionaries, National Evangelists and the National Missions Committee.

The vision and focus of National Missions stands in the following 6 areas, which are the Regions, Mission Fields, National Evangelists, School of Evangelists, School of Church Planters, and Reach America.

## 1. REGIONS

Each region has presented their work plan and their plan to transition into a small groups based region. Additionally each region has committed itself to planting 2 new works. We have started training through Regional Jesus Strategy Workshops. I have developed closer connections and followed-up via Zoom with the Regional Elders, Missionaries and Pastors. We have also commenced our season of Regional Conventions, where we have rejoiced in the move of the Lord. We know that the Lord will use the newly elected leaders in each region.

## 2. MISSION FIELDS

In April of this year, we installed the new missionary to Billings, Montana: Minister Juan Carlos González and his wife Anabel. By faith, we will see growth in this area. This month National Missions held a Jesus Strategy seminar in the Hawaiian countryside, where



we know that the Lord will continue to build the church. We are still working and making connections to fulfill the vision of planting works in the remaining 7 states, which are Alaska, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, West Virginia, Delaware, and North Dakota. The plan is still to install National Missionaries there who are working with the Strategy of Jesus. We want these men to attend the School of Church Planters and prepare them for this task.

## 3. NATIONAL EVANGELISTS

Thank the Lord, we have met with the committee of evangelists and are currently working to restructure the general work and requirements for evangelists. Lord willing, we will be launching the School of Evangelists, where the goal will be to train new evangelists who operate in the ministry and gifts that the Lord has given them, according to the appropriate guidelines and norms. The purpose of the School of Evangelists is to instruct ministers with potential and who have the characteristics to be district evangelists. Upon completing 4 years as evangelists in their respective districts, they can apply to be national evangelists.

## 4. SCHOOL OF CHURCH PLANTERS

This month we will be launching the School of Church Planters. The School of Church Planters is in line with the vision of our Bishop President Felipe Salazar for the growth of the Assembly in step with the National Committee of the Strategy of Jesus. It will take place in



**7 STATES IN NEED OF THE APOSTOLIC MESSAGE ALASKA, DELAWARE, MAINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE, NORTH DAKOTA, VERMONT, WEST VIRGINIA.**

the city of Fontana CA, on September 21-23, 2023. Each District and Region will send at least 2 ministers with the authorization and blessing of their respective bishop and pastor. Graduates of the School of Church Planters will consent to be ready to leave and plant New Works in their districts or regions. Our focus is the planting of 300 new works in the nation in the course of 4 years. If we follow this vision we can reach 1,000 churches and works!

### 5. REACH AMERICA

Alongside the men’s confederation, the goal is to increase the annual offering by 12%. By planting 40 New Works in the regions and installing 7 national missionaries in the states where there is no Apostolic flag in the United States, we need to increase the economy and we are looking for new avenues to achieve this goal. This is not in the current budget, but it is in God’s budget. Let’s take action and the resources will appear.

“Build the Church, Beginning in Jerusalem (Acts 1:8).”

God Bless You,  
Bishop Francisco Quezada  
National Missions



## HAS GOD GIVEN YOU A DESIRE FOR MISSIONS?

The apostolic assembly shares your passion to fulfill the Great Commission by multiplying leaders, churches, and missions. **“BUILD THE CHURCH: MISSION”** Let’s start the conversation about your next steps with missions by contacting National Missions today.

Contact Christian. M. Gonzalez, Department Administrator for more information and process. **909-987-3013**



# PK CONFERENCE 2023 UPDATE



Praise The Lord,

For seven years now, PK Camp/Conference has been a hub, network, and cocoon where lives are healed, transformed, and launched. This year has been no different as Pastor's Kids from the West Coast to the East Coast came together in Union City, California, to experience one of the most unique ministries that the church offers: the Pastor's Kids Conference. This year was a bit different as we shifted to a conference modeled after a church setting which allowed the entire pastoral family to attend. Pastoral families were healed and fortified at this conference as fathers and sons worshipped together while mothers and daughters prayed together. First time attendees at the conference had their eyes opened as they felt the joy and privilege of being part of such a special group.

