



HISPANIC CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

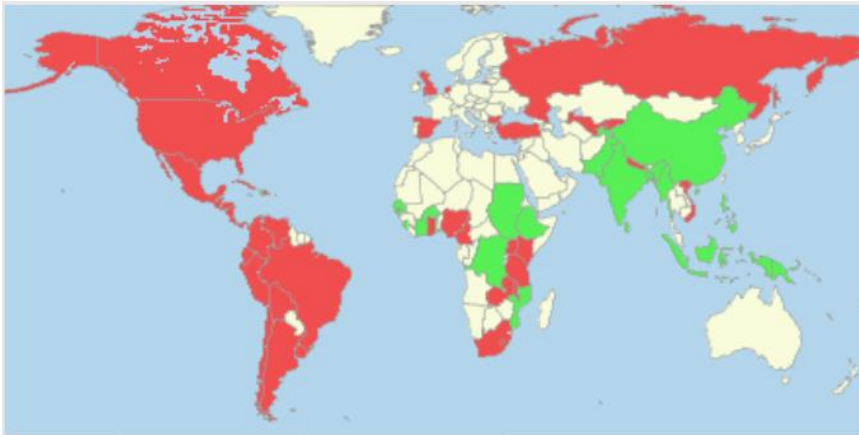
Overseeing the ministry of Rev. Eric Pennings and Rev. José Ramírez
Teaching missionaries of the URCNA churches working via MINTS International Seminary

Missionary News about Rev. Eric Pennings and Rev. José Ramírez

JULY 2020

Report on MINTS International - Rev. Dr. Eric Pennings

Rev. Eric Pennings' ministry with MINTS began in 2005 as the MINTS Central America Coordinator. In 2010 this was turned over to José Ramírez when Rev. Pennings was appointed as the MINTS International Academic Dean with responsibilities for the academic standards of MINTS internationally. He continued to travel into the Latin American region until 2018 when, due to health concerns, he transitioned his teaching ministry to internet-based teaching from his study using various internet software. He is the coordinator for MINTS in the Southern Cone of Latin America (Chile, Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay).



Countries with MINTS graduates. Countries where MINTS is working.

The Lord has blessed the extension of MINTS as we celebrate 20 years of ministry this year. This graphic shows the 70+ countries where MINTS is working and where graduates are establishing churches and serving in God's kingdom. MINTS expands into about 2 more countries each year, on average. We are also preparing leaders among Unengaged Unreached People Groups (UUPG) and in prisons in the US and around the world.

Here are some statistics for the time period of January to June 2020:

- We have had graduations in 15 countries, including two new countries - Nigeria and Ghana.
- For the first half of the year, we have 127 graduates from 20 different study centers including MINTS OnLine.
- We have presented diplomas in 4 languages: English (70%), Spanish (24%), Portuguese and Russian.
- 93% of diplomas awarded were CTS, AATS, and BATS degrees, 7% post-graduate degrees.
- This year graduations are down about 50% due to Covid.

Report on MINTS in Central America - Rev. José Ramírez

Rev. José Ramirez's ministry with MINTS began in 2010 as the MINTS El Salvador Coordinator. He has served as Church Planter in establishing the Covenant of Grace Reformed Church of El Salvador as the fruit of leadership development through MINTS. He has been ordained as a minister in that denomination. We will report further on his church planting ministry in upcoming Newsletters. On the next page, we would like to report on his ministry with MINTS in Central America.

PREPARING CHRISTIAN LEADERS FOR MINISTRY

Covenant Reformed Church and Faith URC are partners in the United Reformed International Missions Joint Venture

Donations: Please make cheques payable to the church and note Hispanic Christian Ministry in the memo line.
Canadian (CAD) Donations | **Covenant Reformed Church**, 265 Albion Road, Toronto, Ontario M9W 3P1
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Since 2010, hard work has been done to establish the development of leaders committed to sound doctrine in the Central American region. In 2015, Rev. Ramírez was appointed as the Associate Academic Dean for Central America. Since then he has worked with a team of leaders to continue developing the MINTS study program. In 2012 they established a seminary in El Salvador, which is called Miami International Seminary of El Salvador (SIMES). They started with the vision to develop MINTS study centers in the region of Central America. They have students in 6 of the 7 countries of the region: Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama. Belize currently has no students. These groups of leaders have been working side by side to do a work with excellence to bring Reformed Theology to every part of the church in the region.

We are thankful to God for His favor and mercy to the MINTS-Central America Board of Directors made up of representatives from each of the countries in the region. We are excited to report that we have **30** centers with **365** active students in Central America. The vision for this committee is to expand even more in the years to come. However, with the COVID-19 situation, we experience a loss of interest from the students in some regions as they cannot get together to study or to help each other, or simply to encourage one another. Please keep the leadership team and the students in your prayers.

By the grace of God, during these years of hard work, we have had the privilege to graduate a considerable number of students who are committed to the work of the Lord. The following table presents the statistics of the work we have done during these years of work for the Kingdom of God. To God be the glory!



MINTS 2015-2020 – GRADUATIONS STATISTICS				
Certificate Level	Associate Level	Bachelor Level	Master of Theology	Master of Divinity
124	48	37	3	1

From the Hispanic Ministry Committee Treasurer – Art Miedema

The Covid19 virus has impacted the financial side of the ministry. Trips have been cancelled and video/zoom teaching has been going for the past 4 months. Our travel expenses have thus dropped; however, the donations have also been slow. A summary of the year to date (YTD) information is as follows, as of June 30, 2020:

	Budget Annual	6 months to June 30/20 Budget	Actual Ytd
Receipts	260,300	130,150	62,511
Disbursements	260,300	130,150	124,635
YTD shortfall	-	-	32,124 (this represents 1.5 months of budget income)

We solicit your support and if you can have a special collection for the ministry or an extra midyear donation it would be appreciated.

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