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Free Methodist World Missions makes disciples by mobilizing the global church and empowering international leaders to establish transformational churches.



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**Movement to
Fight Human Trafficking
Moved by the Spirit
A Path to Restoration**



Latin America's Movement to *Fight* HUMAN TRAFFICKING

By Jazmin Castillo Cativa



The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) defines human trafficking as the third-most-lucrative crime for international mafias after drug trafficking and counterfeiting of consumer goods. It is a scourge on humanity. The Free Methodist Church (FMC) in Latin America is joining forces to address this problem. In July 2023, churches across Latin America joined in a celebration of Freedom Sunday.



We realize many people throughout Latin America and around the world suffer from blind ambition, perversion and lack of pity in regard to trafficking. Our hearts grieve. We cannot remain indifferent. We are reminded that God has called us to raise our voices for those who are still oppressed today. As we read in Hebrews 13:3 (NIV), we have a responsibility to remember those in prison as if we were their fellow prisoners and those who are mistreated, as if we were the ones suffering.

In response to the invitation, 3,760 people in 124 churches from 12 countries participated in Freedom Sunday in July. A total of \$1,760 (USD) was raised in special offerings. A little more than half (56%) will go to the Kerubim Foundation, a ministry led by a Free Methodist pastor in Creative Access Country-X. The Kerubim Foundation rescues women from forced prostitution and restores their lives. The other portion of the offering (44%) will be allocated to local Set Free projects in several countries.



Adults and children are joining this great movement. The *Raíces* (FM children's curriculum) team prepared material for the children. Children could learn, experience and celebrate freedom in Christ through an illustrated Bible story, songs and activities. In each of church, children spent time in prayer, assembling a paper chain and then breaking it, symbolically interceding for the freedom Christ offers for those still held in bondage.

Through my experience working on the Empowering Transformational Churches team in Latin America, I can confidently say there are no chains that cannot be broken by God's power when we understand our calling and put every life in His hands. His Word urges us not to get tired of doing good, to continue to cry out for the captives and to be agents of His peace.

Jazmin Castillo Cativa is the Empowering Transformational Church promoter in Argentina.



Moved by the Spirit

By Leobenyg Barreto

Esmeraldas is a beautiful province on the Ecuadorian Pacific Coast adorned by a brilliant sun, with waves hitting the boats that sail through its sea. But it is also an area filled with serious social conflicts affecting young people, who are easy prey to drug trafficking, crime and violence.

Jefferson Burbano lives in Esmeraldas. He is a 63-year-old man who dedicated most of his life to construction and fishing. Twenty-six years ago, Jefferson gave his life to God and has sacrificed much to serve Jesus since then. However, in 2017, something changed the course of his “boat.” He participated in his first Community Church Planting (PIC is the Spanish acronym) training. During the training, he was moved to change course and become a fisher of people. Through the training, God helped Jefferson discover the necessary tools to bring the good news of the gospel to his community. He believed the gospel would turn many to repentance and transform the serious social situations Esmeraldas was experiencing.

Jefferson didn't have the profile of a potentially successful leader. He had little academic background, poor communication skills, serious financial problems, limited smartphone skills and no transportation of his own to attend meetings and training sessions. Jefferson was an

ordinary believer in a working-class church in Esmeraldas. However, none of his limitations prevented his “boat” from being used by God.

Jefferson now serves in his local church, “Nuestra Roca es Cristo” (Our Rock Is Jesus), teaching and leading men. For the past five years, he has also launched Community Church Planting networks, sharing his testimony and God's story of salvation so others can know Jesus. He visits homes, runs a market as a token of God's love, and multiplies leaders through simple church-planting training.

Five churches representing 300 people have resulted from Jefferson's training and mentoring. The “houses of peace” he has planted have multiplied into other “houses of peace.” Jefferson is a coach who trains others and dreams of advancing toward all God calls him to do. He prays God will raise more workers for the harvest. Today, Jefferson is participating in online ministerial training and is taking a basic computer course.

The Lord changed the course of Jefferson's “boat.” The Holy Spirit does indeed empower ordinary believers to take the Word to the far corners of the earth.

Leobenyg Barreto is Venezuelan and lives with her family in Colombia. Together, they have planted a church in Tocancipá. Leobenyg is a content generator for IML Latin America.