The worship was electric, the messages were salient, and the conferences were relevant, meeting the spiritual needs of all who attended. From the child working through a turbulent period in life to the promising church creative and to the worship leader, all who attended were deeply impacted by the conference.

This year's theme was Covenant Keepers, taken from Exodus 3:15: "Say to the Israelites, The Lord, the God of your fathers – the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob – has sent me to you." The conference message was to remind our Pastor's Kids that we serve a God who keeps his covenant and that the blessings and calling of God is generational. Therefore, because of this generational call, He will not fail in His pursuit of calling and equipping our Pastor's Kids in ministerial work and service.



Here are a few testimonies of those who attended...

“

*This Pk Conference was so refreshing for my daughter & I to attend...we are a New Work and it's a labor of love. It's encouraging to know our Apostolic Assembly is willing to invest in our PK's & Embrace new beginnings.”*

– James O.

*“Our first time attending PK Camp as a married couple was amazing, inspiring, and just what we needed!”*

– Pedro and Viadrana Z.

*“Went to PK Conference worn out, came back home renewed.”*

– Stephanie M.

*“Always are blessing to go. You meet amazing people and you ministered to by great men and women of God.”*

– Sinai L.

*“PK Conference forever changed me, I'm so thankful to have attended; grateful for the friendships and powerful messages!”*

– Bania C.

*“It was a unique and one of a kind experience”*

– Carlos G.

*“PK Conference was an incredible stepping stool to be able to walk into a new season of serving my local church much greater than before.”*

– Aileen M.

We hope to see you all next year!

Blessings,  
Pastor Steven G. Rodriguez, PK Camp Director



# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION “THE MOST POWERFUL MEANS OF TRANSFORMATION: EDUCATION.”



History teaches us that the most powerful and cruel battles that the Church has faced are those of an ideological nature and that affects the spiritual life and all areas of society. Specifically speaking of the internal struggles within the Church, when vain ideas begin to seep and sow confusing themselves with the good seed, as the Lord warns us in Matthew 13:25 “...but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way...” What should we do? The response of the workers was coercion, restriction, suppression and threat, but the Lord’s response is the one that interests us, get ready, the bad seed will be there and will bear its bad fruits. We are going to prepare ourselves through education, training, coaching and creating results. We will be ready for the challenges and needs of our generation.

Next, I continue to share good seeds (good academic projects) that are already being developed and soon we will look at the results we seek to harvest.

## **SCHOOL OF PASTORAL FORMATION**

The pastoral training school was a great success with more than 150 participants, giving more than 33 courses of ministerial & pastoral training, in English and Spanish, with selected conferences for women. At the same time, a follow-up program was implemented through monthly lessons via zoom, the first of which was held on July 17. “Edu-action: education with action” preparing the new apostolic pastoral generation of the new millennium.

## **THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SECRETARIAT OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

A great historical step has been taken with the appointment of our first IABC dean, Dr. Janae Quezada, whom we congratulate and pray for her, wishing her great success. Alex Tarin has been hired to

assist, communicate and facilitate the responsibilities of the Secretary of Education in all the areas it represents.

## **BOOKSTORE & CE PUBLISHING HOUSE**

We encourage you to continue acquiring the materials you need through the Apostolic Assembly Bookstore. We seek to have a bookstore that is digital, we are not there yet, but we are establishing the steps that will lead us to achieve this milestone in the literature we produce. It is entering a new digital era that is now a dream but will become a reality.

## **THE APOSTOLIC HERALD**

As you have observed, it has only been offered in digital format. This saved us several thousand dollars and its distribution has been instantaneous and without limits. At the same time, interactive links were included, which when you click on them redirect you to other pages of interest, without the need to use the browser.

