



La Gran Comisión Conference

March 18-19, 2025 – Austin, TX

Because Jesus tells us that "All authority in heaven and earth has been given to me" and "behold I will be with you always" (Matthew 28:18-20) we can disciple and evangelize with confidence and great joy!

Church Planting and Leadership Development among Hispanics

Lifeway Research worked with two dozen denominations and church networks two years ago to conduct a comprehensive research study of Hispanic Protestant churches in the US. This study revealed that Hispanic churches in the U.S. are thriving and expanding. *La Gran Comisión Conference* seeks to biblically inspire and equip pastors and leaders with a vision for multiplication, from within the Hispanic context, out of the Reformed tradition.

Join us for an empowering conference designed for pastors and church leaders passionate about leadership development and church planting. This event will provide practical tools, insightful sessions, and inspiring stories to help you strengthen your leadership skills and expand your ministry reach.

Whether you're planting a new church or looking to revitalize an existing one, you'll gain fresh perspectives on strategic vision, team building, discipleship, and community engagement. Connect with like-minded leaders, share experiences, and leave equipped to lead with greater impact and purpose. Let's grow together, impact lives, and advance God's Kingdom!

Date and Location

March 18-19, 2025

All Saints Presbyterian
7808 Rialto Blvd,
Austin, TX 78735

Register Today!

This is a fully bilingual conference!

Click on this link <https://bit.ly/3ZJWZaY> and follow the prompts.

Registration closes March 12, 2025

Questions: Contact Hernando Sáenz at 678-488-0643 or hsaenz@pcanet.org

Conference Speakers

Luis García, Pastor, Iglesia Presbiteriana Corpus Christi, Waukesha, WI

Ronnie García, Senior Pastor, Denver Presbyterian Church, Denver, CO

Jaime Jiménez, Pastor of Missional Discipleship at Grace Presbyterian Church in The Woodlands, TX; Founder & Developer of Co-Vocacional, The Woodlands, TX

Robert Kim, Associate Professor of Applied Theology and Church Planting, Covenant Theological Seminary, St. Louis, MO

Ben Lewis, Serge Missionary serving in Perú and Regional Supervisor of Latin America, Lima, Perú

Víctor Martínez, Associate Pastor, Redeemer Presbyterian, San Antonio, TX

Velia Morado, Member, Redeemer Presbyterian, San Antonio, TX

José Portillo, Lead Pastor and Church Planter, Vive Charlotte, Charlotte, NC

Hernando Sáenz, Director, MNA Hispanic Ministries, Atlanta, GA

Chris Sandoval, Lead Pastor and Church Planter, Servant Church of San Diego, San Diego, CA

Vincent Tauriello, Founder and Executive Director of By Design Coaching, Philadelphia, PA

David Vilches, Assistant Pastor, All Saints Presbyterian, Austin, TX

Andrés Zelaya, Leadership Multiplication Associate Director MNA Hispanic Ministries; Executive Pastor of The Latino Initiative Christ the King, Houston, TX

Plenary Sessions

Leadership Development in La Gran Comisión: Pastor Ronnie García

In the context of the Great Commission, leadership is not just about managing a church or organization—it's about guiding and empowering others to live out Christ's call to make disciples of all nations. This plenary is designed for Latino pastors and leaders who desire to deepen their understanding of biblical leadership while strengthening their ability to effectively lead their congregations in fulfilling the Great Commission.

Church Planting in La Gran Comisión: Pastor José Portillo

The Great Commission calls all believers to go, make disciples, and establish vibrant communities of faith that impact the world. For Latino pastors and leaders, church planting is a powerful way to fulfill this mission, especially in our unique cultural context. This plenary is designed to equip Latino pastors with the vision, tools, and practical strategies necessary for successful church planting in alignment with Christ's mandate to make disciples of all nations.

