

Rod & Sherry Boyd
Panama

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Raising up Christian Leaders in Latin America

SUMMIT VISION

A look at the 2018 International Educators Summit through the vision of the LARTC

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Four hundred twenty Bible school teachers, pastors, leaders and missionaries from fifteen countries gathered April 18-21 in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, for the **2018 International Educators Summit**. This is the northern Summit, always held in one of the seven Central American countries. Typically, 90% of those attending are from Central America. For just the second time, a non-host country, El Salvador, had more attending (117) than the host country of Honduras (115). Cordoba, Argentina will host the southern Summit conducted August 27-30.

The theme for this year's Summits is *The Word of God*. All ten general sessions and many workshops focused on three principal truths from Paul's words to his young apprentice in 2 Timothy 3:16-17, "All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work" (NLT).

Speakers and workshop leaders focused on the three main qualities of God's Word mentioned in these verses. The Bible is inspired. It is "God breathed," infallible and dependable for His people. God's Word is useful. The Bible is life's instruction manual for His people, like a mirror that helps us to see areas that need correction. Finally, God's Word is faithful. He uses His word to equip us to serve Him. The large 10x16 foot banner behind the platform featured a large open Bible. It became a popular Kodak moment spot!

The Summit is a pinnacle experience. The Lord speaks to us. Vision becomes clear. We gain full, 360-degree perspective with the top leaders gathered. These high level, deep influence International Educator Summits epitomize and typify the three-part vision of the Latin America Resource & Training Center (LARTC), both as a facility and as a ministry, to empower leaders, train teachers and provide resources.

EMPOWER LEADERS – Influence the influential

The LARTC strives to empower key leaders. We have identified approximately 75 national and international leaders – superintendents, Christian education directors, Christian school directors, ministry leaders and missionary educators. We serve them as consultants and influence them through advocacy. They are the main speakers at the Summits. They conduct their team meetings before, during and after the Summits. We gather them for board meetings and international dialogues. We can and will host most leadership meetings in the new LARTC facilities and do so at a fraction of the cost! For example, we just hosted the CIECAD Commission meeting (Central America Christian School leaders) in our facility at a third of the cost.

TRAIN TEACHERS – Train the trainers

The LARTC strives to inspire and equip teachers. This is no small task! We have more than 6,000 pastors and leaders teaching more than 45,000 Bible school students in more than 1,000 schools and ministry training centers in Spanish-speaking Latin America. The International Educator Summits effectively inspire and equip those teachers that attend. The Summits purposely move from one country to the next to give nearly all countries the opportunity of hosting the event and have a larger local participation. It is impossible for the LARTC facilities to directly train 6,000 teachers in its facilities. Even so, the LARTC does host our two advanced training schools and provides training for Panama's school staff.

Continued on the reverse side...



Prayer Needs & Praise Reports &
Little Davey 2018: Target El Salvador
on the reverse side!



Panorama@Boyd.org • www.Boyd.org • AGWM Account 2392710

Field Address Apartado 0818-00792, Panama, PANAMA

Stateside Address 21004 28th Ave. West, Lynnwood, WA 98036

Summit Vision continued...

PROCEPA. In addition, we can and do provide both an attractive certification program and accessible opportunities for national and at times regional training seminars. The combination of offering the PROCEPA teacher certification program at the International Educator Summits as well as at National and Regional PROCEPA Seminars has resulted in phenomenal levels of participation and program adoption. From just 485 enrolled in 2008, ten years later, as of June, there are 6,673 enrolled in 2018. The Argentina Summit will likely add an additional 150 to the enrollment. The enrollment will increase more than 650, nearly 11% from 2017 to 2018! Basic certification requires that a teacher take ten two-hour workshops. Some other interesting PROCEPA statistics:

- 1,426 of 6,673 (21%) have completed their basic level
- 2,280 of 6,673 (34%) have taken 1-4 workshops
- 3,001 of 6,673 (45%) have taken 5-9 workshops and are just one event away from earning their basic certification!

ChildHope. In addition to training Bible school teachers, we also have more than 4,000 teachers who are shaping nearly 100,000 children and youth in more than 300 Christian schools in the Latin America/ Caribbean region. As ChildHope coordinators for Central America, we are privileged to work with the CIECAD Commission, the group of national and missionary leaders from the seven Central American countries that represent about half of the schools, teachers and students in our network.

