



March 2004



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"Pray that the Lord of the Harvest will send workers."

When you arrive for worship at the Bethel Christian Church, Leominster, MA, the handsome, smiling man who greets you is Alex. Alex and his wife Greika live in Worcester a twenty-five minute drive from Leominster.

Once a week Nelci Rodrigues, Bethel's minister leads worship in Worcester. It's Alex's dream that Bethel's ministry in Massachusetts' second city will grow. He and Greika are willing to do what it takes to make it happen.

Alex is one of many Hisportic Christians anxious to plant new churches for the every increasing number of Portuguese-speaking persons coming to the United States.

Donald McGavran, a veteran missiologist, observed that the urban church would grow in proportion to the number of unpaid lay leaders that are recruited, trained and sent into urban settings. He wrote, "In any land, when laborers, mechanics, clerks, or truck drivers teach the Bible, lead in prayer, tell what God has done for them, or exhort the brethren, the Christian religion looks and sounds natural to ordinary men."

The Church Planters Training Conference, April 16 - 18 in Warwick Center, NY, is designed to train Pastors and potential church leaders how to start new churches. The theme is Planting Churches for a New Generation.

A distinguished faculty with many years of teaching and missionary experience will be speakers—Valdecy da Silva, Professor Colegio Biblico, Eagle Pass, TX, Thomas fife, veteran missionary and former head of the Brazil's Theological Education by Extension, and Robert Fife a missionary to Portugal currently studying at Emmanuel School of Religion, Johnson City, TN.

Jesus traveling on his first Galilean Ministry tour observed that the harvest is great, but the laborers are few. He then urged his disciples to "Pray that the Lord of the Harvest will send workers." Immediately the Master calls the twelve into ministry. After training them they are sent out.

Later, Paul, the apostle, discovered the same need while laboring in Athens, Corinth and Ephesus. To Timothy He writes

And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others. 2 Timothy 2:2

The February Prayer Update mentioned the Mission is praying for evangelists. The mandate to place Acts 2:42 churches among America's burgeoning Hisportic populations requires the identification, training and sending of an every-increasing number of evangelists.



Alexandro da Costa; 3rd from left, and his wife Greika, 2nd from left.

Praise the Lord

Fatima Fernandes is now at home in Orlando, Florida. She returned to work shortly after her arrival. My recuperation she says "shows the power of God and prayer."

Pilgrim Congregational Church approved "in principle" the use of their church by the Philadelphia Christian Church. Final authorization will be given pending resolution of contract details.

Sixteen positive responses to the 32 letters sent requesting persons accept program responsibilities for 2004 HCM's 20th Anniversary Year.

Vladimir confessed his faith in Jesus Christ in Allentown, PA.

Please Pray for

The Church Planters Training Conference that

- 60 persons to attend
- Inspirational Faculty Presentations
- Administrative details will be smooth

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Thank you for your faithful support to the Hisportic Christian Mission. Your contribution makes it possible for us to plant Acts 2:42 Churches among America's Hisportic (Portuguese-speaking) peoples and beyond.