

OVER 200 CHURCHES  
REACHING  
4.2 MILLION PEOPLE  
WITH THE GOSPEL OF  
JESUS CHRIST



# THE CLARION

VOLUME 59

ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2026



INLAND EMPIRE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION  
CALIFORNIA SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION  
THE BAPTIST FOUNDATION OF CALIFORNIA

2026 PASTORS AND SPOUSE  
*Marriage Retreat*

FEBRUARY 26-28

Anaheim Marriott Suites

12015 Harbor Blvd, Garden Grove, 92840

\$275 per couple by February 1

\$325 per couple after February 1



SPEAKERS: PETE AND ANABELLA RAMIREZ



- 2 night stay • 4 meals included
- Friday night banquet
- Check-in begins at 4 pm.  
Dinner begins at 5 pm.  
Event ends Saturday at 12:00 noon.

REGISTER: [WWW.IESBA.ORG](http://WWW.IESBA.ORG)

REGISTRANTS MUST BE IN AGREEMENT AND COMPLIANCE WITH THE IESBA'S DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

## UPCOMING EVENTS

February 26-28  
Marriage Retreat

March 14  
Rise and Lead -  
Women's Leadership  
Conference

April 18  
VBS Clinic

## CONNECT WITH US!



909.687.1360



3210 E. GUASTI ROAD  
ONTARIO, CA 91761



[WWW.IESBA.ORG](http://WWW.IESBA.ORG)



INLAND EMPIRE  
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION



**DERYL LACKEY**  
**DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS**

It's amazing how much happened in 2025 when it comes to national and international news and events. I am sure that will continue throughout 2026. Throughout all of the unexpected events and corresponding results, we have been reminded of people's desperate need for the Gospel. As we all know, it is unnerving how quickly life, or a life can change. Yet as we have seen in these last couple of years, all of this uncertainty has created an openness to the Gospel that we must take advantage of while it is there.

One of our desires is to be a true and significant blessing to those churches who are intentional when it comes to evangelism, please let us know how we can help as your church reaches out to those who do not know Christ in 2026.

The only item I want to bring your attention to is our ministers/spouse marriage retreat February 26th-28th in Anaheim. This is for any pastor or member the church considers to be on their ministerial staff, (paid or volunteer). I believe it is one of the most effective ministries we are allowed to host. I would encourage the church to invest in their church staff by paying the way for those who can come. We are limited in spaces available, so please go to our website and sign up asap. If you have any questions, please let us know.



**JONATHAN DE LA O**  
**ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS**

*Psalm 92:4 (NASB) "For You, Lord, have made me joyful by what You have done, I will sing for joy over the works of Your hands."*

I recently sat down at the dinner table with my family. I asked each of my kids *what their favorite part of 2025 was*. My son said "Disneyland and going to Yosemite!". My oldest daughter mentioned meeting her cousins from Australia for the first time. For my youngest it was Christmas. One by one we all shared our favorite moments, memories, and things we were thankful to God for. In the midst of challenges and the expected ups and downs of life, God has remained faithful and has done great things.

I encourage you, as you look ahead to the New Year, to look back to the *works of His hands* in 2025. To rejoice and praise God for the year that He has blessed us with. 2025 was a gift! *"Hasta aquí nos trajo el Señor"* is a common phrase that is used in Spanish speaking communities, loosely translated as "The Lord has brought us this far". He brought *us*, you and I, this far. For reason and with a purpose. He has graced us with another year, sustained us for 12 months, bestowed new mercies 365 days, and poured out His blessings over us. Let us rejoice and be glad together!



**BRUCE HITCHCOCK**  
**CHURCH GROWTH STRATEGIST**

**JESUS IS LORD**

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. (Revelation 22:13)

Before the beginning of all things, nothing but God existed. Our spiritual Father exists as the Godhead. He has always been triune by nature. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit exist as three in One. The triune God designed and crafted everything exclusive of the Trinity (John 1:3). Because of this truth, Jesus Christ has always been Lord. This truth means Jesus existed as the Son of God before His time on earth. He has been Lord throughout eternity past. Christ will always exist as Lord in eternity future! The truth of Christ's position as God and also with the Father confirms the Son's omniscience (all-knowing), omnipotence (all-powerful), and omnipresence (ever-present). These three attributes belong to all the members of the Triune Godhead. In Scripture, this explanation portrays them as a three-in-one existence. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are separate and yet they subsist as one. The three are eternal. Yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live. (1 Corinthians 8:6).