We conducted the second CIECAD Congress last September in Managua, Nicaragua. At our recent CIECAD Commission meeting, hosted in Panama at our LARTC facilities, we scheduled the third Congress for Sept. 19-21, 2019 in Panama! We also discussed the need for a formal training and certification program, like PROCEPA, to provide orientation and practical training for our teachers, directors and pastors.

PROVIDE RESOURCES – Equip the equipper

Just the Summit itself is a rich resource for those who attend. There is nothing like being together with people that breathe the same

PRAYER NEEDS & PRAISE REPORTS

- Please pray for the 2018 Educators Summit, Aug 27-30 in Cordoba, Argentina, followed by the Latin America Educational Ministries board meeting considering several important items.
- Praise the Lord for another successful Little Davey Project trip to El Salvador! Six schools were blessed with a total of 75 new computers!
- Please pray for the more than 250 children who need a Childhope sponsor. If you can one of these, please visit: www.childhopeonline.org.
- Praise the Lord for two teams lead by Randy and Lynne Forsyth that built new classrooms for the Getsemani Good Shepherd School!
- Please continue to pray for generous offerings for the LARTC for continued construction of the Atrium and second-floor guestrooms.

rich air! This rich environment is perfect for sharing ideas and networking. The Summit also showcases relevant, accessible and innovative curriculum, textbooks and teaching resources. Outside Christian publishers help to sponsor the Summits and provide hundreds of books and Bibles that are given away to participants. Members of our international team and key leaders share their newly published works. All of this, by design, to fulfill the LARTC's vision to develop and provide needed resources. These resources are just a part of our growing

initiative to equip the equipper!

Once again, we say thank you to our prayer and support team that undergird the strategic ministry of the Latin America Resource & Training Center. What you do behind the scenes strengthens us and the entire LARTC team to empower leaders, train teachers and provide resources, in effect multiplying ourselves through an army of harvest workers who spread in Latin America and the world. Thank you!

Little Davey Project 2018: Target El Salvador

The destination for the Little Davey Project 2018 was El Salvador. David and Deborah Kaiser led the group of twelve that included two first-time members. Little Davey's 2018 trip is their 13th, returning back to El Salvador which they visited back in 2010.

Missionaries Bob and Cilina Bueno who serve as ChildHope coordinators and board president of the 37-school network called Rev. John Bueno Christian Schools, worked with local director Julio Valencia to choose six schools that would receive the 75 new computers. ChildHope and the local program purchased the monitors, case, keyboard/mouse and battery backup, while Little Davey Project purchased the internal components: motherboard, processor, memory and hard drive.

Assembling and configuring computers was complicated by the ongoing shift from desktop to mini computers. By the end of production day (Saturday), the team had assembled and configured 37 of 45 desktops and configured 25 of 30 minis. The remaining computers were finished on Monday afternoon, after the first day's visits.

Thanks to the good work of Mauricio, director of the technical department for the school network, all six schools were well-prepared for our visit. Our team was impressed with the clean, climate-controlled and secured computer rooms that had desks, chairs and cabling ready for the new computers. All six deployments were doubling or tripling the size of existing computer labs. A repeated comment from school directors and computer teachers was how their labs were now "complete," allowing all the children in a classroom to be able to take computer class at the same time.

Two highlights stand out from this year's trip. First, the team returned to the Guatejiagua school after 8 years to add 10 computers to its existing lab of 9 computers. We were amazed to see that the 9 existing computers were the ones the team provided 8 years ago! The second highlight is from the Comecayo school. As much as teaching computer enriches the life of students and gives them a better chance for a good job, much more important is the spiritual impact made on their lives. We were so touched to watch and listen to the kids sing the worship chorus *I Believe in You Jesus*. The words to this worship song (in the text box to the right) summarize the heart's desire of each member of our Little Davey Team! Thank you, team and all who support this ministry! So many lives are being changed as a result.



I Believe in You Lord

Today I want to lift my hands to You
Wonderful Jesus, Miraculous Lord
Fill this place with your presence
And see your power fall on those here
I believe in you Jesus
And in what You will do in me...
in me... in me

(Chorus)

Receive all of the glory
Receive all of the honor
Precious Son of God