



**Rev. Eduardo A. Lelli**

Hispanic Coordinator  
ellelli@midsouthnaz.org



*MidSouth Hispanic Ministry*

***“To inspire, empower and nurture the development of a “culture of multiplication” of new Hispanic congregations along the MidSouth District.”***

We continue to write Hispanic history in the MidSouth District. Our stats are higher than ever. And this is a benefit that you have when you are first and there is nothing before to compare with. However, these numbers do not represent human effort, but rather the Glory of God!

Four more Hispanic pastors will be ordained at this assembly. They are Rodolfo Morales, Pastor of Bethel in Gallatin; Rodolfo brings a long history from Mexico to the United States where he met the Lord and gave himself completely to the ministry. Hilda Hernández, pastor of Nashville First Hispana. Hilda, also originally from Mexico, went through a very torturous experience that left her as a single mother with three children. Thus, in this condition she knows the Lord and fully consecrates herself to the service of the Lord. Ramón González, pastor of Bethel Hermitage, also a native of Mexico, met the Lord as a young man in his country and consecrated his life to serve the Lord. And William Castellanos, pastor of Libertad en Cristo. He is originally from El Salvador, he also gave his life to Christ since he was eleven years old and since then he serves the Lord with music and now he is pastoring. God willing and with the blessing of our General Superintendent - we will be ten ordained Hispanic pastors. Also, if we count Nestor Zambrana, First Gallatin youth pastor, there are already eleven of us. Nestor is new to our district and in addition to being the youth pastor of Gallatin First church, he is getting involved with the Hispanic youth of Gallatin Bethel collaborating with Pastor Rodolfo Morales. He will also be teaching from the Nazarene Seminary of the Americas and we will have him teaching classes in Spanish for our MITs.

As you may have read in the previous March and April newsletter, during the months of January and February 2021, we had the joy of organizing seven Hispanic churches in the MidSouth District. It was the conclusion of a long journey of years of ministry of courageous pastors committed to extending the Kingdom of God. They have known how to stay together in koinonia and grow together in holiness. They are years of consecrated work during struggles and trials, tears and joys, but they have emerged victorious. We congratulate these brave shepherds! From southern Mississippi to North Gallatin, they are: Pastor Karla Sanchez, Palabra de Vida; Pastor Mario Urbina, EbenEzer; Pastor José Ruedas, Betel; Pastor William Castellanos, Libertad en Cristo; Pastor Baldomero Gomez, Nueva Esperanza; Pastor Ramón Gonzáles, Betel-Hermitage and Pastor Rodolfo Morales, Betel de Gallatin.

On March 20, our MITs had the much-promised graduation party for the Ministerial Course. Twelve students graduated from the MidSouth Ministerial Course. Two more were added to the celebration, one from NBC and one from the Seminario de Guatemala. Fourteen servants for the glory of God and enlargement of the Hispanic Ministry.

It was not easy to provide courses during the pandemic, however, we offered eleven courses in intensive and regular modalities. And this year, even more! Fifteen students are enrolling in the Hispanic Theology Baccalaureate provided by the Nazarene Seminary of the Americas. About 8 of them have enrolled in the GED program. And this year we are providing eleven more courses in regular, intensive modalities, via ENTE by platform and via zoom. In addition to the GED and the Bachelor of Theology.

I really believe, completely certain, that this number reflect in all the Glory of God!