## JUAN SANTOS

### LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Feliz Año Nuevo, estimado pastor e Iglesia,

Doy gracias a Dios por un año más en el que pudimos trabajar unidos para engrandecer el reino de Dios. Seguiremos apoyando a cada congregación gracias a ustedes, quienes contribuyen al plan cooperativo de nuestra asociación y convención bautista. Su iglesia local es una parte muy importante para ganar el estado de California para Cristo. Nuestro estado necesita urgentemente ser impactado por iglesias que muestran el amor de Cristo en su comunidad. Haga la meta de ampliar su impacto y marcar su comunidad en este año 2026. Anime a sus congregaciones a asistir a los eventos y entrenamientos que tenemos para su crecimiento. También pueden inscribirse en el programa de Seminario en Español de Gateway Seminary para preparar a pastores y líderes. También tenemos varias extensiones y clases en línea.

Este año tendremos muchos eventos para fortalecer a su iglesia incluyendo conferencias de: Evangelismo, para damas, capacitación de líderes, plantación de iglesias, retiro de matrimonios, retiro de mujeres, retiro de jóvenes, campamento de hombres, y varios desayunos para que los pastores se conecten y reciban apoyo en el idioma del cielo (español). Sigan adelante. Jehová te bendiga, y te guarde; Jehová haga resplandecer su rostro sobre ti, y tenga de ti misericordia; Jehová alce sobre ti su rostro, y ponga en ti paz. (Numeros 6:24-26)

#### Próximos Eventos:

\* Reunión solo para pastores

Sábado 17 de enero - Desayuno para pastores 9am-11am en la Magnolia Church, Pastor Tony Rodriguez, 8351 Magnolia Ave, Riverside, CA 92504.

\* Sábado 31 de Enero - Conferencia Biblingue Enseñando la Biblia/The Bible Teaching Conference de 9am-1pm en Gateway Seminary 3210 E. Guasti Rd. Ontario, CA 91761 Registración en [www.gs.edu](http://www.gs.edu)

\* Reunión para el pastor y su esposa

Sábado 21 de Febrero - Desayuno celebrando la pareja pastoral de 9am-11am en

First Baptist Church Moreno Valley, Pastor Tony Reza, 24765 Fir Ave, Moreno Valley, CA 92553

\* 26-28 de Febrero - Retiro de matrimonios para la pareja pastoral en Anaheim Marriott Suites. Costo: \$275 si reserva su lugar antes del 1 de Febrero.

\* Sábado 14 de Marzo - Conferencia de Liderazgo para todas las mujeres de 9am-2pm en Sunrise Church Rialto 2759 Ayala Dr, Rialto, CA 92377

# rise + lead

A leadership conference for ALL women in ministry



**MARCH 14 9AM - 2PM**  
**SUNRISE CHURCH Rialto**  
**Hosted by: IESBA**



# HOLY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

*Holy Missionary Baptist Church is a small, inviting congregation in Pomona, which will be celebrating their 56<sup>th</sup> year anniversary this year! Pastor Lacey was called to lead as senior pastor on October 25, 2020. This church has found unique ways to reach out to their community and to show those around them the deep love of Christ.*

Pastor Lacey grew up as the fourth of eight children and was not involved in church or following God. During his years in college, Pastor Lacey responded

to God's call to live for Him and his life took a new direction. He started attending a local church with a deep hunger to know God, and soon started at Crossroads Bible College, earning his bachelor's degree. As an adult and father of three sons, he continued his theological training at Liberty University, completing a master's degree in Christian ministry in 2015 at age 50.



During those years he attended John MacArthur's Shepherds Conference in Southern California, and met his wife, Lori. They married in May 2017 and moved to Southern California. Together, Lori and Pastor Lacey served faithfully at Mt. Zion Church of Ontario. In 2018, during a revival service, Pastor Lacey sensed a clear call from the Holy Spirit to shepherd God's people and was

led to serve as Assistant Pastor at Ontario Ranch Church in Ontario, California.