## **INTERNATIONAL APOSTOLIC BIBLE COLLEGE**

A coordinator has been established to lead a group of apostolic writers to revise and update the first 20 books in the year 2023 and the other 20 books for the year 2024. The books will be designed in digital format and we are looking for these to be interactive.

## **CONTINUING EDUCATION SEMINAR**

We will be initiating on August 1, the first continuing education seminar for all the districts of the Apostolic Assembly. This seminar will present principles and teaching techniques that will definitely help all participants bishops, elders, pastors, ministers and education leaders in the local churches. The number of participants is unlimited, it is for as many as each District Bishop invites to participate. This will raise the standards of teaching at all levels of education.

# Inspiring Tomorrow's Educators Today!



DR. ABEL VILLANUEVA  
PART 1: LESSON 1  
AUG. 1, 2023

DR. JANA E. QUEZADA  
PART 1: LESSON 2  
AUG. 8, 2023

DR. WALDO MORENO  
PART 1: LESSON 3  
AUG. 15, 2023

## CONTINUING EDUCATION TRAINING FOR EDUCATORS

This series of training videos are intended to teach the art of delivery for teaching.

View the video series at:  
[www.apostoliceducation.com](http://www.apostoliceducation.com)  
(6 lessons in this two-part series)



## DEPARTMENT OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

"The Most Powerful Means of Transformation: Education"

## IN PARTNERSHIP WITH GORDON CONWELL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

LATINO & GLOBAL MINISTRIES  
GORDON CONWELL  
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

They are now accepting applications for FALL 2023's following Programs:

- Certificate in Christian Studies - 100% Remote
- Masters in Theological Studies - 100% Remote
- Doctorate of Ministry - Hybrid Program

Please contact Dean Janae E. Quezada with any questions at [JEA413@gmail.com](mailto:JEA413@gmail.com)



DEPARTMENT OF  
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
INTERNATIONAL APOSTOLIC  
BIBLE COLLEGE

"The Most Powerful Means of Transformation: Education"

## SPREAD THE WORD!

We are opening a social media page to share events and activities that will inspire and challenge all followers. It is in the early stages, but with your participation we will be able to move faster and make it more dynamic and interesting. I encourage you to be part of the academic apostolic movement by following us on the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/IABC22>

We congratulate all the students who have graduated or will graduate this year 2023. These are achievements that we celebrate and that are important for the advancement of the gospel in the communities through the local churches. go ahead!

We opened a website where you can purchase promotional products of the Apostolic Assembly and our vision. You can find the link in the Apostolic Christian Bookstore.

Bishop  
Armando Tamez  
Christian Education



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





# SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

## REVIVAL MOVING FORWARD



### EMBRACING HOPE

The department of Social Assistance extends their sincere gratitude and thanks for supporting our Embracing Hope and Fierce Little hearts ministries over the years. We would like to sincerely thank sister Dee Dee Rodriguez for the vision to launch this ministry many years ago. It has been a tremendous blessing to thousands of people. She and her staff ministered to thousands of people over the years and provided hope to those with cancer and terminal illnesses. We know

Cynthia Guzman, Sister Dee Correa will continue as our leads and help with the supervision of their districts. Sister Josefa Rivas will continue with our radio program “La Voz de Esperanza”. In March 2023, in our presentation to the Joint Bishops meeting, we emphasized the importance of this ministry and how they can help promote, encourage, and implement a program for their district and local churches. We sincerely thank you, all our district coordinators for your continued support of this ministry.



of many that have been healed by the prayers of this powerful ministry.

We are excited to announce that Sister Belinda Escobedo has been approved by the general board of directors as the new national Director of Embracing Hope Ministries under Social Assistance. My wife, Sis. Edna Rojas will serve as the advisor to this important ministry. We would also like to inform you that Sister

### THE BRIDGE COUNSELING MINISTRY

Under the direction of Dr. Joel Dominguez, this ministry will focus on proving resources to pastoral families in need of personal counseling. Many of our Pastors and their family undergo tremendous stress as they labor in their local church and communities. We have felt that this ministry will provide an avenue for the pastor and any member of his family to seek professional counseling under the strictest confidentiality guidelines. We pray that it will help all our pastors and their family as we

continue to BUILD THE CHURCH: MISSION! It is vitally important that our pastoral families be healthy and sound to accomplish our mission!

