



BWM NEWS

As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” John 20:21b

BWM Executive Director Search

It’s hard to believe that I am nearing the time for retirement! In considering this reality, BWM will begin a search process soon, with a goal to have a new Executive Director in place by the end of 2017. This has been an amazing ministry for me, and I am grateful to have met our brothers and sisters throughout the world, and to listen deeply to God’s call to mission. Thank you so much for your ongoing support of this work! Please keep BWM in prayer as we seek our new Executive Director.

Judy Ganz

Raiford Fall Visit

Phil and Eunice Raiford, missionaries we help to support who work with the Mixe in Mexico, will be in the Pennsylvania and New York area in September of this year. Let BWM know if you would like them to share their mission with your congregation.



Synods in Honduras

Around 250 delegates from throughout the **Honduras Unity Province** gathered in Brus Laguna for their Sixth Provincial Synod from May 3-7, 2017 (above). Rev. Raby Becam (below) was elected as the new provincial president.

The previous Provincial Board reported on efforts to address ongoing legal challenges to their church, the development of a Christian radio station to improve communication in the villages, and the recent move to provide further theological education for potential instructors at their Bible Institute. The Synod voted to disassociate with the United Alaska Moravian Ministry (UAMM), a breakaway group from the Alaska Province that was excluded from the Moravian Unity at the last Unity Synod because of their unwillingness to follow the guidelines of the Unity Board.



News & Notes

Tawahka Mission

The Honduras Unity Province is sharing the gospel with the Tawahka people, who are quite poor, with many needs. They brought them clothing from 3 of their congregations. A medical team from Ahuas visited and did health visits and dispensed medication. Pastor Morly Kelley Nikiuta (below) is



active in the work. BWM has provided some support. Donations are welcome.

Theological Education Needs

We are grateful for the many people who contribute to projects with our partners. Both the Honduras Province and the Honduras Mission Province are sending 3 pastors on for additional theological education at the bachelor's level in order to have better prepared teachers at their Bible Institutes. BWM is providing mission grants to get this started and hopes to find ways to meet future training needs for our global partners.

The Province has an active youth program and recently began a women's network, in coordination with work with the Unity Women's Desk. It also is hoping to develop various small businesses, such as their fish market, to help provide income for the ministry. They continue outreach to Belize, the Garifuna region, and the Tawahka people. The Synod took up an offering to help in Belize.

The **Mission Province of Honduras** held its synod in Wawina May 17-21. Bishop Sam Gray attended for BWM and the Worldwide Unity.

Wawina is just upriver from Ahuas. Before taking the boat ride upriver, I was able to spend some time at the Moravian Clinic in Ahuas and share a time of devotion and Bible Study with Rick Nelson and the staff of the Clinic. A 3½-hour trip by



motorboat got me to the village of Wawina around 2:00 in the afternoon. I settled into the room that they had prepared for me, reconnected with many old friends, took a refreshing "bucket shower" with fresh water from the well, had a delicious supper, and then took part in the opening service of Synod. There was lots of special music, greetings, introductions and an inspiring message delivered by the outgoing Provincial president, the Rev. Cristobal Smith.

Synod sessions began the following morning and continued for 4 full days. The treasurer gave a detailed financial report and accounting of the funds sent by BWM. I had the opportunity to talk with the delegates about the BWM's hopes of moving toward support of specific ministry and mission projects. Reports were given concerning the work of the Clinic, Alas de Socorro (aviation ministry), the Bible Institute (in the capable hands of local professors as well as missionaries from Nicaragua), Christian Education, Youth Ministry, Women's Network, Evangelism and other ministries of the Province.



Elections were held for a new Provincial Board. On a personal note, it made me feel good (but somewhat old!) to realize that the newly elected president, vice-president and secretary of the board, as well as the newly elected president of the

Honduras Unity Province, were all students of mine at the Bible Institute in Ahuas back in the early 1980's. The president of the Mission Province (Rev. José Smith) and the president of the Unity Province (Rev. Raby Becam) grew up in the same village together and are good friends. We pray that God will use this friendship to work toward further reconciliation among the Honduras Provinces.

Sam Gray



Unity Mission Conference Funding

We now have \$39,000 pledged and are getting closer to the goal of raising \$70,000 to make sure that delegates from the US and all of our partner countries can participate in the upcoming Mission Conference in South Africa. Each province is being asked to help as well. Thanks to all who have contributed! If others want to join this effort, consider donating toward an estimated average of \$2,100 for travel for delegates from our global partners. Some are listed below.

Alaska - Arthur Coolidge, Larissa Strunk

Cuba - Armando Rusindo

Peru - Christopher Valencia

Honduras - Harlan Macklin, Porfirio Solis Acosta, Carmen James

Garifuna - Goser Bodden

Honduras Mission Province - Cristobal Smith, Beneranda Wood, Nilda Odina Salgado

Nicaragua - Joseph Rivera, Elma Willis, Idel Morales, Veronica Webster

Western Tanzania - George Mang'ombe, Oscar Fallanga, Alexander Ulumye, Erasto Kapela, Emmanuel Mtunda, Helena Kenekaza, Adasa Yongolo, Lucas Msanja (youth)

Representing the
 Northern, Southern, & Alaska Provinces,
 & the Unity of Brethren in Texas
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