

August, 2016

barnabas journal

newsletter of Hispanic Leadership Initiative

lluvia de ideas by Gene Bowman

"It's a Rain Bomb." That's how Ari Sarsalari of the Weather Channel described a microburst that fell upon Phoenix, AZ, earlier in August.

It's "Monsoon season" here in the southwest, and during this time it is quite common to see storms become so strong that they can dump a tremendous amount of rain in just seconds. Hence the term, "Rain Bomb!"

Ok, so this newsletter is not dedicated to the study of weather. However, there is a term in Spanish that aligns with the weather, "lluvia de ideas" (or sometimes "tormenta de ideas") or what we call in English, "brainstorming." Classical brainstorming involves a group of people trying to solve a particular problem by "dumping" as many ideas as possible in a limited time. This is exactly what we plan to do at our 2016 HLI Leadership Retreat, October 7-9, 2016.

So why the brainstorming session? Well as part of our desire to multiply our efforts in training Hispanic leaders for Christ's church, we are forming a new network of PCA churches and ministries that will participate with us in this training.

We're looking to start this network with a pilot group of eight PCA churches (two in each of the four PCA presbyteries here in the southwest) and two ministries. We are eager to get this network operational as quickly as possible, but there are still many things to define. What's the structure? How will the training be done? How and where will we find the candidates to train? That's why we've dedicated our 2016 HLI Leadership Retreat to a "lluvia de ideas" to lay the foundation for this training network.

And you are invited to participate with us! To find out more, or to register, go to www.hliretreat.com.

THE WHITES LAND IN EL PASO

Jeff White, along with his wife Matheson and daughter Poppy Marie, have finally arrived in El Paso! Jeff endeavors to build relationships among students at the University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso Community College, and area high schools with the desire to help Hispanic males sense whether God is calling them to future ministry in His Church, and then to coach them down the path of preparation for that ministry.

Jeff's work ties directly with HLI's focus on multiplication, and hopefully will be a springboard to other avenues of identifying future Hispanic church planters and leaders. For more information about Jeff's ministry, or to donate, visit our website at www.hlipca.com/antioch.





Curtis is Examined on the Floor of Presbytery

CURTIS IS LICENSED

It was exciting to see former HLI Apprentice Curtis Castleberry pass his Licensure examination at the August 15th meeting of the Houston Metro Presbytery. This past February, Curtis was called by Oaklawn PCA in Houston as Assistant Pastor, pending his licensure and ordination by Houston Metro Presbytery. Curtis is now just one step away from being able to fully receive that call. He hopes to take his ordination exams at the November meeting of the Houston Metro Presbytery.

HLI APPRENTICE EVA CASTILLO

The preparation for the Early Learner's Readiness program is underway at New City Fellowship-Glenwood and at New City East Lake, both in Chattanooga, TN. Before starting her HLI Apprenticeship at East Lake, Pastor Pickett asked Eva Castillo to consider being the ELR Coordinator for this Signature YMCA program. The local YMCA and New City East Lake have strengthened their partnership for many years through their free after-school program, ELECT, which serves the children of the local Latino population. Eva agreed to the job, since it fits within the church's vision to be a multicultural church. She has seen God use these programs to bless these family's and even to bring families to the church. The program she coordinates aims to specifically serve caretakers and children of the local immigrant and impoverished communities. The children from these communities tend to fall into an academic achievement gap, far behind children from the middle-class or from primarily English-speaking homes.

However, the parents of the local Latino community recognize the benefits that their children gain through these partnership programs. As soon as Eva asks families if they know about the other after school program, ELECT, or "clases de tuteria en New City" as the community says, they are quick to ask about registration for ELECT's competitive placement. Many families want their children to have a spot in ELECT, though sadly, it cannot always be given. She is glad to say that so far, the community has responded positively towards the ELR program buzz and that they have had people excited to sign up. Eva is also glad to see that the ELR staff is excited to do this good work for the community and to seek opportunities to share about the Lord, as their YMCA Director is encouraging them to do. Please pray for Eva and the other ELR staff as they begin this new program.



Eva and an ELR Teacher

Please send your tax-deductible gift to:

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