

## LOVESERVES INTERNATIONAL

**Annual Report 2021** 



# CHURCH MEMBERS ARE MOVING FROM THEIR SEAT TO THE STREETS

God is awakening churches and mobilizing His people, the Church. We are witnessing churches focus on the two greatest commandments: Love God, and love your neighbor (Matthew 22:37–39). Pastors coached by LoveServes are awakened to the devastating circumstances in their communities and are equipping church members to minister to their neighbors' greatest needs. Church members are moving from their seat to the streets—from inward, self-focused growth to an outward focus of loving their neighbors in practical ways. Non-believers who receive this kind of love are naturally seeking to join the body of believers (the Church) who ministered to them. In the Dominican Republic (D.R.), Guatemala (GUA), and the United States (U.S.), church members are building relationships with non-believers to help bring them into a relationship with Jesus; they are becoming disciple makers. Join us in praising God for working through the LoveServes ministry and multiplying His kingdom's impact!

### Here's the fruit of your co-laboring with God

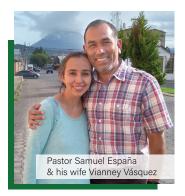
- † 13,109 adult salvations have taken place this past year!
- **†** 3,072 churches have been trained in the D.R and GUA in the last 15 years.
- **†** 177 new churches are being equipped in the D.R., 40 churches in GUA, and 24 churches in the U.S.
- **†** 783 people are actively involved in Smallcircle, a one-to-one discipleship, in the D.R. This includes 264 disciple makers and 519 disciples.
- **†** 626 new community ministries have been started, including Family Counseling, Help and Mercy, Training in Values for Children, and Care for the Sick, Elderly, and Disabled.
- **†** 163 public school teachers in the D.R. attended workshops to help them build greater connections with their students in a virtual school setting.
- **†** Since the Four12 Group commenced in the U.S., we have started five Pastor Peer groups in the Manatee/Sarasota area of Florida and Boston!

FINANCIAL REPORT: 100% of your generous gift goes directly to cover the costs of ministry without any overhead deductions. LoveServes' total giving in the last 12 months was \$1,260,341.00. Thank you!



#### PRAYER FOCUS -

- For wisdom for the contextualization and translation of our materials in three languages.
- For pastors to be influential communicators and succeed in equipping God's people.
- For pastors in the D.R., Guatemala, U.S., and throughout the world to be strong, courageous and faithful.
- For our staff: excellent health, wisdom, unity, balance, and focus.
- **6** For a Gideon army of like-minded people, churches, and organizations to join this important work.



## A Guatemala Story

Coaching and mentoring process in Guatemala

Last year we had a specific prayer for a Guatemalan coach who can strengthen the 1 to 1 coaching and mentoring process in Guatemala. Read this testimony to know how God answered your prayer.

When LoveServes began training in Guatemala, the El Chico Presbyterian Church was in a deep crisis. The assigned pastor attended only 8 days a month, and the membership was only 35. Since the church lacked a

permanent pastor, the congregants assumed there was no way for them to participate in LoveServes' training. "But God" had already been stirring hearts. In 2019, three church leaders—brothers Elvis and Samuel Rodas and sister Antonieta Trinidad—carried out LoveServes' training faithfully and shared the spiritual enthusiasm they learned with their fellow church members.

As the transformation of the church began, Samuel completed his seminary studies and was appointed a full-time pastor. Now the church has a pastor fully trained in the holistic vision of the Gospel. God has grown the El Chico Presbyterian Church to a current membership of 115 people! As El Chico Presbyterian Church continues to grow, Pastor Samuel felt prompted to plant a new church this year, which already has 29 new believers!

Simultaneously, God was working in the heart of another Guatemalan pastor who participated in LoveServes' training, Samuel Espana.

Pastor Espana embraced a holistic vision for his community and his nation. During COVID-19, the LoveServes team could not travel to Guatemala, so Pastor Espana followed up with his fellow pastors who had participated in LoveServes training to encourage them as they shepherded their churches through the pandemic crisis. He was able to witness God's work in mighty ways through these churches, and his passion for serving these pastors grew deeper. **Pastor Espana has now joined the LoveServes team to help coach other pastors in Guatemala to equip their members to do the work of the ministry** (Ephesians 4:12–13) and to love their neighbors in practical ways. Pastor Espana prays that other pastors will embrace this holistic vision for their churches, their communities, and their nations. El Chico Presbyterian Church and Pastor Espana are a testimony to the work that God has begun to do in Guatemala through the coaching and training of LoveServes.

THANK YOU for your partnership, prayers, and generosity!

May the God of peace be with you today and always.

Stephanie Smith • Patricia Vazquez • Peter Swanson • Wallace Costa • Martin Newby and the Board of Directors at LoveServes International



Our Vision is to develop healthy churches in all nations, equipping God's people to make disciples who make disciples (Matthew 28:19). Our Mission is to walk alongside pastors, coaching them to develop a healthy Church that equips its members to love God and love their neighbors. (Ephesians 4:12)





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