



LATIN AMERICAN CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES (LACM)

Latin American Leadership Development Program (LALDP)

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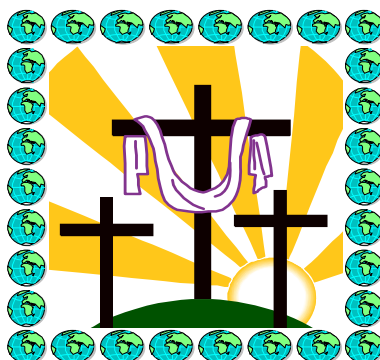
*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*

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Dear partners in Christ's

mission, Jean and I never cease to thank God for you! We are humbled by your loving interest, faithful prayer, and generous support! This venture would be impossible without your partnership-in-mission with us! With over 60 doctoral students we are now the largest Protestant Ph.D. program in Theology and Missiology in Latin America! We marvel at what God has done with your help in just 6 years! Thank you for your accompanying support of this ministry!



"We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints — the faith and love that spring from the hope that is stored up for you in heaven and that you have already heard about in the word of truth, the gospel that has come to you. All over the world the gospel is bearing fruit and growing..." — Col. 1:3-6

Our Schedule

- May 3-4 — Chuck attends the Hope College Board of Trustees, Holland, MI.
- May 14-18 — Andrew is with us in Glendora. Niece Ruth Justamante visits from Florida.
- May 19-23 — Chuck and Jean attend the Academic Council meeting in Miami.
- May 30 — Chuck's 2nd knee-replacement surgery.
- June 6 — Chuck and Jean's 37th wedding anniversary! Wow!
- June 9 — Fuller Seminary Commencement
- June – July — Chuck is at home recuperating from knee surgery, doing therapy, writing books. Jean nurses him back to health! :)
- July 28-Aug 4 — Chuck, Jean, daughter Anita & John Bateman, Cathy Barsotti and Rob Johnson will visit Macchu Picchu, ruins of the great Inca civilization in Peru.
- Aug 5-18 — Latin American Leadership Development intensive courses in Lima, Peru. Jean returns home the 11th, Chuck returns the 18th.
- Aug 13 — Jean's birthday!



Please pray for us!

Chuck and Jean with Jorge and Elizabeth Giron. The Giron's are a husband-wife missionary team based in Ohio. They recruit, mobilize and supervise a large number of Latin American missionaries sent by the Church of God, Cleveland, to unreached peoples around the world, especially to Asia. They are both doing doctoral studies in our program. **Pray for Jorge and Elizabeth!**

"Do you pray? Do you pray often, or only occasionally? Is prayer important to you? I ask these questions because prayer and praying are essential for your life of faith. Like breath to the human body, prayer makes the spirit live. Without it, faith dies. On the other hand, a person who prays grows in spirit and life....To begin with, prayer is a gift of God. 'Gift' is a good word to describe prayer, because praying is not something we can do of ourselves. 'We do not know how to pray as we ought,' the Scripture says. Prayer is a gift God must give. And God gives that gift generously, without consideration of our worthiness or our unworthiness....Yes, all are called to pray. All receive the gift....Prayer, then, is God's gift to the strong and the weak, to the smallest child and frailest of the old....Why does God give the gift of prayer? The main reason is because of love for us. God looks for intimacy with us. How strange that sounds! God, all-sufficient, all-powerful, all-knowing, wishes to draw close, to communicate, to speak to us, to seek our response, to hear our prayer. It may seem unbelievable, but it is true."

(Taken from: Fr. Victor Hoagland, CP, website, Passionist Missionaries, www.cptryon.org/prayer/gift.html, 4/5/2007.)



INTRODUCING OUR FACULTY – PLEASE PRAY FOR THEM!

We introduce you to three more Latin American professors who are our partners in this ministry. We will feature other faculty members in future Newsletters.

Dr. Sonia Abarca, from Costa Rica, holds a Master's in Educational Psychology and a Doctorate in Education. She has also studied Sociology and Law. She has taught in several national universities in Costa Rica and has served as the Director of the School of Psychology of the University of Costa Rica. She has taught in the Nazarene Evangelical Seminary in San Jose and is a faculty member in the Evangelical University of the Americas (UNELA). She teaches Educational Psychology.