A Look at Mañana: State of Hispanic Ministry in the PCA: Pastor Hernando Sáenz

As the U.S. becomes increasingly diverse, the role of Hispanic ministry is more critical than ever in advancing the gospel and shaping the future of the Church. This plenary will offer a thoughtful reflection on the progress made over the past decade, celebrating milestones and lessons learned. We'll also provide an overview of current initiatives and strategies as we seek to fulfill the Great Commission among Hispanics.

***Workshops: Three Tracks**

**You need to choose one track*

TRACK ONE: CHURCH PLANTING

Foundations of Church planting: Pastor Robert Kim

Church planting is at the heart of fulfilling the Great Commission, and as Latino pastors, we are uniquely positioned to impact our communities and beyond with the message of Christ. This workshop will provide Latino pastors and church leaders with a biblical, practical, and culturally relevant framework for starting new churches that honor God, engage their neighborhoods, and multiply disciples.

Building a team: Pastor Vincent Tauriello

Leadership in ministry is often focused on the leader's own development which is mission critical. Equally important and often overlooked is the building of a team for ministry as it is the pastor's role to "equip the saints for the work of ministry" (Eph 4:12). Come learn why and how to build a team that is fruitful and faithful to the Lord.

Our Gospel identity and leadership from weakness: by Pastor Ben Lewis

Today's church and ministry leaders put enormous pressure on themselves, face unhealthy expectations from congregants, and consequently struggle with isolation and burnout. This pattern is not the plan of Jesus. During this time together, we will take a look at Jesus's identity as the beloved Son of God, and how from that identity He was able to lead from a place of dependency on the Father. In turn, we will then consider how our identity as loved children facilitates the transformation of our weaknesses into opportunities to lead others to depend on Jesus.

Aquí en la Lucha: The story of Servant Church of San Diego: Pastor Chris Sandoval

Drawing from years of experience, Pastor Chris Sandoval will share the opportunities, challenges, and joys of inner city Hispanic church planting. This interactive workshop will cover such topics as church planting models, target group demographics and dynamics, comprehensive contextualization, community involvement and investment, bivocational fund raising, healthy ministry boundaries, and family life. Join us if you are interested in starting, supporting, or serving an inner city Hispanic church plant.

TRACK TWO: LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Multiplication in motion: Developing effective missional leadership pipelines: Pastor Jaime Jiménez

The future of the Church depends on its ability to multiply leaders who are passionate, equipped, and ready to fulfill the Great Commission. For Latino pastors, this means intentionally developing leadership pipelines that raise up disciples who will go on to disciple others, plant churches, and lead with vision and integrity. This workshop will provide practical tools and biblical principles for creating leadership pipelines that will ensure sustained growth, health, and impact within your church and beyond.

Culturally relevant coaching for fruitful ministry: Pastor Víctor Martínez

In today's diverse and rapidly changing world, effective ministry requires more than just biblical knowledge—it demands cultural insight, relational wisdom, and context-specific strategies. For Latino pastors and leaders, culturally relevant coaching is key to fostering fruitful, sustainable ministry that resonates with the unique needs of our communities. This workshop will focus on equipping pastors and ministry leaders with the tools and skills to coach and mentor leaders in a culturally sensitive, empowering, and impactful way.

Equipping the Hispanic community: La Masía, La Música, La Teología: Pastors Andrés Zelaya, Luis García and David Vilches

As the demographic landscape of the United States continues to evolve, Hispanic communities represent one of the fastest-growing groups, both culturally and spiritually. MNA Hispanic Ministries has seen much fruit from its labors over the past decade. However, to increase its reach, it must continue to develop a vision and strategy for fulfilling the Great Commission. In this workshop, we will explore three programs that are in the process of being developed over the coming years by three of our Directional Team members. Together, we will discuss strategies for equipping

leaders, cultivating vibrant congregations, and fostering sustainable growth within Hispanic communities in the coming decade.

