

Report- Board

February, 2022

Submitted by: Bernice Rivera

I have been interim pastor for Iglesia Rio de Dios **and support them in the search for a new pastor** due to pastor Noelia Garcia relocating to California.

Supported Iglesia Nueva Vida during the planning of their Capital Campaign focus to buy a UCC church building located Gresham. Also directed them to available resources throughout Church Extension. Provided pastoral care and accompaniment (acompañamiento) during this time to **several pastoral families** facing mayor health issues.

I was working with some Spanish translation's forms; Standing Renewal, ALEX. Supporting New Churches with yearbook report now called Alex.

Attended Women retreat and FEDICE meetings.

New Church Ministry –

Active participant in the church-wide prayer initiative called **Water the Plants**, an intercessory prayer team of 1000 Disciples. **In the month of January, the focus of the prayer was New Churches in Oregon SW Idaho Region and Regional staff.** People from the entire denominational spectrum were in prayer for us.

I was invited to engage in a collective learning experience with the United Church of Canada on the **Theory of Change and Building a Culture of Innovation.** This workshop on Strategic Planning process for new ministry will focus on implementation, performance and evaluation. 40 people from USA and Canada will participate. It will be held on February 7-20th, 2022 in collaboration with ecumenical partners

See more detail from New Churches in the **New Church report.**

Obra Hispana –

In partnership with Oregon Hispanic congregations (4/5) and the Region, local arrangements were made for the support of the **National Hispanic Board meeting. The meeting took place on December 9th-11th in Beaverton, Oregon.**

- **It was held at the brand-new hotel: The Element Hotel**
- 30 representatives from all the Conventions (country wide), attended including the elect moderator and National Hispanic pastor.
- Some other persons participated virtually (hybrid meeting)
- Translation service was provided for English speaking and vice versa
- Streamline national wide and beyond a worship service on Friday held in Iglesia Nueva Vida in Gresham.

- Members from Portland – Metro Disciple congregations attended the worship service in person. (Murray Hills Christian Church, Portland First Christian Church, Nueva Vida, Principe de Paz, Peniel Ministries, Rio de Dios)
- Held a reception dinner on Friday with local Hispanic leaders and members of the Hispanic board.

Special gratitude and Thanks for the Oregon & SW Idaho Region for providing support for the transportation, welcome bags, and the local Hispanic churches for the food.

It was a very successfully event and demonstrated the capacity to hold a national event.

On Dec. 9-11 Bernice Rivera and Pastor Carlos Bernier attended **Obra Hispana Board** meeting held in, **Beaverton, Oregon**. Working with the team **as a chair of personnel committee** we revised the operational organization to move from a Ministry style to a **team Ministry** of leadership. **Adding two new positions:** Marketing and Communication and Education Coordinator.

Participate in a retreat for Hispanic Pastor held in January.

Leticia Oregel was invited to present her work on Obra Contigo a National weekly program on Fridays. This program is viewed by international congregations also. It is a recognition on how Hispanic Churches in Oregon are doing a creative work during the pandemic.

Anti -Racism

- Living Justice Anti-Racist Practicum 2022–
Continuing with the winter cycle focus in Belonging, Culture and Conflict topic. The practicum started in October. This practicum is meeting every Wednesday via Zoom. It is supported by Disciples Divinity House and led by Rev. Yvonne Gilmore and Rev. Sandhya Rani Jha. It is being held in three cycles; autumn, winter and spring. Expecting to finish in May. Stay tune you will hear from this initiative soon.

Global Ministry Board

Attended Global Ministry Board meeting in November. Served in the Global Ministries Search Committee for a new President of Division of Overseas Ministries, calling Rev. Marcus Cable as a New President. Also served in the finance committee.

What are some of the things the Hispanic churches are doing?

- Iglesia Nueva Vida and Iglesia Jehova Nisi, Rio de Dios and Peniel Ministries are doing on site worship

Upcoming Events

- Regional Assembly, May
- National Hispanic Assembly Meeting in July 20-23 in Dallas, Texas
- Start planning a New Church picnic event in August
- We are One event in August
- Retreat for couple marriage in September.