Dr. Sonia Abarca



Dr. Antonio Carlos Barro

Dr. Antonio Carlos Barro, a Brazilian, is a Ph.D. graduate of the School of World Mission of Fuller Seminary. Antonio's doctoral research was on the Missiology of Orlando Costas, one of the most creative Latin American theologian-evangelist-missiologists of the last sixty years.

Returning to Brazil in the early 1990s, Antonio founded the 8th Presbyterian Church of Londrina and the South American Theological Seminary. He is the author or coauthor of, among others, Orlando Enrique Costas: A Mission Theologian at the Crossroads and on the Way; Liderança para um novo século; Educação Teológica Transformadora; and Missão Integral Transformadora. Dr. Barro teaches courses in Leadership.



"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience....And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God....Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us too."

Col. 3:12, 15-16, 4:2-3 NIV



Dr. Rubén Tito Paredes

Dr. Rubén Tito Paredes is Peruvian. He has a Ph.D. in anthropology from UCLA. Dr. Paredes is one of the leading experts in Andean anthropology, world view and socio-cultural transformation. He is the Director of the Evangelical Theological Faculty "Orlando Costas" of the Evangelical Andean Mission Center in Lima, Peru. Tito has served as General Secretary of the Latin American Theological Fraternity. He is a consultant for World Vision and other mission organizations. His publications include El evangelio: un Tesoro en vasijas de barro (The Gospel: A Treasure in Jars of Clay); "Cambio Social y Conversión," in Misión # 9 (June, 1984); "Evangelio y Cultura," in Clade III, Quito, 1992. Dr. Paredes teaches courses in the interface of religion and culture in the Latin American context.



“Epaphras, who is one of you, and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature, and fully assured.” — Colossians 4:12

Seventeen new students began in Londrina, Brazil in February, 2007



We are amazed at the wonderful people the Holy Spirit keeps bringing to study with us! Let us tell you about them. PLEASE PRAY FOR THEM..

Rafael Enrique Brenes Sanchez of Costa Rica is associate pastor of the Iglesia Cristiana La Carpa. He is the director of the Pastoral Ministries Department of the ESEPA Seminary. — **Rene Cortez Alvarez** is from El Salvador, has his M.Div. from Fuller Seminary, and presently pastors a Pentecostal church in Los Angeles. — **Elizabeth Girón** is Chilean and both she and her husband Jorge are doctoral candidates of PRODOLA. She is the coordinator of the Unreached Peoples Publications for the Church of God (Cleveland). — **Stuart Hook** is from Great Britain and found the Lord in Brazil. He is a professor of English and has worked in planting a Presbyterian church in Londrina, Brazil where he also works with drug addicts. — **Juan Lee**, of

Korean background, grew up and studied in Buenos Aires, and is currently the director of “Todas las Naciones” Seminary in Juarez, Mexico. — **Jorge Lolin Ortiz** is a pastor and professor in the Biblical Alliance Seminary in Quito, Ecuador. — **Julio Lopez** is a Guatemalan pastor in the Quaker Church with 35 years of experience in Honduras and Guatemala. He pastors a church in Chiquimula, Guatemala and works with World Vision and a social ministry. — **Gary McCaman** is from the USA and works with the Grace Brethren Church in Quilmes, Buenos Aires. He is working in a ministry of Seminary Extension, seeking to provide materials for both urban and non-urban areas in Argentina. — **Martín Ocaña Flores** is a Peruvian Baptist professor teaching in the Evangelical Baptist Seminary in southern Peru. — **Samuel Pérez Rivera** is a Puerto Rican pastor and educator of the Nazarene Church. He holds doctorates in Counseling and Psychotherapy. He is the pastor of the Abundant Life Nazarene Church in Bayamon, Puerto Rico, and an adjunct faculty professor of UNELA, San Jose, Costa Rica. — **Paschoal Piragine Junior** is a Brazilian pastor of the First Baptist Church in Curitiba and has served as the president of the Brazilian Baptist Convention with over 1 million members. He is the author of several books and holds a D. Min. degree from the South American Theological Seminary in Londrina. — **Alberto Salazar Gaviria** pastors a church in Ontario, Canada, with the Reformed Church of America. — **Julio Silverio** is a Brazilian Presbyterian pastor and psychologist. He is a professor and the acting President of the South American Theological Seminary in Londrina, Brazil. — **Roger Vergara Vargas** is Peruvian and is

