



**MGM International**  
Multiplying Leaders for the Great Hispanic Harvest



## News from Gail Ereddia

June 2023

Dear Friends,

So much has happened these last three months! Our annual Staff Conference in March was a tremendous blessing! Lizzy Cochran Villalobos created a wonderful video, which is posted on our MGM International Facebook page, if you would like to see some pictures of the event. <https://fb.watch/luNZmCC6On/> It's always a blessing to get to fellowship with our team in person. We had some helpful, challenging, and informative sessions; we honored the Shumates as Dr. Shumate transferred the role of General Director to Dr. Dan Wokaty, whom we honored as well. New board members were installed, and professional photographer Nick Pantele came and took some great pictures and videos for us! We went to a park this year on Thursday and had a cookout and a time of testimonies as well. Grateful thanks to those of you who gave so generously to enable us to be able to have that special time at the park. The conference is always a very busy time, but it's my favorite event of the year, and I love being able to help with planning and executing the event.

Two of God's precious saints were called home to be with the Lord in May. Thank you to those who had been praying for Martha Aviles, the secretary at The Evangelical Baptist Church. I've been helping the church with its finances since her cancer reoccurred a few years ago. She loved working at the church, and I know that's one of the reasons she lived as long as she did. I was thankful to get to spend some time with her both at the hospital and at home and to be able to help her and her family with some paperwork. While we miss her, we are grateful that she is no longer suffering.

Also, our beloved former General Director, Dr. Richard L. Mercado, went home to be with the Lord at the age of 93! His father Leonardo Mercado founded the Mexican Gospel Mission (MGMI) and *Iglesia Evangelica Mexicana* (The Mexican Gospel Church, now known as The Evangelical Baptist Church) in 1930, the year Dr. Mercado was born. He suffered with memory loss these last few years...but he was so filled with Scripture that he would always try to lead people to the Lord when they visited him! Here is a link to the memorial service on Facebook: <https://fb.watch/luPbOw3dNQ/>. His family did a wonderful job; the service truly honored the Lord and was a testimony to his faithfulness to the Lord.

It was a blessing to get to see the mission team sent to Phoenix by my sending church, Faith Baptist Church, in Taylors, SC. They have been here this week working hard on maintenance projects, etc., plus they have participated in services, gone on visitation, and conducted youth rallies. I went down to the office to take some baked goodies to them and meet them. They also helped us with taking a significant number of boxes to a recycling place for shredding, and some of them helped us with some computer issues. Recently, I cut some (genuine) floppy discs in half to be discarded. One of the young ladies found half of one and was fascinated by the old technology. I felt like a dinosaur! ☺ (I took a manual typewriter to college...now I carry a "computer" [my phone] in my purse every day.)

After Martha passed away, Norma Torres was planning to help us with processing contributions and taking over the church office needs. But...the Lord called her husband, Asst. Pastor Luis Torres, to pastor a Spanish church in Charleston, South Carolina this month! This is a huge change for them, and we miss them so much already. Please pray for them as they adjust to a new ministry and a very different place than the Southwest. They have four boys, so this is a big change for them, too. Also, please pray that the Lord will send someone to help us with the contributions. Since I handle the finances, best accounting practices have two different people processing income and expenses. Linda Shumate is filling in temporarily, but we are asking the Lord to provide just the right person. He promises to provide all our needs—not just financial ones! So, we know that in His time, He will do that.

Thank you so much to those of you who pray for me and for those of you who give so that I can fulfill the Lord's will for my life and ministry. His mercies are new every morning; great is His faithfulness!

May the Lord richly bless each of you!

Gail Ereddia