



September 26, 2007

Report on the Extraordinary Assembly Mexico City September 6-9, 2007



Pastoral and Lay Delegates were as follows:

- Rev. Álvaro López Fajardo and Nelly Rodríguez C. of San Pablo (St. Paul) in México City
- Rev. Abiut Fajardo Ruiz and Sandra López of Todos los Santos (All the Saints) in Guadalajara
- Rev. Isaac G. García and Samuel García Márquez of Betania (Bethany) in Rio Bravo
- Pastor José Reyes and Mario Martín Arce of El Divino Emmanuel (The Divine Emmanuel) in Guasave
- Pastor Jesús Jiménez and Job Jiménez of San Mateo (Saint Matthew) in San Luis Rio Colorado

- Pastor Enoc Ravizé and José Ramón Alcántara of Buen Pastor (Good Shepherd) in Mexico City
- Deaconess Esther León and Raquel Guzmán of San Pedro (Saint Peter) in Mexico City
- Rev. Samuel Pérez Gaona of El Sembrador (The Sower) in Monterrey. El Sembrador did not have a lay delegate. On the day that they were to leave for the Assembly, Samuel Pérez Herrera's wife gave birth to a child that died. Samuel Pérez Herrera did not attend the Assembly.
- Pastor Jesús Jiménez and Verónica Rosas of San Juan (Saint John) in Mexicali
- Rev. Isaac G. García and Omar Garza of Santísima Trinidad (Holy Trinity) in Matamoros.

The Secretary of the Synod also had a vote making it twenty possible votes.



I am happy to report that on the issues of being in fellowship with the ELCA and the vote to ordain women as pastors both were defeated 7 to 13. The 7 votes came from people in Mexico City the 13 from the other parts of Mexico...



The representatives of Buen Pastor Lutheran Church in Mexico, D.F. presented in writing to the Assembly its vote against the Agreement for which prevented the women to be ordained as pastors.



I thought it was interesting that under **Article V. Of the associate members: duties and obligations** it stated:

5.3.2. To create in the different States of the country Institutes and seminaries for theological studies, as much of residence as for extension, fulfilling the limits pointed out in the Regulation of the S.L.M.A.R.

In the Bylaws it states under article **2.4. Of the ministerial occupations.**

2.4.1. They are lay Pastors people that without having been ordained learned ministry with the authorization of the Lutheran Synod of Mexico, by means of an appointment that specifies their functions.

2.4.2. They are Vicars the seminarians in time of preparation and practice to obtain the ordination and the installation as Pastors and Ministers of Worship, by means of an appointment that specifies their functions.

2.4.3. They are Deacons or Deaconess prepared people and certified theologically to carry out ecclesiastical activities, inside the Church, without possessing the ability to administer the Sacraments except:

- ❖ When the local pastor and congregation delegate him such functions for cases of emergency.

- ❖ Will be able to administer the sacraments for times and certain places, with previous authorization of the Assembly.

2.4.4. They are Missionary qualified people sent by the Synod or a Church to begin a congregation where doesn't exist, by means of an appointment that specifies their functions. (Please, excuse my computer generated translation)

I hope that this means that we can officially make use of the training offered by Rev. John Durkovic and Rev. Steve Morfitt as part of the Frontera Ministries. People like two members of Pastor Isaac Garcia's church in Rio Bravo, Samuel & Luis, will be able to continue their studies as one of them works at the mission in the colonia at Rio Bravo and the other starts a new mission in Progreso. Omar Garza of Matamoros Hill continues his studies as he works at his job and serves as a Lay Pastor at Santísima Trinidad. Out in San Luis Rio Colorado Job Jiménez and several other members of his family and church will continue to serve the church as they study.



These could be exciting times. We can be on the cutting edge as new churches are formed and the small missions developed. It is going to take a lot of prayer. It is going to provide opportunities for some of us who feel moved by the Holy Spirit to take our talents and go to Mexico for a weekend, extended weekend, or even a week or two and help these people fulfill their plans. For some of you who the Lord has also blessed with a heart of hospitality, generosity, and/or the gift of financial blessing there are going to be new buildings to rent or build. There is going to be a need for church furniture, as well as financial assistance for Lay Pastors. Educational and health programs will need to be developed. The needs can go on and on. I even heard that there is the possibility of starting a new church somewhere in the vicinity of Monterrey.



I want to share this report I just got from eighteen year old Job Jiménez. Read it. Do you see any areas where they need help?