### AC NAVA FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Our annual scholarship program continues for graduate, undergraduate and vocational students. Please go to [www.apostolicdsa.com](http://www.apostolicdsa.com) and fill out the application to qualify for this year's program. The deadline to submit the application will be August 31, 2023. We look forward to receiving the applications of our students and providing funding for their education. Please see poster with all the details.

### MYANMAR ORPHANAGE

The department of Social Assistance was able to send funds and purchase several items in our orphanage in Myanmar. Pastor Soe Win is doing a great work in

that region, and we continue to pray for a great revival moving forward. Please see the attached photos of some of our children and supplies they received. We sincerely thank Bishop Joe Prado for his work in that region.

Respectfully,  
Bishop Samuel Rojas  
Social Assistance



# IN LOVING MEMORY

Below is the list of our brethren that have gone to be with the Lord and now rest of their labor. We honor the lives of these men and women, who faithfully served and finished their race well. May God strengthen every family during this difficult time. Our sincere condolences to all the families and churches affected by the loss of these great leaders.

Secretary of Social Assistance

Pastor Socorro Rios, Las Vegas, NV

Retired Pastor Alfredo Torres, Greenville, TX

Elder Joseph Urioste, Clovis, NM

Pastor Samuel Espinoza, Firebaugh, CA

Sis. Ruth Prado, Compton, CA

Sis. Patti Nava, Union City, CA

Retired Pastor Eliseo J. Sanchez, Richmond, VA

Retired Pastor Audon Pelayo, Los Angeles, CA

Sis. Angela Jauhall, Portland, OR

Retired Pastor Jose Tarin, Roswell, NM

Sis. Carmen Rivas Velarde, Los Angeles, CA

Sis. Ophelia Tualla, Corcoran, CA

Sis. Lilia Loya, National City, CA #2

**SCHOOL  
OF PLANTERS**



## Ministerial Program Application & Registration

September 21-23, 2023  
International Apostolic Assembly Headquarters  
Fontana, California  
visit [www.aaofch.com](http://www.aaofch.com) for details.



# CELEBRATING FLOR AZUL'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY



In 1973, the United States suffered an energy crisis, the Vietnam war was happening, the Watergate scandal trial began, and the Supreme Court issued its landmark decision (Roe v. Wade) to legalize abortion. As stressful and complicated as all these things were in 1973, the Holy Spirit was also moving in the hearts of women in leadership within the Apostolic Assembly. One such woman, Lita Alvarez, a woman in a “Still Standing” season (single mother) relates in historical accounts, the story of how the Blue Flower (Flor Azul) ministry began.

Flor Azul has turned into a consistent resource of economic support for international missions in the Apostolic Assembly of the Faith in Christ Jesus. Flor Azul funds missionary salaries, housing, construction, building repairs, transportation in all shapes and forms, legal expenses, supervision, and missionary children’s education.

The cultural of generosity has been established for the last 50 years to arrive at the position we are in right now which allows us to fund all these areas for our missionaries and more. The Apostolic Assembly National Dorcas are a source to be reckoned with in all aspects of their walk. We are powerful women of God that know and have the ability to balance all aspects of our lives, Heart, Soul, and Mind so that the Lord can use us in such an Elevated and Radiant manner that we impact all we touch—our children, our friends, our work, our profession, our community and in this case International Missions. Let us not tire but continue this cultural generosity as the Lord has seen us first and has equipped us.

