



 **ONTARIO, CA**

Pastor Daniel Ventura

**¡Bendiciones y saludos de tus hermanos en Cristo de Ontario, California!**

Greetings from your brothers and sisters in Ontario, California!

We continue to rejoice in God’s faithfulness in blessing us with warm fellowship, joyful worship, as we welcome new disciples in the household of faith. We continue our Spanish-language worship services every Sunday morning at 11:30 am, regularly welcoming new visitors who are a tremendous encouragement to our small gathering. Our bi-weekly Spanish Bible Studies are a wonderful time of growth, and our potlucks are as edifying as they are delicious!

We recently finished a three-month membership class where Rev. Kern taught through the Three Forms of Unity and what it means to be a member of Reformed church. Ten members attended regularly, five of whom have decided to become members! Praise the Lord! (see picture)

Among those new faces are Natalia and Camila, who recently moved into the area from Colombia. They have been a vibrant, energetic part of our fellowship, and are reveling in the riches of our Reformed heritage. They have also recently brought along a dear friend, Camilo, who is also from Colombia. Our friends Sergio and Lorena have joined us from the Pentecostal church in Mexico, and Mateo and Gisela (*hee-SELL-ah*) and their two children have come to us from Peru! It’s been a great pleasure to get to know these beautiful families, and we thank the Lord for



the opportunity to shepherd them faithfully in the Word of God.

Although our Spanish-speaking congregation is relatively small (about 20 – 25 souls) we are a vibrant body made up of image from different countries. This

creates a unique dynamic to our fellowship, one of the blessings of which enjoying one another’s food! We regularly eat together after our midweek bible studies and after our Sunday worship services, and the Lord has blessed us with some incredible cooks! (see picture)

During the month of December, we completed an outreach event called Hope Explored which brought three new brand-new visitors into our midst, and in May, we plan to join hands with our English-speaking congregation to host another yard- and bake-sale to help raise financial support for the church.

Please keep me in prayer as I continue to learn Spanish, and as I travel to sister churches to share our work in order to raise the necessary finances for this essential work. Would you prayerfully consider being one of our sponsor churches? Congregations that regularly support us help us to plan for the future and continue our labors in the Great Commission in the city of Ontario.

Please keep Rev. Kern in prayer as he preaches and teaches among our Spanish brothers and sisters.

Please keep our visitors (especially those in the process of membership) in your prayers. The process of moving from one’s native home and church to a new land is never easy, and the adjustment is often challenging. We rejoice in God’s goodness in building his church in Ontario, California!

Thank you for your love, support, and prayers!

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**MILAN ITALY - MISSION MILAN**

Rev. Michael G. Brown

**Buongiorno! I am happy to share with you that, by God's grace, the ministry of the Word in Milan continues to flourish.**

The Lord has brought several new families and university students to our church, and most weeks we have new visitors, including some non-believers. On Sunday mornings, there are often more than 70 people present.

Our midweek Bible study and prayer meeting has also seen an uptick in attendance. Several students take the metro from downtown after their classes finish. They tell me that meeting during the week for teaching and fellowship is vital for their walk with Christ. Sometimes after the meeting, we get a pizza together and extend our time of fellowship.

Another blessing is our monthly men's group, "Uomini del patto" ("men of the covenant"). There are usually about twenty men from our church who meet to eat, pray, sing, and study a book together. The Lord has been blessing this fellowship of men who range from age 18 to 85. I love these brothers and I am grateful for them and their love for the Gospel. I've included a picture from our meeting last month.



Janie continues to teach a monthly ladies' book club for the church. This is an excellent opportunity for discipleship and fellowship among sisters in Christ.

I am also discipling two young men in preparation to make their profession of faith: Josuè and Abraham Sulcapuma. God willing, they will profess faith on April 7.

One of the things for which I most grateful to God is that I get to serve alongside outstanding leaders in the local church. Elders Vittorio Calderaro and Domenico "Mimmo" Altobelli (whom I've included in the picture) and deacons Tonino Bellitto, Tony La Leggia, and Arnaldo Mazzola (not pictured) are not only faithful and humble servants, they are my dear friends and men whom I respect and trust. I am thankful that they hold me accountable for my doctrine and behavior, having the love and courage to correct me when I have needed it. I am thankful for their commitment to the mission of the church, always reminding me that it is about proclaiming Christ through the ordinary means of grace. I am thankful for their fidelity to the gospel and the Reformed confessions, helping me to stay on track theologically and not lose focus of Jesus. I am thankful for their willingness to use their gifts for the pastoral care and spiritual wellbeing of the flock, setting us an example of Christlike servant-leadership. I am a blessed man to serve with them!

Janie, Iain, and I are well. Iain has decided to go to Grove City College in Pennsylvania to study biochemistry. We plan to move him into college this August. For the first time in 30 years, Janie and I will be empty nesters.

Thank you for your prayers, encouragement, and support!

