



# NCN's Language Ministries Newsletter

An update from your Language Ministries Team Leader  
September 2010

## Upcoming Events

### ◆ Coming in September: Seminar on "Ministers and Taxes"

⇒ En Español con Artemia Tamayo y Greg Loewer For Pasotrs, Treasurers, Personel Committees At the Annual NorthStar Training Conference Saturday, September 18 9:00 am—12:30 pm Manassas Baptist Church 8730 Sudley Road Manassas, VA 20110 Cost: \$20. Payable to NorthStar by September 10

### ◆ NorthStar Ministers Fellowships

⇒ Monday, October 4, 10:30 am Dr. Calvin Miller Groveton Baptist Church 6511 Richmond Hwy, Alexandria Lunch at church: \$5

⇒ Tuesday, October 19, 10: 30 am Topic: Reading History for Information, Enjoyment, and Sermonic Profit (prophet), Dr. Bill Thigpen Middleburg Baptist Church 209 E. Federal Street, Middleburg Lunch at church: \$5

⇒ Tuesday, November 2, 10:30 am Topic: Chaplaincy in the Fire Service, Chaplain Grant McIntosh Centreville Fire Station 5856 Old Centreville Road. Centreville Lunch on your own after meeting

### ◆ Hispanic Pastors Fellowship Meetings

⇒ First Saturdays 9:00 am—11:00 am NorthStar Annandale Office Fellowship President: David Mangieri

"You can inform the un-enlisted, but you can't enlist the uninformed." The old axiom is true. Thank you for reading and keeping informed. Thanks, too, for praying for your sister NorthStar churches. God is at work in and through His people. May His Holy Spirit move mightily in special ways.

Blessings in Christ,

*Greg*

NorthStar churches worship and minister in many languages: English, Arabic, Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, Chinese, Korean, Twi (Ghanaian), Liberian, Amharic (Ethiopian), Cambodian, Portuguese (Brazilian), Tagalog (Filipino), Tigrinya (Eritrean). There are 60+ language congregations and ministry groups in our association family.

Some ethnic churches have multiple congregations or services. Some have home Bible study groups. Some are multi-lingual or multi-cultural. Some help to sponsor work in other languages. Some have begun English ministries to reach and disciple the younger generation. All are seeking to fulfill the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## Hispanic Ministries

- On Sunday, July 11, about 70 worshippers from six different churches gathered for the quarterly Culto Unido, hosted by Primera Iglesia Bautista Dios es Amor (Jose Tobar, Pastor) at Antioch Korean Baptist Church. With the theme, The Different Generations, the service included a welcome by David Mangieri, President of the Hispanic Pastors Fellowship, music by the PIBDEA praise team, and a message by Missionary to Hispanics, Greg Smith. A time of fellowship and food followed the service, with enthusiastic sharing among the people.
- On Saturday, August 7, NorthStar sponsored a Sunday School workers conference, hosted by Primera Iglesia Bautista, Woodbridge (Luiggi Reggiardo, Pastor). Led by Sergio Arce of LifeWay Christian Resources, the conference provided training for teachers of preschoolers, children, youth, and adults, as well as general officers. Attendance totaled 86 persons from 11 NorthStar churches. Special thanks to Zehyla Philpott of PIBW and her team of Volunteers who helped with greeting, registration, refreshments, and more.
- On Sunday, August 15, Iglesia Bautista Hispana de Westover (Arlington) held a service of installation for their new pastor, Oscar Prado. Musical worship was led by the IGHW praise team, and the service included dedication prayers by David Mangieri and Daniel Carro (Leland Professor and 1st Vice President of the Baptist World Alliance). A message of challenge and encouragement was delivered by Jim Benson (Pastor of Primera Iglesia Bautista de Groveton and long-time mission leader for Baptists in Northern Virginia). Following the service, IGHW hosted a dinner fellowship. About 150 persons attended, representing 5 different NorthStar churches.

If you would like to inform churches of language events, please contact NorthStar Church Network: 703-941-6822



## Starting a Mission Congregation

If your church is prayerfully considering the start of new work, in English or for any other language group, NorthStar can help. We can provide guidance, resources, and suggestions, both in person and in print. Call the NCN office or email Greg Loewer. The Holy Spirit is moving among the churches. What is He saying to you and yours?

## Praying for the Churches

- Churches seeking a pastor: that the search committee would prayerfully follow an appropriate process and would discern God's will concerning the right person to lead the congregation.
- Churches exploring the start of a language ministry or multi-ethnic congregation: that they would understand the need, take the best approach for reaching people with the Gospel, and experience the Spirit's unity in moving forward for God's Kingdom.
- Churches needing additional financial support for their language pastors: that the congregation would give generously to God's work and that other churches would be enlisted to help provide the financial need.
- Churches with special needs and opportunities: that the people would pray fervently and move forward in unity and faith to accomplish the divine tasks before them.

## Space Needed

Several congregations are needing to relocate. If your church might be interested in exploring a partnership for shared building use, contact Greg Loewer for a list of seeking churches, along with samples of partnership covenants, rental agreements, and suggestions.

## Financial Contributions to NorthStar

"You mean that NorthStar does not receive any funding from the convention?" a pastor recently asked. "That's correct. The only funding NorthStar receives is from NorthStar churches. This is how we are able to offer services to the churches. This is how we pay the NorthStar staff. This is how we provide financial support to new churches."

Did you know that? NorthStar is supported financially by contributions from your church. There is no membership fee for NorthStar churches, but contributing is expected and needed. Many churches have a NorthStar contribution budget of 2-4 % of their general offerings - some more, some less. Some give quarterly or annually; most give monthly.

Some congregations have very limited resources, but even the smallest gift helps the Kingdom cause. If your church hasn't contributed to NorthStar ministries lately, just start with \$10/month. We will use your mission dollars in the most effective, God-honoring way for His Kingdom.

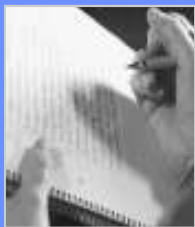
Each time a church sends a check to NorthStar, our office sends back a receipt, a contribution form for the next gift, and a mailing envelope. If your church needs any of these, please call the NorthStar office for assistance.

## NCN Language Ministries Tip:

Sometimes pastors and churches ask, "If we start a new ethnic/language ministry, what about those who are here in the country illegally? What if they come to our church?" Answers:

- All people need the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In fact, that is their greatest need, regardless of their immigration status. Eternity is coming for every soul. Christ commands His churches to declare the gospel to all people.

Matthew 28:18-20



- It is not illegal for churches to minister to illegal aliens or to have them in worship services or Bible study classes or English classes. (Of course, churches should not hire illegal aliens. This is against the law for all employers.)
- Churches can legally offer English classes and legal aide, as well as benevolence assistance.
- Illegal aliens who become disciples of Jesus Christ are more likely to want to obey civil laws than disbelievers. (This is true of all human beings.) Indeed, the church teaches that Christians should be good national citizens by respecting authorities and obeying the laws of the land. Romans 13.

Therefore, evangelizing even illegal aliens actually helps the country.

## NorthStar Church Network Language Ministries

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