It has been 50 years since that first official love offering was collected for our International Missionaries. During the course of these 5 decades, methods to raise money have changed, amounts have evolved, and leadership transition has happened. However, what has not

changed is the love, passion, and desire within the hearts of Apostolic Women to continue to serve God and serve people in any season of their lives and do so in elevated fashion. We thank the Apostolic Women for their labor of love on this 50th anniversary of the Flor Azul ministry and the culture of giving that has been established in every district.



There is additional Flor Azul information available in a piece of literature called, Apostolic Women in Leadership, 2nd Edition which can be ordered @ [aanationaldorcas.com](http://aanationaldorcas.com).

In the Service of the Lord,  
National Ladies’ Confederation Board  
Georgia E. Vásquez, Dr. Ruth Crutchfield, and  
Rebeca DeLeon



# SCHOOL PASTORAL FOR



# **SCHOOL OF INFORMATION 2023**

# SCHOOL OF PASTORAL FORMATION

## THE FUTURE IS IN EDUCATION



Pastors, and Educators. The classes were presented completely in English and Spanish, as specific classes for women.

In this administration, a follow-up academic extension was initiated that includes 11 monthly zoom lessons, which will help connect the two weeks that are mandatory for the completion of the two years program.

We thank the SOPF committee led by Bishop Jesse Valdez and his wife Janice; assisted by Bishop Jesse Rodriguez and his wife Luz, Elder George Barbosa and his wife Dina, and for the women's conferences my wife Nelly and Sister Ross Salazar, as well as all the pastors who sent their ministers, all the teachers who helped us, Sister Banda and all the staff of the general offices and the leaders of the Summit apostolic congregation and many others that I could not have named but who were of great help and support for the realization of SOPF-2023.

Thank you all!

May God reward you greatly and abundantly, in Christ Jesus.

Bishop Armando Tamez  
Christian Education

### A GREAT SUCCESS!

The School of Pastoral Formation has surpassed all expectations. The presence of the Lord filled the house and confirmed each training and conference given. We had the participation of ministers with very influential trajectories, they generously shared with us their transforming and transcendental experiences.

We were accompanied by ministers from all parts of our country, with 157 united participants preparing and training for a whole week, with a challenging curriculum that began every day at 8:00 am and ended at 9:30 pm. A ministerial and pastoral preparation program focused on qualities, characteristics, and the nature of such a high calling as Pastoring.

We had as teachers a select group with members of the International Board of Directors, Bishop Supervisors,



**THE DATES FOR SOPF  
2024 ARE AS  
FOLLOWS:**

JAN. 23, 2024  
FEB. 20, 2024  
MAR. 19, 2024  
APR. 16, 2024  
MAY. 14, 2024

SOPF CONFERENCE IN  
PERSON:  
JUNE 17TH-21TH, 2024



# APOSTOLIC ASSEMBLY CORPORATE OFFICE NEWS



## NEW DEAN OF IABC

The department of Christian Education would gladly like to announce the historic appointment of Dr. Janae Quezada as the new Dean of the International Apostolic Bible College. Dr. Quezada, a fourth-generation apostolic, and her husband Pastor Jonathan Quezada, and their three children, currently serve

at “The Harvest Church”, in Las Vegas, NV and oversee the New England Region of the Apostolic Assembly as Elder. Dr. Quezada has many accolades when speaking of education having completed her Bachelor of Arts at the University of Redlands, a Master of Divinity at Harvard Divinity School, and a Doctorate in Ministry at McCormick Theological Seminary. We are excited to have her serve in this new capacity and know that she will be a great blessing to the IABC and the Apostolic Assembly in this new position.



## NEW EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SECRETARY

We are excited to announce that our Corporate Office is continuing to expand and grow in many positive ways, as we endeavor to support the vision and mission to “Build the Church”. We

are delighted to welcome Minister Alex Tarin to the Corporate Team as the new Executive Assistant to the Secretary of Christian Education, Bishop Armando Tamez. Min. Alex will be based out of our International Headquarters in Fontana, California. We are excited to welcome him aboard and know that he will be a tremendous blessing to the Apostolic Assembly.

