

The Coalition for Hispanic Ministries has been blessed this past year and has been a blessing to many as we endeavor to make Hispanic Ministries a priority for evangelical churches who would reach out to their neighbors. It is such a shame that political manipulation has caused so many to fear their neighbors and view them as enemies, but the

calling of Jesus is to open our hearts to people of all nations, and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

That is not the agenda of any political party, but it is the agenda of Christ and of His church. It is specifically the calling of CHM.

Throughout the year we have been actively encouraging leaders across North America to continue in their efforts to reach out to intentionally raise up churches for the Spanish-speaking peoples in our communities. The church-planting pastors engaged in this work are at once an incredibly valuable asset in the economy of God's Kingdom, but at the same time they are an asset that is too often under-valued, under-appreciated, under-paid, and over-worked. Somehow too many church decision-makers feel that it is a badge of spirituality for their pastor to live on the edge of survival. Admittedly if a pastor is in it for the money, that pastor is not likely to last long or be effective. But it is also true that a congregation that is not generous with its pastor will not likely be fruitful.

I wish that there were unlimited funds for providing for those whom God has chosen to lead His church. But church-planting can't be just a job. Without the unshakable calling that drives a church planter to the task of making disciples, no amount of funding is enough. God can and will provide. We have all the resources needed for the task, but we need to treasure the true coin of the Kingdom and show our support for those who are called to lead.

One of the ways that CHM seeks to bless those who are serving in ministry is through the AMANA conference which is also known as the North American Hispanic Friends Conference. Each year we meet in different locations to affirm our commitment to God's calling and to each other. In 2023 we met in Pomona, California. In 2024 we met in northern Mexico at Nueva Rosita, Coahuila, which is the mother church for the Friends



Yearly Meeting based there. The advantage of meeting in northern Mexico is that the local churches and leaders don't have a border to cross to join in with their brethren. The bad part is that the U.S. churches do, and that inevitably limits attendance. The theme of the conference was about how a church can be multigenerational in its ministry and outreach.





The meetings were held in a variety of locations including the local church, a community center, a

local university auditorium and even (as pictured above) a sports and recreation center where we met around a pool with LED lighting that constantly changed colors. It reminded me of the crystal sea that was before the throne in Revelation 4:6, and we certainly experienced the glory of God's presence.

I am praying that this coming year will provide new openings for ministry and growth among the Hispanic churches of North America. Through CHM we continue to form new partnerships for carrying out ministry and for equipping the church. I thank God for all those who are joining in to include cross-cultural ministry in their vision for outreach. It is not enough to send missionaries around the world if we are not actively seeking those who are lost living right around us.

Please join us in praying for:

- God's provision for the Hispanic Leaders who are leading His church, both paid and unpaid, that they will be strengthened for the task and that their needs will will be met.
- A clear vision among groups of churches especially Friends that will open doors to ministry.
- For the ongoing role of CHM in making Hispanic Ministry a priority.

May God's will be done. David Byrne, D.Min. Director: CHM