

NEWS FROM THE REFORMED MISSION IN LATIN AMERICA

2020 STARTS STRONG!

The work of the Reformed Mission in Costa Rica never stops. Lester Martínez, the general manager and printshop coordinator for CLIR, and Daniel Lobo, the editor in chief and head of translations, have witnessed the spreading of the Reformed faith in Costa Rica and beyond through the Publisher's service to the Church, and encouraged by this, they are ready to face the new challenges God is sending our way.



THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

Both Lester and Daniel also serve together as board members and professors at *Seminario Teológico Reformado Farel*, the Costa Rica Reformed Church's theological seminary, which works along with MINTS Central America. As such, they were invited to speak at the MINTS CA Congress held this past January in Guatemala, which gathered professors, coordinators, and students from all over the region. Lester spoke on Apologetics and Counseling, and Daniel spoke on Ethics and Epistemology. The fellowship and growth that took place during this Congress was very encouraging. We were able to see first hand how God is advancing the Reformed faith in other Spanish-speaking nations.



MINTS CA CONGRESS IN GUATEMALA

CONFERENCES

Back in Costa Rica, Editorial CLIR has had three speakers come from North America to give conferences all around the country. Daniel Lobo had the honor —and challenge— of translating for all of them, while Lester Martínez and Eddy Cortez were in charge of all the logistics. First, Rev. Barry Beukema gave a series of conferences on the book of Revelations, covering topics ranging from the structure of the book, to the roles of Israel and the Church, and the Man of Sin. Second, Rev. Bob VanManen gave a conference to the pastors and elders of the Presbytery on their role as servants of the church. Pastors and leaders from other denominations were also invited. Finally, Rev. Tom Albaugh spent two very busy weeks speaking all over the country on the Gospel and the Old Testament. He also helped start STR Farel's course on the Doctrine of Man, the rest of the lessons being left to Daniel Lobo with the continued help of Rev. Albaugh from a distance. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the course is taking place online right now and will continue through April and part of May.

Rev. Barry Beukema



Rev. Bob Van Manen



Rev. Tom Albaugh



PUBLICATIONS

Daniel and Lester are also coordinating the publication of several books. From the editing department, a total of 17 books are being prepared, and will be ready for print at the end of April. Among them are a couple of historical novels for young readers, a collection of selected works by J. G. Machen, three illustrated biographies by Simonetta Carr, and several reprints. On the printing department, while the printing presses never stopped, Calvin's Commentaries were brought to a pause due to a national shortage of a very specific kind of paper. However, we recently bought a whole container of said paper, and the printing of Calvin's Commentaries was resumed with much excitement. We know these Commentaries are and will continue to be a great blessing, our legacy, to the Spanish-speaking Church around the world.

Along with these high theological works, we are also focusing on the production of Sunday school, elementary and high school materials. In this regard, we are working along our Christian School to provide them with solid, Bible-centered textbooks. We are also encouraging the school teachers to write and publish their own texts.



CHURCH

Our churches, though small, are very mission-oriented. We have two church plants from our Presbytery, one in San Carlos, about an hour and a half east of San José, the capital, and the other in Pérez Zeledón, about two hours in the opposite direction. Both plants are rather small, only made up of a few families. Both require constant visits, and we are praying that the Lord will raise and call committed brothers to pastor them. Meanwhile, Daniel Lobo is mainly in charge of the mission in San Carlos, and visits the plant at least once a month, rotating with other men. Emel Garita, an elder from the Cartago church, where Lester is the pastor, is mainly in charge of the church plant in Pérez Zeledón. As the work grows, the Lord is faithful in bringing new workers to the harvest. On March 15th, we held a special service in the Tepeyac Church, as Andrés Quirós was ordained as pastor to serve along side Roberto Venegas, the current Senior Pastor. Brother Andrés has proven to be a great instrument in God's hands, and we cannot wait to see what God has in store for his ministry.

Service in San Carlos



Ordination of Andrés



BACKSTAGE



If you follow our publisher's Instagram (Editorial CLIR), our YouTube channel, our Facebook page; or if you visit our website (www.clir.net), our blog (reformasigloxxi.wordpress.com), or the Reformed Mission's site (www.reformedmissions.org), you most definitely have come across the work of one of our finest staff members, and one whose name is almost never mentioned: Reina Quesada. Whenever you see a new video, a creative post, a clever announcement, or any improvements in our social media, she is the mind behind it all.

JOIN US IN PRAYER

- Pray for our Christian School, CLIR's ministry, and the Churches, as we are all being affected in one way or another by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Pray for the Publisher, that we may bring our solid, historical, Reformed faith to bear upon these unprecedented circumstances, for the glory of God, the expansion of His Kingdom, and the edification of His Church.
- Pray for our projects, that we may continue to receive support to translate and publish Calvin's Commentaries, the historical novels, and other classic Reformed works.

CONTACT US



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