A Path to Restoration and *Multiplication*

By Pastor Pedro Miguel Flores, Costa Rica Mission District Leader

Leaders play a significant role in the construction of every society and community. In a world of constant change, the importance of trained and committed leaders cannot be underestimated. The training of national leaders emerges as a fundamental pillar for the growth of the mission district in Costa Rica. This training goes beyond mere skills and delves into the essence of leadership, embracing the comprehensive formation of healthy leaders in head, heart and hands.

In the Costa Rica Mission District, we are committed to leadership development. We provide head, heart and hands training through the online District Ministerial Training Center, with weekly meetings and an approximate attendance of 15 to 20 people in each course. For each module, we take time for holistic care, a time of accountability where students can open their hearts and be encouraged and supported by each other.

The students have also been motivated to put their learning into practice through missionary trips to various parts of the country. These trips support new

Community Church Planting initiatives while training committed disciples through the Disciples Making Disciples course. One of the most recent fruits of the intentional leadership training is the “El Porvenir” Restoration Center project, an addiction rehabilitation home where lives are being transformed.

Erick was a young man drowning in a life of drug addiction and facing a terminal illness. A group of students from the Ministerial Training Center visited his home and shared the Word of God with him. In his home, Erick received Jesus into his life and found hope and motivation to move forward. Today, Erick shares his testimony with other young people and is a faithful collaborator in the “El Porvenir” project.

Investing in the comprehensive training of healthy leaders opens a pathway toward the multiplication of committed disciples who bring transformation and restoration to all communities in Costa Rica.

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NOVEMBER PRAYER GUIDE

01 > **Wednesday** | Bulgaria

Pray for the church in Bulgaria as they pursue unity and oneness through the Holy Spirit. Pray the believers will be “completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love” (Ephesians 4:2).

02 > **Thursday** | Asia

Pray for the Better Together Converge in Chiang Mai, Thailand, November 3-7. Leaders from across Asia will gather to worship, pray, fellowship and plan toward influencing 1 million Asians for Jesus.

03 > **Friday** | Peru

Pray the Holy Spirit will prepare, encourage and guide pastors and lay leaders in Peru, especially in Tacna and Cusco, to revive church-planting initiatives. Ask the Lord to prepare people of peace in these areas.

04 > **Saturday** | Thailand

Thank the Lord for missionary Hlawn Hlawn Van Tifflin. Pray she will have wisdom, strength and guidance in her daily life. Pray for God’s care for her family, allowing them to be fruitful for His kingdom. **Birthday: Hlawn Hlawn Van Tifflin**

05 > **Sunday** | Japan

Pray for missionary Yuko Wilkins as she does translation work for the Train & Multiply materials. Ask God to provide wisdom and clear insight as she translates.

Birthday: Yuko Wilkins

06 > **Monday** | Latin America

At the end of July, reports from 17 countries in Latin America shared there were 740 new believers, 136 baptisms and 7,753 people being discipled in the faith. Pray God’s Spirit will continue to restore lives throughout Latin America through the power of the gospel.

07 > **Tuesday** | Republic of Congo (Brazzaville)

The work in this country is being established through the FMC in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Pray for the church’s successful registration with the government and expansion of their work.

08 > **Wednesday** | Creative Access Asia-VN

Work among an unreached people group in the country’s northern region has resulted in many new believers. Pray for continued fruitful ministry in this area and among new groups.

09 > **Thursday** | Latin America

Pray for Guy and Betsy Crawford as they continue encouraging the Latin America missionary team and mentoring several leaders through their sabbaticals.

Birthday: Betsy Crawford

10 > **Friday** | Spain

Give thanks! People are coming to faith in Christ through the FMC in Madrid. Pray for the Moras as they disciple and train these new believers and emerging leaders.

Birthday: Magaly Mora

11 > **Saturday** | Creative Access Asia-MR

Praise God! In the first eight months of 2023, there were more than 60 baptisms in Creative Access-MR. Pray the work of the Holy Spirit will continue, bringing more people to Jesus, establishing new churches, and calling more workers to the harvest.

