

Reformed ministry in Latin America

News from the Greens
-Costa Rica-

September 16,
2014

CLIR General Assembly - success!

Multiple blessings!

We asked for prayer for a successful General Assembly, and God granted all our requests! Only one person was unable to travel, Dr. Neal Hegeman, due to a passport issue. But everyone else arrived safely to and from the event. The fellowship was wonderful, the conferences were powerful, and there was a deepening commitment on all parties to work together for the edification of Christ's church.

The theme was **"Striving together for the faith of the gospel"** (Philippians 1:27). We were able to share with the 70 participants what CLIR has accomplished since our last General Assembly, which includes **60 new titles** published and **70 conferences** in 7 different countries. The delegates were motivated by the reports, and the CLIR team was congratulated by the Board.



*At the border b/t Costa Rica and Panamá
The van ran like a charm - 1300 miles!*

CLIR's publishing ministry

It has become evident that CLIR's publishing ministry will play an important part in the future of Reformed churches in Latin America. More and more leaders are contributing to our literature, and using CLIR's resources. **Thanks to generous donations** CLIR's books are recognized for **good quality at a modest price**. Virtually no other publisher can sell at our prices.



Some of the participants who posed for a quick picture

Thank you for your prayers and gifts on behalf of the CLIR General Assembly! We are grateful to God for His blessing on this event!

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www.reformedmissions.org

Some highlights of the CLIR General Assembly

Conferences

Topics included **Environmentalism** (James Wanliss, PhD), **Modern heresies** (Dr. Alonzo Ramírez), **Masculinity and Femininity** (Ludgero Bonilha, ThM), **The Kingdom of God and youth ministry** (Rev. David Correa), **Scripture's authority** (Rev. Wybren Oord). All our speakers were well prepared, and their message was a powerful call to faithfulness in the various facets of the Gospel ministry.

CLIR had live streaming during the conferences, and we had people connecting from several different countries. If you wish to see the low quality videos we transmitted, you can go here: <http://new.livestream.com/clir>

CLIR will be editing the videos for a good quality video that can be used for courses or adult Sunday School.

Publishing and distribution

CLIR has published almost 60 new titles since our last General Assembly in 2007, many of them important for ministry in Latin America, such as the OT commentaries by John Calvin, and church education and catechism material. We also brainstormed about ways to better distribution. Many pastors took samples of CLIR's books back home with them. We trust that the personal contact will result in more churches using CLIR's material.



Fellowship

One of the most important activities that took place was Christian fellowship, sharing, and getting to know each other better. Sometimes the “unplanned plans” that come out of these meetings are the most significant. Church leaders need to be together to talk, plan and envision strategies for their churches together. More than one invitation was made. Part of CLIR's goal is precisely this, to provide a forum for like minded leaders to meet one another and gain confidence in each other, so that the sharing of talents and knowledge might take place. For instance, one Peruvian pastor has been invited to speak in Tabasco, Mexico in October.

For all these things, praise the Lord!



Outgoing vice president Ludgero Bonilha (Brazil) charges the newly elected Board of CLIR with faithful service.

Various and sundry items

First things first - Thank you! Many churches and individuals have responded generously for the Calvin Translation project, and for the CLIR General Assembly. Thank you very much!

Machinery to Costa Rica - CLIR has purchased a hydraulic paper cutter (we have been using a manual paper cutter for 15 years!), and a massive 10 head paper drill. We also have another 2 color press sitting in Indiana that was donated. We

would like to get this machinery shipped to Costa Rica. Total cost will be around \$5000 for shipping and import duty.

Print shop news - The General Assembly re-confirmed what we already knew: CLIR books are good quality at a lower price than any other Publisher. Our efforts at efficiency have made possible low book prices, so that even with the cost of shipping the price is competitive.

Van news - The Ford van is once again eating up the miles in Central America! It took 6 people to Panama City and back for the General Assembly and used \$175 in diesel. The equivalent cost in airfare would have been \$2,400 and in bus fare \$600. And furthermore, we had a great time traveling together!



Budget matters for your consideration:

The **CLIR printshop** needs to find a larger place. This is a good problem! It appears that the Lord is pushing us forward. You can make an above-budget donation for: "CLIR printshop" to aid us in this process. We are presently looking at our options, none of which are quick and easy.

Churches: please consider this need for next year's budget, and for Fall giving. Thank you!

Don't forget!



You can make a donation on-line at www.reformedmissions.org

(Please tag your gift appropriately)

Gifts can be sent to:

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