Mission Report

August 15 to September 15

Job Jiménez
PO Box 6458-85349
San Luis, AZ

May the love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesús Christ and the communion of the Holy Spirit be on each of you.

It is pleasing to greet you and to communicate to you that we are working in the Lord's vineyard.

Last week (September 6-9) I was in Mexico City, in the Extraordinary Assembly, in which we fix up several points and by the grace and love of God all this is in order.

I also want to let you know that the church, "Rey de Gloria" (King of Glory) in Independencia called me to serve as Lay Pastor in that community. I am praying to God to be able to get a motor home to be able to sleep there on the weekends and begin the work of evangelist more efficiently and to have more activities during the week and at the same time not neglect the other mission fields.

I also inform you that the car that Epiphany Lutheran Church donated to me was stolen several weeks ago. We are praying to God, since our old van is not safe and has a lot of failures, (it is not in good condition), that we will be able to fix it.

I also request your prayers to be able to continue finishing my studies without hindering the mission work and that God gives me the strength because criticism and the problems set a trap and your enemy the devil like a roaring lion seeks someone to devour, since at "Rey de Gloria" we have difficult moments because we must move from this place and we do not have a place to go and this

week due to strong winds the walls of the church had severe damage, but in God we trust.

Don't forget me in your prayers.

The Lord bless you today and always! AMEN

Job Jiménez



In the Extraordinary Assembly there was some concern on the part of several people about our offer to help delegates go to the Assembly. We certainly did not want to offend anyone but felt that in matters of this importance that it was imperative that all voting delegates had the opportunity to go and not be hindered because of the cost. It did cost us \$2290. We are thankful for the support that some of you have given towards this project.

I wanted to share part of a letter I received from one person. "Your special pastoral letter to the Pastors and Delegates prior to the SLM Assembly bore good fruit, and in abundance. Your generous offer to support the delegates with financial aid so they could act upon your counsel made it possible to accomplish changes in the proposals and keep the SLM intact as a church body with which we can remain in fraternal relationship. God will not forget your acts of courage and kindness in this matter, nor shall all those who benefited by those gifts and talents you shared."



I do want to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have been praying for this ministry and who have been faithfully sending in your monthly gifts. It takes some doing to do this each month but that is what keeps this ministry going.

It says in Romans 12:13, "Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality." For some of you that is a given.

It is the monthly givers, the ones who have put us in their budget, that make it possible for to

meet our monthly expenses of \$3730 that cover salaries, partial or full for 5 men, and assistance in the cost of education for three others.

At the risk of missing someone I want to say thank you on behalf of KIMA and all the men and women in Mexico who are part of those churches that we support. They tell me to thank you. So I do so. Thank you!

- ❖ Ascension Lutheran Church in Cleburne,
- ❖ Dr. Gerald Brunworth,
- ❖ Christ the King Lutheran Church in Waxahachie,
- ❖ Lorraine Finke
- ❖ Norm and Marty Finke
- ❖ Norma Medenwaldt
- ❖ St. Luke Lutheran Church in Olney
- ❖ St. Paul Lutheran Church in Plainview
- ❖ Sammy and Brenda Sorsby
- ❖ Trinity Lutheran LWML in Weatherford
- ❖ Myron and Karen Werkmeister
- ❖ Lois Wolf

As we all know, constant or regular monthly expenses aren't our only expenses. We pay for pastor's conferences, Assembly expenses, and transportation as in some cars, building a new church, Sunday School and Vacation Bible School material etc. That is where the rest of you that give come in.

Again, special thanks to:

- ◆ Diane Winkler
- ◆ Walter Bauman
- ◆ Mel and Mary Block
- ◆ Billy Crawford
- ◆ Christ the King LWML of Waxahachie
- ◆ Faith Lutheran Women's Missionary League of Grand Prairie
- ◆ Greg and Susan Finke
- ◆ Connecting Generations
- ◆ Ralph and Louise Genz
- ◆ Robert and Shari Hemsath
- ◆ Ken and Dee Hilliard
- ◆ Chris Holder

- ◆ Our Redeemer Lutheran Miriam Circle
- ◆ Ron and Rachel Petersen
- ◆ Redeemer Lutheran LWML
- ◆ Raymond and Myrna Stroh
- ◆ Milo and Beverly Tosch



We ask for your prayers and any support that you can give to help in these ministries.

**Please, send any gifts to:
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