



The TGCBI Herald

Editor

Steve Austin

Volume 6, Issue 3
September 9, 2009

THIS ISSUE

**New School Year,
New Blessings**

Houston Students

**International
Students**

Israel Trip a Success!

*“May the Lord direct
your hearts into God’s
love and Christ’s
perseverance... May
the Lord of peace
himself give you peace
at all times and in
every way.”*

2 Thess.3:5, 16

TGCBI
1502 Avenue I
South Houston, TX
77587
(713) 910-2819

montgomery@tgcbi.org
austin@tgcbi.org
www.tgcbi.org



*New Houston students during orientation (front row, l to r)
Juan Barron, Jannacoeli Gonzalez, Edita Drago, Piero Drago*

New School Year, New Blessings

We are extremely excited about our students as we launch another school year. In addition to our second-year students who will graduate in December (Agustin Garcia, Andres and Gloria Guajardo), God has blessed us with 4 more full-time students locally in Houston, as well as 9 more full-time students in 5 other countries. (See above for new local students).

The video conferencing network now has 44 sites in 17 countries. Twelve of these sites are new this quarter! This is an enormous blessing, and at the same time a hefty technological challenge, since 5 out of the 15 courses have 8 sites each in them.

For example, on Tuesdays/Fridays at 9 AM, there are a total of 12 sites participating in just two courses (8 sites in one, 4 in the other). During a break you can stand in between the two classrooms and see and hear brethren from 9 different countries talking to each other! It's truly amazing, truly wonderful, truly a blessing—and truly frustrating on occasion when the technology doesn't work as needed!

Houston students

We welcome Piero and Edita Drago, who come to us from Little Rock. Piero is from Italy and Edita from Venezuela. They are multi-talented individuals with a heart for ministry. They will be working with the Pasadena church.

Jannacoeli Gonzalez, also from Venezuela originally, begins her studies this fall, and desires to learn more about women and children's ministry. She will be working at the Clear Lake church, with Renzo Mayorga, a recent graduate of the TGCBI.



Janna

Piero, Edita, Bryan

Juan Barron is from the Houston area, with connections to the Hidden Valley and Pasadena congregations. He enjoys a good reputation among the youth groups in Houston for his active involvement and his teaching with them.



Juan Barron

International Students

For the first time, the TGCBI will give scholarships to students in other countries, so that they can dedicate themselves to full-time preparation for and participation in ministry. Through this

technology, they can remain with their families and congregations while they train.

They will participate in the normal two-year program of 40 courses, and in addition to working with local coordinators, they will be trained and mentored by Carlos Camacho in effective church planting and nurturing strategies.

Daniel Urdaneta and his wife, Loly, currently reside in Valencia, Spain, where they will establish a new congregation. Loly will also participate in the classes. They are from Venezuela, but spent time working with churches in the Miami and Orlando areas, and come highly recommended.



Daniel and Loly Urdaneta

Francisco and Carmen Rojas live near the capital city of San Jose, Costa Rica. They are trusted members in the Sabanilla congregation there. As one leader has left that congregation to help establish another, Francisco now will assume even more of a leadership role. Francisco and Carmen also have a son, Allan, studying the Bible full-time at the Baxter Institute in Honduras.



Francisco and Carmen Rojas

Bernie Villalobos joins Francisco in the Costa Rica class. Bernie is married to Ivania with two wonderful girls. Bernie and Ivania have started a new congregation in their home in the Loma Linda de Desamparados section of San Jose. They now have 45 members, self-supported and self-led.



Villalobos family

Tito Alfonso and Efrain Bermudez are both single men who have been leading members of the church in Bogota, Colombia. With the gradual departure of the mission team that established the church there, Tito and Efrain will be able to help the church move positively through the transition.



Tito Alfonso and Efrain Bermudez

Luis Lopez, married to Celia, with two daughters, serves in the San Miguelito church in Panama City, Panama. He and his father have a special ministry in bringing people back to the church who have drifted away. He switches from a

career in construction management to constructing churches. Perhaps a modern-day equivalent to fishing for men instead of for fish?



Luis Lopez

Jertzain Gomez, another single man helps lead the dynamic Arcelia congregation in central Mexico, one which has helped evangelize the whole area around their city, with plans to do more. An accountant by trade, Jertzain wants to prepare himself for a significant service role in the church. Luis Guzman, an elder there, will also participate in many classes.



Jertzain Gomez

Please pray for these men, their families, and their congregations as they begin this important new challenge in ministry. All have sacrificed and taken a step of faith, leaving other careers, not knowing what will happen after the two years, but trusting in God. We are excited to be on the journey with them.

Israel Trip a Success!

We had a GREAT time in Israel this year for 13 days in mid-June. We took 22 people and put more than 16,000 air miles, 800 bus miles, and probably 50 walking miles on them, as we visited more than 50 sites in Israel and Jordan.

Highlights mentioned by the group included our worship services in the Garden of Gethsemane and on the Arbel cliffs overlooking the Sea of Galilee; the fabulous rose-red city of Petra; the life-size reproduction of the tabernacle in the Neguev desert; and of course the classic sites in Galilee and Jerusalem.

Our guide Nedal and our driver Ravi were outstanding, the hotels in their locations were wonderful, and the food would have added at least 10 pounds to each person if we hadn't walked so much!



Group at the famous Kasneh in Petra

Our students received two courses credit for what they learned there, and in related projects. They will use this knowledge for the rest of their lives in ministry.

We are eagerly making plans for the 2011 trip. We invite you to come along!

Texas Gulf Coast Bible Institute
1502 Avenue I
South Houston, TX 77587