## “ABBA” APOSTOLIC BIBLICAL BROADCAST ASSOCIATION



## NEW VIDEO PRODUCTION STUDIO

The Apostolic Assembly’s theme is to Build the Church and our mission is to share the gospel message. To spread that message even further, the church sees the importance of being able to connect with church members and non-believers from all around the world via video/live stream production.



Today's video/media room needs to double as both a recording and a live streaming setup. Luckily, technology has advanced to the point that building a multi-purpose video/streaming studio is affordable for most churches. It is imperative that the Church starts to master these services now. Let's be prepared for a change! With a strong finely tuned video/live stream production, we will be ahead of the game and ready for the real communication revolution.



## CORPORATE OFFICE

The Corporate Office is comprised of a vibrant group of brothers and sisters who love Christ and are passionate about serving God's people. We are blessed with a team of dynamic, business professionals who specialize in various operational functions, in order to best serve our beloved organization and our constituents. Collectively, our departments work together to consistently provide timely, professional, effective, and efficient service. It is our goal, that with every interaction you have with a member of our team, that you receive the best quality care and service possible. We are here to serve you! We would like to share some great updates with you!

## RENOVATIONS

We recently completed a large renovation project that started with the last General Board of Directors and is now completed under this new administration. When you visit our Corporate Office and International Headquarters building you will see a beautiful globe, to represent all of the nations of the world and our mission to Build the Church, globally! We are continuing to work on additional projects to beautify and enhance the aesthetic experience that our guests have when they visit our office.

## EMPLOYEE COMMITTEES

There are some exciting and positive changes happening within our team of employees. In an effort to expand our Corporate Office and improve our organizational professionalism we have created two employee committees: 1) The Corporate Safety Team; 2) The Organizational Development Committee.

The Corporate Safety Team is comprised of eight employees who have received specialized training to help our organization with compliance to OSHA standards and to provide a safe working environment. Our employees have each completed State regulated courses and trainings, including the addition of CPR, First Aid, and AED training amongst other trainings. Together, this team works daily, to ensure the Corporate Office functions in a safe and healthy manner.

The Organizational Development Committee is comprised of 12 employees who work together to innovate creative ideas for the organization's growth and development. Together they have started several initiatives to make improvements to our corporate policies and our relations with our local churches.

## REAL ESTATE DEPARTMENT

Our Real Estate Department is comprised of a team of five professionals who work very diligently to service our local churches and pastors with all of their real estate needs. Although we are in a challenging market, our team is working very closely with our Strategic Partners and advisors to help us make smart and prudent decisions with each transaction. The team is working on introducing new trainings for Districts and Pastors soon!

## FROM THE OFFICE MANGER'S DESK

It is our great privilege and pleasure to serve our beloved Apostolic Assembly organization and every local church. Each employee is not only an active member of the Apostolic Assembly in their local churches, but they have a great passion and desire to serve the people of God well. I am impressed daily by the quality of professionalism and efficiency I see in our staff. I know that God has placed each member of our team here for this season of the Church's growth.

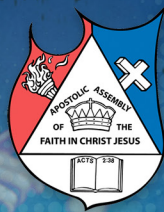
We covet your prayers as we strive, collectively, to serve you with excellence. Serving our Church in this capacity is one of the highest honors, and we are grateful for your support.



In His Service,  
Rev. Gabriel Gonzalez



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APOSTOLIC ASSEMBLY  
OF THE FAITH IN CHRIST JESUS

BUILD THE CHURCH:  
**MISSION**

MATTHEW 16:18

**2023 LEGISLATIVE CONVENTION &  
NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE**

“BUILDING TOGETHER”

**MOP REGISTRATION FEE: \$40 PER SEAT**  
(non-refundable)

**NOVEMBER 21ST - 25TH | ANAHEIM CONVENTION CENTER**

 NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE

**BUILDING  
TOGETHER**

  @aafcjintl [WWW.AAOFcj.COM](http://WWW.AAOFcj.COM)