12 > **Sunday** | Mozambique

Over the past few years, Mozambique has suffered from several natural disasters, droughts, floods and cyclones, causing significant damage. Pray for those who continue to suffer because of loss and displacement.

13 > **Monday** | Middle East

Pray for Christians in the Middle East who endure persecution because of their faith in Christ. Also, pray for a transformation in the hearts of those who cause the persecution. Ask God to reveal Himself in powerful ways so they may encounter the love and truth of Christ.

14 > **Tuesday** | Chile

Pray for churches in Chile as they participate in several transformational ministries for immigrants, young people and children.

Birthday: Leo Godoy (husband of Kay Stotts Godoy)

15 > Wednesday | Global

Pray for Debra Gilmore as she walks alongside new missionaries in their partnership-building process.

Birthday: Debra Gilmore

16 > Thursday | FMWM

FMWM Financial Liaison Jonathan Fajardo and his wife, Kesha, welcomed a son, Luca, in September. Pray for Jonathan as he balances work and being a first-time father.

Birthday: Jonathan Fajardo

17 > Friday | Colombia

Pray for the new work the Jewells will do in teaching trades to local youth. Ask God to direct them to the best location for this ministry and guide them as we begin teaching.

Birthday: Katie Jewell

18 > Saturday | Zambia

Pray for the FMC as they pray and plan to reach all 10 provinces of the country with the good news of the gospel.

19 > Sunday | ICCM

ICCM runs a hostel in northern Thailand. This hostel caters to the needs of a vulnerable population of children in the Lahu tribe. Pray for the children in this hostel and other vulnerable children in this region.

20 > Monday | Portugal

Pray for the ministry of The Barnabas Project. This project provides food and assistance to low-income families and homeless people. As the church serves the community's physical needs, pray people will also find their spiritual needs being met.

21 > Tuesday | 360 Mission District / Asia

360 Mission District: Pray for Dennis and Kyle Leon as they adjust to having their oldest son, Elias, at college in the U.S. As they transition back to Costa Rica following a sabbatical, pray they will have openness to how the Spirit is leading them. **Birthday: Kyle Leon**

Asia: As Virginia serves in Asia, ask the Father to give her grace and abundant peace. Pray she will have everything she needs through the knowledge of Jesus our Lord and His divine power (2 Peter 1:2-3).

22 > Wednesday | Middle East

Pray for the youth in the Middle East. Pray they will listen to the voice of the Lord and be empowered and emboldened to share the gospel.

23 > Thursday | São Tomé & Príncipe

Five years ago, the Souza family began serving as missionaries in São Tomé & Príncipe. We rejoice there are now two churches established. Recently, a piece of land was purchased to build a church, a community development center and a parsonage. Pray for God's provision in the completion of these projects.

24 > Friday | Philippines

Roger and Vangie Stone continue working with Bible translation in the Philippines. Ask God to equip the team working on the Ayta Ambala team as they do the translation work. Pray they will have wisdom and be free from distractions. **Birthday: Vangie Stone**

25 > Saturday | Set Free Movement

Wunders is beginning to launch a program in Togo. Pray for Elaine, the manager of the Atelier La Main De Dieu sewing center in Togo, and all those who work alongside her to make the kits to be distributed.

26 > Sunday | Burundi

Pray for the fruitfulness and kingdom impact of the FMC training programs in agriculture, animal husbandry and small business.

27 > Monday | Middle East

Depression and suicide rates are dramatically on the increase. Hundreds of thousands live as refugees. People are without hope. Pray for ministries throughout the region as they provide trauma care, health care, education and life skills while sharing about Christ, Who brings true peace and hope.

28 > Tuesday | Spain

Pray the fellowship Camilo and Magaly Mora lead can find a larger worship facility that fits within the budget. Ask God to give them wisdom and guidance as they continue to share the gospel in Madrid. **Birthday: Camilo Mora**

29 > Wednesday | Africa

Please pray God will continue to use the ministries of Tumaini Women Kenya (TWK) and Thrive to bring about His message of reconciliation and healing in FMC communities and beyond!

30 > Thursday | Nicaragua/El Salvador

Praise the Lord for two new ordinands and six ministerial candidates in this mission district. Pray for these leaders and the continued development of Community Church Planting throughout the district.