

latin american



missions board

THE **lamb** NEWSLETTER

*... and I beheld
the Lamb of God
going forth among
the children of men.*

First Nephi 3:82

March 2006 • Issue 10

“And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; AND THERE SHALL BE ONE FOLD AND ONE SHEPHERD”.

—John 10:16

Iwant to thank each of you that have so faithfully responded to our plea for funds to continue the work in Latin America. Those of you that have committed to sending a certain amount each month, we appreciate that so much. It allows us to better reach our monthly budget every month. If you have not committed but can, please do so as quickly as possible.

I also wanted to give you an update on our efforts to bring unity to the work in Latin America. There are other Good Brothers and Sisters who are laboring in that field, as well. We pray God’s richest blessings on them and hope that their work bears much fruit. We also recognize

that we sometimes duplicate efforts and even work against each other, which we know is not very good stewardship. This does not offer a very good witness to those to whom we are trying to provide ministry. With the help of the Elders’ Conference Evangelism Committee and the Seventies we are looking for ways where we can unify, or at least work more effectively together. There are so many that need to hear the Angel message. Please pray for God’s direction and blessing on this work.

God bless,
Bud Drummond

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To sign up for the newsletter, please visit our website, www.SpanishMinistries.org, or contact Aaron Rhoads (see Contact Us).

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

by Aaron Rhoads



Loss in Burrell Boom

The Restoration Branches have suffered a loss in Burrell Boom in the last few months. It is with regret that I inform you that the congregation in Burrell Boom has chosen to join the Remnant.

Several months ago the Remnant sent missionaries to Belize and many visits were made. In addition to Burrell Boom, Corozal was also visited and presentations were made about why the Remnant was the true church and why Fred Larsen was the true prophet of God today. Afterward it appeared that everything went back to normal. Statements were made by both Corozal and Burrell Boom that they were not considering leaving the Restoration Branches. These statements quelled our fears and we continued on without further question.

You may remember we asked for a van to help with the work in Burrell Boom. This was shortly after the visit by the Remnant to Belize. In fact a van was donated and sent down to Burrell Boom for which we were very grateful. You may also remember there was some concern over the whereabouts of Lowell & Kim Augenstein, Terry Pickering, and Ron Wilson, and prayer requests were made over various congregational prayer chains. They went through quite an ordeal getting the van into the country for Dick & Bobbie. We were then very surprised to receive news a couple months later that the Burrell Boom branch, had made a decision to join the Remnant. While some individuals made statements without full knowledge that cast some doubt on the way the matter was handled. We would like to assure everyone we take the stewardship of LAMB very seriously. We invite at anytime your questions about any concern you might have. Please call me or one of the board members if you have questions about any issue pertaining to LAMB.

I would like to give you an update on the final disposition of the van. The proposed solution was

either for LAMB to compensate Dick & Bobbie for their expenses to get the van through customs and licensed in Belize, as well as the cost of some repairs made, or for LAMB to accept fair market value for the van. In the end Dick & Bobbie did not have the funds available to give LAMB fair market value for the van, and LAMB felt that the expenses already incurred by Dick & Bobbie were more than the van was worth considering that it was in need of even more repairs. So because Dick & Bobbie had the larger investment in the van we agreed to leave the van with Dick & Bobbie and call the issue settled.

While the loss of the van is unfortunate, it is not the loss we are most grieved over. It is the aspect that seems to have gotten the most attention by some individuals, but to us the thing most grievous is that a strong and vibrant congregation, and some good friends, have been confused during this dark and cloudy day in believing that the Remnant has correctly organized and is pleasing to God. While we respect each person's opinions, it is nevertheless discouraging to see friends with whom we've worked for several years, make a decision which will cause us to walk down separate paths for some time to come. While we do hold out hope that we will be reunited by God's strong arm in the future, in the meantime the loss causes us great sorrow.

Despite our setback, we move forward with continued faith that God will lead us to the fruitful fields and open doors to share the news with Latin America that they have a rich heritage and a promise from God which they can claim. Please remember us in your prayers as we are very cognizant that by our own strength we are insufficient, but with the power of God we can face any challenge.