of the Puerto Libre Christian and Missionary Alliance Church in Lima. — **Ezequiel Villar** is a Paraguayan Mennonite pastor and professor in the Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Asuncion, Paraguay. — **Erico Xavier** is a 7th Day Adventist pastor and educator in Brazil in Extension Seminary training. He is interested in doing a church growth investigation of the growth of the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Londrina, Brazil. — **José Salvador Zapeta**, a Guatemalan pastor and professor, leads a large Baptist church in Guatemala City and teaches Missiology and History in the Baptist Seminary in Guatemala City.





PRAY FOR BRAZIL



Republica Federativa do Brasil (Population 2006 est.: 188 million.)

Brazil covers nearly half of South America and is the continent's largest nation. It extends 2,965 mi (4,772 km) north-south, 2,691 mi (4,331 km) east-west, and borders every nation on the continent except Chile and Ecuador. (The land-mass of Brazil is roughly equal to that of continental USA.) Brazil may be divided into the Brazilian Highlands, or plateau, in the south and the Amazon River Basin in the north. Over a third of Brazil is drained by the Amazon and its more than 200 tributaries. The Amazon is navigable for ocean steamers to Iquitos, Peru, 2,300 mi (3,700 km) upstream. Southern Brazil is drained by the Plata system—the Paraguay, Uruguay, and Paraná rivers. Largest cities: São Paulo, 18.3M; Rio de Janeiro, 11.5M; Londrina, 4M; Salvador, 2.6M; Belo Horizonte 2.4M; Recife, 1.5M; Porto Alegre, 1.4M

(Source: www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0107357.html)

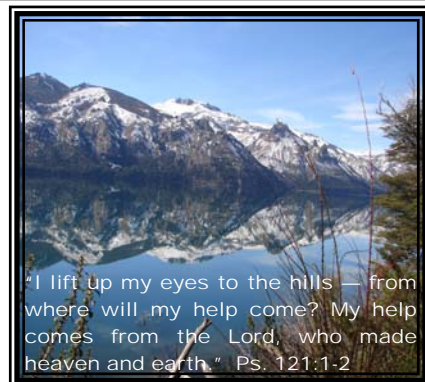


During one of the daily morning worship times of the intensive courses in Londrina, Brazil, the past February, Jean was asked to offer the devotional. The students expressed deep appreciation for her words of advice and asked to have copies of her devotional to take back to their families.

After telling of what it was like for her to accompany Chuck during his doctoral studies in Amsterdam, taking along two little girls (aged then 3 and 1 years old), Jean shared this advice. (1) "I hope that the decision for you to study in this doctoral program was made together with your wife or husband, because your spouse's support is essential for you to be able to complete this program. Otherwise, your spouse will come to resent the time you devote (to your doctoral studies)...There will be times when your doctoral studies will change the life of your family...(2) During your doctoral studies, try to avoid letting your studies separate you from your family. It is important to maintain close relationships with your children and your wife or husband. And (3) As much as you can, find ways in which your spouse can participate in your studies. Share with her or him what happens to you during the intensive class sessions, share what you are reading and writing so that your spouse will understand as much as possible what you are learning. It is very important that the members of your family not feel that only you are benefiting from this doctoral program."

Please pray for the spouses, children, and extended families of our students. Their churches, Bible schools, seminaries, and mission agencies all need our prayers as well.

"All of us share in what D. Elton Trueblood calls 'the common ventures of life' — birth, marriage, work, death....Because of this rock-solid foundation, we know that all work is holy work and all places are sacred places. Therefore we lift our voices in joyful song, declaring, 'This is holy ground; we're standing on holy ground; for the Lord is present, and where he is, is holy. These are holy hands; he's given us holy hands; he works through these hands, and so these hands are holy.' *Almighty, most holy, most high God, thank you for valuing the insignificant. Thank you for being interested in the lilies of the field and the birds of the air (Matthew 6:25-34). Thank you for caring about me. In Jesus' name, Amen*" Richard Foster, *Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home*, 1992, 177-178.



"I lift up my eyes to the hills — from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth." Ps. 121:1-2

Photo by C. Van Engen, Patagonia, Argentina,