God soon led Lacey and Lori to attend the NAMB Assessment Retreat and from the moment they arrived, they felt a deep sense of belonging. Although the church planting assessment process is known to be intense and nerve-racking, they *experienced it as a sacred time of reflection an opportunity to share how God had led them in their walk with Him.* By the end of the retreat, they were humbled and grateful to be approved as NAMB church planters. Around that same time, Holy Missionary Baptist Church of Pomona had entered a pastoral search season following the passing of their pastor. Pastor Lacey was invited to serve one Sunday, teaching Bible Study, leading worship, and preaching the Gospel. After prayer and submission to the leading of the Holy Spirit, Pastor Lacey submitted an application in which he was called as pastor in 2020.

*The Holy Spirit stirred in Pastor Lacey and Lori a deep compassion for this flock that was without a shepherd* (Matthew 9:36). Their church motto is, "In Loving God, We Are Here to Serve You," the disciples of HMBC remain steadfast in fulfilling the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19–20). Their mission is to evangelize the lost, disciple one another, and maintain a strong, visible presence within the Pomona community. HMBC serves their community by offering housing support, clothing, and food resources. Every third Saturday of the month, Holy Missionary Baptist Church hosts a food and clothing giveaway, which also comes with a warm meal. They recently started a community Garden where local families can come to help garden. You can keep Holy Missionary Baptist Church in prayer as they remain committed to Christ and grow in knowledge, wisdom and understanding. They also need God to raise up ministry leaders in their church. You can find them on facebook to learn more about their church or to help donate food or clothing for their giveaways!

<https://www.facebook.com/HMBCPomona>





California Baptist University  
Shelby and Ferne Collinsworth School of Performing Arts

# WORSHIP SUMMIT

Renew  
Your Heart

Strengthen  
Your Ministry

Sharpen  
Your Skills



Matt Papa Dr. Chessa Williams



Tom Brooks Criston Moore



Steve Dahlgren Dr. Joseph Bolin



John Bolin Emily Benford



Dr. David Toledo

Register Here!



**Saturday, January 24, 2026 | 8:30am-4:30pm**

California Baptist University

Hawkins Music Building | 8432 Magnolia Avenue, Riverside, CA 92504

@cbuperformingarts  
@cbuschoolofperformingarts

SIMEON TRUST

ISAIAH

## PREACHING PROPHETIC LITERATURE

February 11-13, 2026 / Beaumont, California



David  
Helm



Greg  
Gilbert



Mark  
Rogers

**\$139**

(\$159 AFTER JANUARY 5)

Fellowship Church  
in Beaumont, California  
951-845-2693  
fellowshipbeaumont.org

PRACTICAL INSTRUCTION — PERSUASIVE PREACHING — SMALL GROUP PRACTICE

PRACTICAL INSTRUCTION — PERSUASIVE PREACHING — SMALL GROUP PRACTICE

The Workshops on Biblical Exposition are 3-day training events aimed to encourage and equip you in the skills needed to read, understand, and proclaim the Word of God. The Workshops on Biblical Exposition are for men who are responsible for regularly preaching and teaching. We also welcome those in bi-vocational ministries as well as those training for ministry.



REGISTER AT  
SIMEONTRUST.ORG



ADVANCE student Cesar Leyva was recently installed as lead pastor of Centro Cristiano Divino Redentor that meets at Providence Church in Murrieta. Pastor Cesar was ordained and sent out from Iglesia Voz en el Desirto that currently meets at The View Church in Menifee. We praise God for Kingdom expansion and the partnerships of multiple churches and ministries that allowed this special occasion to come to fruition.



## TESTIMONY - CALL TO MINISTRY - DERYL LACKEY



I was recently asked to share about my call to the ministry. First A brief testimony - I was fifteen when I acknowledged Christ as my Lord and Savior on March 1st, 1976, at my home in Bakersfield, California. Pastor Bill Whala is the individual who was there when it all came together in my heart. I was baptized the following Sunday March 7th, at the Landmark Missionary Baptist Church located in Bakersfield. It was in August of 1978 I was at a youth camp in northern California when I knew something was happening in my heart, but I just wasn't clear as to what it was. I recall during the invitation the pastor asked if there was anyone who was feeling called to the ministry. Since he invited those who felt that calling to go up front, I went out the back door and found myself sitting on a log in the trees. A wonderful pastor, whose face I can still see, but whose name I've never known, came up to me and asked how he could help. After a series of questions, he asked, do you think God is calling you to life committed foremost to the ministry. I told him I did not know. He simply said, "well pray and ask Him!" So, I did, and when I finished a very short prayer, I looked at him and said I really don't know. Instead of pressuring me, talking me into it, or trying to rush me up front for the sake of numbers or show, he graciously said the following. "I would imagine there is a part of you that is afraid God is going to say no and a part of you is afraid that He is going to say yes. Just tell him you are willing if He will make it clear, if the calling is of God it won't go away anytime soon." Wonderful words, just what I needed. By November God had made it quite clear, and on November 19th of that year, during the altar call I got close to going to the alter at our church. Instead of getting all the way to the altar I turned to the left and went out a side door and found myself on a small step. (Thanks to Google, I have a picture of that step in my office). It was there that I "surrendered my life to the ministry" as we called it. I remember at that time there were two strong passions in my heart. Number one was that those who did not know Christ would know him, and number two that those who did know Christ would truly experience God in their life, not merely go through the motions of being a Christian. Those two passions are still the ones that I find the most fulfillment in today.