Sincerely, Aaron Rhoads, LAMB Chairman

NORTH MEXICO CONGREGATIONS

La Morita is our congregation close to Saltillo, Mexico. It is in a little village by that name which is about 30 miles east from where Seventy Juan Reyes lives (Saltillo). La Morita is ministered to on a regular basis with the brotherly support of Guadalupe Rodriguez, Priest and Saúl Reyes, Elder. The people in this little branch make their living from cattle and farming. Albino Morales, along with his wife, is a baptized church member and they let us use their home for our church activities on a weekly basis. We go there for church activities on Sunday or Wednesday, sometimes both in the same week. These people are very strong in faith and in the Restoration gospel. All of them have strong testimonies of the great help given by God, His son, and the Holy Spirit. Approximately 12 to 15 persons are in attendance for our church activities.

A congregation called Tamaulipas is near Matamoros, Mexico which is about 350 miles east from Saltillo. In Tamaulipas there is a group of about 25 persons and an average attendance to the church services of about 17 persons. We hold our church worship in the house where Emilio Ruiz and his wife live. When we hold larger groups of classes in the summer time, we have our activities under the shade of trees. This is on a piece of land which belongs to his neighbor, near the back side of the house of Emilio.

All the church members work in factories and are not always able to come to church services on Sunday mornings. However, the Spirit of our God is always with this people. When visited, they testify that the Spirit of the Lord indicates to them in advance that we are coming, which brings them joy. The Priesthood now are used to just getting there without telling them that we are coming because they do not have a telephone. When a visit is made, they come to stay 3 or 4 days at a time doing missionary work. Earnings for the members here are just sufficient for their basic needs, but they are very rich in faith and Spirit.

The congregation Jojutla, in the Mexican State of Morelos, is almost 700 miles south from Saltillo. The group of persons interested in the Restoration down there is more than 50. Church activities are held in a house furnished by a widow lady named Costa Apaes. Usually we have our church services under the shade of a lemon tree, a guanabana tree and a mango tree. But when it is raining, Costa invites us inside her humble home. Her home is composed of living room and bedroom all in one with the kitchen in a different room and an outdoor chimney. When our group is more than 35 persons, she invites the attendees to even sit on her two beds in the room in order to be more comfortable during our service.

These people get their living from working in the sugar cane factory and farming nearby. Our missionary work and visits have been a very important thing for them. Their testimonies are beautiful, their faith is great, and their hearts are always open for our testimony of the Restoration.

Ana Karen is the name of a girl who was sick from cancer, being in terminal phase of the last days of life. She and her family asked Seventy Juan Reyes to administer to her, and the power of our Heavenly father healed her of the cancer! Miracles like this are very notable among the people. Our Mexican groups are growing in numbers, in faith, and in Spirit. All these things encourage us to come to these people with all our courage and strength, and to invite them to become better persons in the sight of God. We pray that He will enlarge the numbers of people here waiting for Zion to come.

Seventy Juan Reyes

BLESSINGS FROM HONDURAS

by Elder Gary Metzger



2005 was a good year for the work in Honduras. They organized and prepared for their first national conference as a church. It was held on January 7th and 8th, 2006. The branches, which had always worked together for the last 2 decades, united formally under one banner. Socorro was elected as the national president of the conference.

In combination with this event, on Friday the 6th of January, they held another all church reunion, where 150 persons were gathered to share in the spirit of God in Taulabé at some campgrounds.

The missionary work continued in 2005 with more than 25 baptisms. Sixteen of them were done by Moncho Leiva, among the work where he assists in various places.

Fito Leiva continued pastoring in Santa Cruz where 4 more were baptized. Ministry continued to Leonor Alberto, who was widowed years ago. She was able to unite in marriage this year.

In El Mogote, work began on preparing for a new church building in one

of the oldest congregations in Honduras. They had always rented from one of the brethren there, and time came to get a permit for a building. They have purchased rock and sand and began work on the blocks for the walls (*see picture*).

More good news from there is that elder Alfred Castillo, who had been away from the

work for more than a decade, has expressed a desire in returning and supporting the work.

There are two other congregations in Honduras, Jardines and San Nicolas, that have begun work on buildings in the last two years, but for lack of funds, the work has stopped. If you desire to see these buildings completed, please designate a special contribution for "buildings."

