

## CHURCH PLANTING SPOTLIGHT FERNANDO MARTINEZ | FT. MYERS



Pastor Fernando Martinez has been in full time ministry for twenty-six years, most of which has taken place in Colombia South America until December 10<sup>th</sup> of last year when Pastor Fernando and his family moved to the states to plant a church in Ft. Myers, Florida. Pastor Fernando says, "My family and I were saddened on New Year's Eve as we had just arrived in the U.S. and were completely alone in a country with a language and culture unknown to us. After talking to my wife, we began to think that leaving Colombia to come to the U.S. may have been a bad idea. Then just as we were about to leave the house, a car pulled up in the parking lot which drew my attention. A young Colombian man called me from inside the car. I went to his window as he greeted me very kindly and introduced me to his mother who was very troubled and asked us for prayer in her favor. This was the first person who we were able to minister to and pray for in our neighborhood." Right now Pastor Fernando is in the process of adapting to Florida culture and language; but even this is not stopping him from making contact with neighbors and classmates and experiencing ministry first hand such as the story shared above. Their church, Catedral Cristiana de la Familia, has not started services yet, but have been meeting with people in their home for Bible Study and prayer during the last month. They hope to start services within the next two to three months from the people who they have met through their neighborhood and ESL Classes they have been taking.

### SPANISH CHURCH PLANTS

Iglesia Nuevo Renacer  
Iglesia Wesleyana La Cosecha  
(Cape Coral)  
Iglesia Wesleyana La Cosecha  
(Fort Myers)  
Iglesia La Casa de Dios  
Conexion Christiana  
Catedral Cristian de la Familia  
(Fort Myers)  
Reconciliation Ministries in Yeshua  
(Naples)

### CREOLE CHURCH PLANTS

First Wesleyan Haitian of Orlando  
Fort Pierce Wesleyan  
Hope Wesleyan Haitian of Naples  
Port St. Lucie Wesleyan Haitian  
Riviera Beach Wesleyan Haitian  
First Wesleyan Haitian Church of  
Port Charlotte  
Vero Beach Haitian Wesleyan Church

### ENGLISH CHURCH PLANTS

Crosstown Fellowship  
Church Experience  
Fresh Start  
Harvest House  
Nightlight  
Resonate  
Savanna  
Mission of the Dirt Road  
The Send Church

## MISSIONAL LEADERS

We are investing in our future by developing 100 new leaders (credentialed ministers) by the 2020 conference year.

## MULTIPLYING BELIEVERS

We are praying for 2,000 new believers in Jesus Christ attending our Florida District Wesleyan churches by the 2020 conference year.

## MOVEMENT OF CHURCHES

We are expanding the Kingdom of God by starting 30 new churches in the state of Florida by the 2020 conference year.

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For new donations, **go online**  
OR send a check to:  
P. O. Box 1058  
Alva, FL 33920

## CHURCH RENEWAL SPOTLIGHT

### MIKE LEVELLE | LEESBURG, FL

Trying to decide whether or not to close the doors of a church is a step that is not taken lightly. Pastor Mike Levelle and his wife arrived in Leesburg in late September of 2016 to help evaluate whether this work had possibility for the future. Supplying the pulpit for the church for ten months while having six people attending services, the decision was made to find a way to re-develop this church. The first step was to be able to get the pastor living in the community. Since the church did not have a parsonage, the decision was made to remodel the first floor of the church to create a space to serve as a parsonage. As of October 2017, the remodel work was completed and Pastor Mike was able to make the move onsite. Step two was to take care of major delayed maintenance items at the church facility which included replacement of A/C's and the putting on of a new roof. While this has been taking place over the past six months, this small hand full of people began to see a few new folks join them and now their attendance averages between fifteen to twenty people on Sunday mornings. The mission of Community Wesleyan Church is to make disciples who make disciples. Pastor Mike strives to implement this mission into the church small group studies and in his sermons on Sunday mornings. Pray for Pastor Mike and the redevelopment of this church in Leesburg FL.



## OVERSEAS PARTNERSHIP

### DR. SHELTON WOOD | GUYANA

Dr. Shelton Wood recently returned to the United States from teaching students in Guyana who have a desire and passion to become Christian counselors. Dr. Wood had the opportunity to teach twenty-two students overall. During the day students would go to their normal jobs, then at night come to class where they were taught five to six hours each day. This schedule shows the commitment these students have toward their education. Dr. Wood taught two introductory Christian counseling classes while being there just a few weeks ago. The information taught in these classes are used in every type of counseling at every age, from children to teens to adults. In the future, the students will attend courses that are more specific to the area of counseling that they are most interested in or best suited for.



## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

### GENESIS PEREZ PADILLA | SOUTHERN WESLEYAN

Genesis Padilla firmly believes that God placed her at SWU in order to find friends who have turned into family and in turn, have helped her grow spiritually. Though Genesis is enjoying her time at SWU, she has also faced many challenges including changing majors half way through college. While obtaining her degree in Human Services, Genesis is looking forward to what God has next for her life. She is currently working on perfecting her Spanish in order to become a social worker and/or counselor to help those in need.



## RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

### TODD SLOAN | IMMIGRANT CONNECTION

In January of 2018 the Immigrant Connection center in the Florida District office opened to help serve people in a life changing way. The Immigrant Connection is designed to help immigrants fill out the proper paperwork to become legal citizens of the United States. Thirty-nine people are currently seeking help in the process of their immigrant paperwork and twenty of them have been met with face to face. Dennis Harmeson and Todd Sloan are gathering information from these people who need immigration assistance. Over the short time the Immigrant Connection has been open, Todd Sloan has realized that every person has a unique story to tell about their immigration experience and more times than not it is very emotional, commonly filled with tears.



**The Florida District and D.S. Patrick Styers thank you for all that you've contributed to help fuel the movement of multiplication in the state of Florida.**