### PASTOR'S BREAKFAST SCHEDULE:

**1st Wednesday of the month:** 11:30 am, Hawk's Landing Golf Course, 55100 Martinez Trail, 92284

**2nd Monday of the month:** 8:00 am, Dennys, 570 E. Fourth Street, Perris

**2nd Tuesday of the month:** 8 am, Dennys, 17009 Valley Blvd, Fontana

**1st Thursday of the month:** 8 am, Coco's Bakery, 1140 W. Colton, Redlands



The ADVANCE Program finishes off with another great semester! 114 students completed one of nine courses offered in the Fall, including 34 students in Mexico. Courses were given on site at Gateway Seminary and at our four extension sites in Fontana, Menifee, Anaheim, and San Felipe, Mexico. The collaboration of 6 instructors, students from 12 Spanish speaking churches, donors from The View Church, and giving churches and partners of IESBA have all contributed to a successful and blessed semester. We look forward to our Spring courses, for more information on how to give, support, or sign up please visit us at [www.iesba.org/advance/](http://www.iesba.org/advance/).



# Christmas throughout IESBA

Below are pictures of three of our churches Christmas Events! Featured are : ICB Nueva Esperanza (Noche de Belén/Night of Bethlehem), Hope Church Moreno Valley, Salvos Por Gracia.



**THE BAPTIST FOUNDATION OF CALIFORNIA**

## 10-DAY JOURNEY TO THE HOLY LAND

with Drs. Jonathan & Tammy Jarboe, The Baptist Foundation of California

January 17-26, 2027

<https://www.signaturetours.com/JJarboe27>



## IESBA Christmas Dinner

We had about 200 pastors and staff in attendance at our annual Christmas Dinner! Thank you for all who were able to attend! CBU led us in such a wonderful time of music to celebrate the birth of Jesus together!

**WOMEN'S  
EVANGELISM  
CONFERENCE**

**GATEWAY SEMINARY**  
Biblical • Missional • Global

**CALIFORNIA SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION**

APRIL 25, 2026 | ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA



Clarion  
(UPS 044-370)

Inland Empire Southern Baptist Association of California

3210 E. Guasti Rd. Suite 545, Ontario, CA 91761

Telephone: (909) 687-1360

Periodicals Paid at Ontario, California

Published Monthly

POST MASTER; Send address changes to:

Inland Empire Southern Baptist Association of California

3210 E. Guasti Rd. Suite 545, Ontario, CA 91761

---

Periodicals  
Postage  
Paid

---

## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



### INLAND EMPIRE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION STAFF:



**Deryl Lackey**  
Director of Missions  
[deryl@iesba.org](mailto:deryl@iesba.org)



**Jonathan de la O**  
Assoc. Director of Missions  
[jonathan@iesba.org](mailto:jonathan@iesba.org)



**Bruce Hitchcock**  
Church Growth Strategist  
[brucehitch@msn.com](mailto:brucehitch@msn.com)



**Juan Santos**  
Leadership Development  
[juan@iesba.org](mailto:juan@iesba.org)



**Jerry Bennett**  
Pastoral Care  
[revjbm@ yahoo.com](mailto:revjbm@ yahoo.com)



**Brenda Lackey**  
Office Manager  
[brenda@iesba.org](mailto:brenda@iesba.org)



**Angela Mantzey**  
Graphics Specialist  
[angie@iesba.org](mailto:angie@iesba.org)

Contact [angie@iesba.org](mailto:angie@iesba.org) to feature your event in our next newsletter