While I was in Honduras in December, I met a friend of Chuck Sperry, who is from Peru. We went to his house and visited with his wife, but he was not home. We left to look for him, and within moments, we drove right past him and he waved at us, recognizing Chuck's truck. While sharing, he said that when he had been to the US and was

in a Reunion, he met two brothers of the faith, and while they were sharing with him, the Holy Spirit fell upon him. The joy to me, was that while I was sharing with him in that moment of the current work in Peru, the same thing happened. The Lord continues to testify of His work to His



chosen vessels. May He respond.

The brethren in Honduras continue to work in unity and are a testimony for the rest of the body, as they have maintained their unity and have not divided. Pray for a continued harvest and thank you for your prayers and support for the work.

Hope for South America

The work in South America will soon begin to blossom. The seeds in Peru continue to be nourished and they continue to hope for a uniting of the saints in that nation, as they live in separate cities, distant from each other.

While the saints there continue to pray, contacts from various other nations in South America continue to contact our website:

www.spanishministries.org.

There is a person in Venezuela who has received our scriptures and studies, and has begun to study with his wife and friends. They have asked us to come.

There are people in Chile and Ecuador who are asking questions, interested in hearing more.

There is a young man from Uruguay who left the Mormon church just before going on his 2-year mission. He has asked us to come to Uruguay and from his house, to raise up the Restoration for Uruguay to hear.

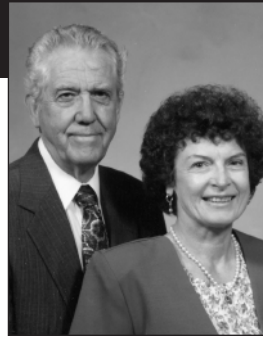
With all these leads, there is yet one more who continues to write and asks to unite with us so that the gospel of the branches of the Restoration can be preached in Brazil. He is bi-lingual in Spanish and Portuguese. He has written to Frank Frye and myself and shows interest and capability of sharing the word of God, as he has already done so with us.

What will the future hold? How can we meet so many contacts, so far away with so few people able and ready to preach the gospel in Spanish or Portuguese? How could we spread the gospel, if there were sufficient laborers, with the resources that are currently being shared with the missionary boards? Who will go?

May we prepare ourselves in languages, and in the ability to share our resources, so that the men of the ministry who prepare themselves, can labor with those with resources, so that the House of Israel in South America and other parts of the world might hear the glorious gospel. Let us pray and labor together in love for the great work that awaits us.

BIOGRAPHY:

JACK DELANY



I was baptized into the RLDS Church on 3/16/1930, at the age of nine, at the Landsdowne branch in East St. Louis, Ill. The church presented me with a Book of

Mormon which I read during the next few years with a deep interest and conviction as to its Truths.

I was ordained a priest 3/9/52, the same year as graduating from the University of Missouri as a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. Most of my professional career was with the USDA Meat Inspection. My first real exposure to working with and around Latinos was two years spent in El Paso, Tex. on the border, regulating imports and cattle slaughter. Later, I had the opportunity to be assigned to Central and South America for three years. My job was to certify countries and their meat establishments which were eligible to export meat and meat products into the USA. My last foreign assignment was in Mexico (Chiapas) for three years as an Epidemiologist. During the 8 years south of the border, I came to the deep appreciation of the culture, integrity, and work ethics of our Latin neighbors. In them, The Book of Mormon became alive and its Truths self evident.

Prior to my retiring from the USDA in 1982, my wife, Phyllis, and I had moved to Bella Vista, Ark. where we lived for the next 16 years. We attended the Fayetteville RLDS branch where I was ordained Elder on 6/19/83. I served there as pastor for two years. A group of us from Rogers and Bella Vista formed a Restoration church in Rogers, Ark. where I served as Pastor until Phyllis and I decided to gather to the region of Zion in 1996. We both now attend the Belton, Mo. Restoration Branch.

We have been supporters of LAMB for the last ten years. I was privileged to serve on the Evangelism Council 2004/2005 and now am serving on the LAMB board. My heart is still with God's Covenant people south of the border.

LETTERS FROM JUAN



10/18/2005

Last night I returned from our 12 days missionary trip to Jojutla Morelos. Tina, my wife went with me.

As we arrived to Jojutla, we went on visiting our people to prepare them for Church activities for Sunday 9. The attendance was over 25 people plus some others who came in almost to the end of my sermon. This time we had to get ten more benches for our people to sit down for our Sunday church activities.

This Sunday 16 our attendance for church activities was the same and 2 more new persons were added to our group. Two administrations were carried out, and the congregation was a living witness of this kind of blessing found in our Restoration Church. We held classes during the week with more than 70 persons in separated home groups.

Interested persons are being prepared for baptism in the near future. There are several prospects. Our joy was great, when during the week a family invited us to help them in getting off pumpkin seeds which after drying are sold in the market. Costa is the name of the Sister who invited us and toasted some seeds to give us to eat. We promised them that we will come back in a month or so.

12/23/2005

Our 3 day missionary trip was so cold due to the cold weather in Matamoros, Tam. but so pleasant and joyful due to the good spirit of our people there. Thanks be given to our God that this time, in spite of the weather, all our people are in good health.

On Sunday, we held our Church activities, having Tina teaching the Sunday's children class, and I did in the adult's class, and I preached. There were 16 people present. Lala did not come.

1/3/2006

Our missionary trip to Jojutla, Morelos and the small towns around was great again. This time we were able to add one more family to the number of families whom we visit and teach. One of the families in Xicatlacotla was too

busy because of Christmas and the year end festivities, so we were not able to share with them.

One of the families in Tlaquiltenago, a church member's relative, lost their daughter in a car accident. The entire family was walking on the street when a car driven by a drunk man ran over them. They were all wounded and were taken to a hospital where the little girl, nine-years-old, died. Our people down there considered that our presence among them was very important, as I expressed to them messages of comfort.

Our attendance was enlarged by children waiting to receive a candy, which they in reality received from us due to the Christmas season.

Conrado García from Tlaquiltenago is still sick of cancer and asked for our prayers of healing and I want the petition to be extended to you for his happiness.

This time we suffered a little of the cold weather in the whole valley of Morelos but we are so happy to be able to go to that people to continue teaching them the good news of the Restoration.

1/26/2006

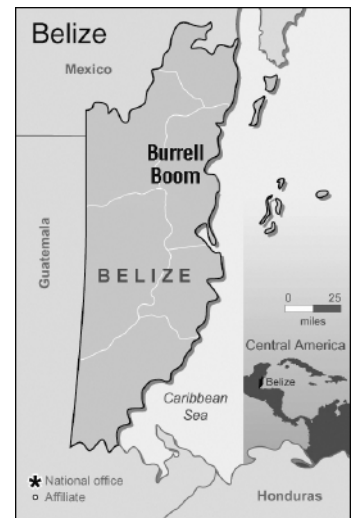
Last weekend I went to Matamoros, Tam. for our missionary trip and found our people very glad because Phillip Tandy and his wife visited them and were there for the service on Sunday, January 15th. They visited us here in Saltillo for two days and left for the border the 13th to visit our people in Matamoros.

We were very well welcomed by Carlos and his wife Licha in Matamoros. This time they enjoyed our visit because we brought peace for them and their family after some unimportant problems between Carlos and Licha, his wife. It was very cold on Sunday. Titino and his family did not come to church because of the cold weather; anyway, our attendance was 18. Our people there are more and more interested in the church. This time we had the visit of two more boys who live close to Emilio and Berta.

Cottage Meetings

I have spent some time out of each of the past seven years working south of the border, mostly in Belize, Central America. This experience happened in early September, 2005. I have found that the "Go Ye and Teach" series shown on my laptop works well for cottage meetings. I was visiting a large family about four miles out from Burrell Boom. My Spanish is limited so I appreciated the help of a thirteen-year-old daughter of the family. She attends a Mennonite school and speaks English but was not familiar with the Biblical terms because they are not used in everyday speech. I was showing the first set in the series which is a long one on "Christ's Church". About two-thirds through that presentation, I heard the words coming out of my mouth that were not part of my vocabulary. I wanted to shout "Praise the Lord" because I knew the Lord had given them to me in my time of need. Perhaps I had heard those words in earlier study or in a sermon and the Lord brought them out just at the right time, like it says in John 14:26.

I was able to go two more times to this family for the "Falling Away" and the "Restoration" parts of the series. No words of remembrance were brought to me at either of those times, apparently because I didn't need them. The knowledge that God would do that when needed will remain in my heart forever. I thank God for the experiences I have had in Mexico and Central America.



Kim Augenstein

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