Reproducing disciples and planting Churches - The story of La Travesía: Pastor Ronnie García

The mission of the Church is clear: make disciples, who in turn make more disciples, leading to the planting of new churches that multiply the work of the Kingdom. For Latino pastors, the process of reproducing disciples and planting churches is both a call and a challenge, especially in diverse and often underserved communities. This workshop will explore the powerful story of *La Travesía*, a dynamic church-planting church that embraced the call to make disciples who make disciples, resulting in the growth of both individuals and new church plants.

TRACK THREE: WOMEN'S SEMINAR AND PRAYER

Navegando los roles: ¿Cómo elijo qué hacer?: Mrs. Velia Morado

The constant demands of ministry can lead us to prioritize doing over being led by the Spirit. In this two-part workshop, you'll discover how accepting your limits can free you to make wise decisions about your roles and responsibilities.

Prayer is the ministry: Join for a time of Kingdom-focused prayer: Pastor Hernando Saenz

Prayer is not just an activity within the church—it is the very heartbeat of ministry. As Latino pastors, we are called to lead our communities not only with vision and strategy but also with deep, fervent prayer that aligns with God's will and advances His Kingdom. This workshop is an invitation to come together as leaders to embrace the ministry of prayer, seeking God's guidance, empowerment, and breakthrough for our churches and communities.

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Schedule

**100% Bilingual (English/ Spanish)*

Tuesday

11:00 AM	Registration Opens
12:00 PM	Lunch/Networking
1:00 PM	Bienvenida, introductions, and small groups: Pastor Hernando Sáenz
3:00 PM	Break
3:15 PM	First Plenary Session - Leadership Dev. in La Gran Comisión: Pastor Ronnie García
4:15 PM	Break
4:30 PM	Workshops and Women's Seminar
5:30 PM	Break
5:45 PM	Workshops and Women's Seminar
6:45 PM	Break
7:00 PM	Dinner and Fellowship
8:30 PM	Connector Event Off Site

Wednesday

8:00 AM	Breakfast/Networking
8:30 AM	Worship Service: Pastors Luis García and David Vilches
9:45 AM	Break
10:00 AM	Second Plenary Session – Church Planting in La Gran Comisión: Pastor José Portillo
11:00 AM	Break
11:15 AM	Workshops and Women’s Seminar
12:15 PM	Break
12:30 PM	Lunch
1:30 PM	Workshops and Women’s Seminar
2:30 PM	Break
2:45 PM	Third Plenary Session - A Look at Mañana: State of Hispanic Ministry in the PCA: Pastor Hernando Sáenz
3:45 PM	Doxology
4:00 PM	End of Conference

Cost

\$65 per person (Includes two lunches, one dinner, one breakfast, and materials). It does not include lodging or transportation.

\$100 per married couple (Includes two lunches, one dinner, one breakfast, and materials). It does not include lodging or transportation.

\$35 for students (Includes two lunches, one dinner, one breakfast, and materials). It does not include lodging or transportation.

Scholarships

Don't let financial constraints prevent you from attending! Through the generosity of our sponsors, we have a limited number of scholarships available for the cost of the registration. Contact Hernando Sáenz at hsaenz@pcanet.org to apply.

Free housing

Participants have the opportunity to stay with families from All Saints Presbyterian. If you'd like to take advantage of their generous hospitality, please email Hernando at hsaenz@pcanet.org no later than February 28, 2025. Spots are limited and will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis, so don't wait!

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Supporting Organizations

A huge thank you to our supporting organizations. Their generous contributions make all the difference! Learn more about their ministry by clicking on the links.

Geneva Benefits

<https://genevabenefits.org/>

Hispanic Leadership Initiative
Serge
LAMP Theological Seminary
Covenant Theological Seminary

<https://www.hlipca.com/>
<https://serge.org/>
<https://lampseminary.org/>
<https://www.covenantseminary.edu/>

***Local Hotels**

**Make your reservation directly with the hotel*

AC Hotel Austin Hill Country

7415 Southwest Pkwy Building 8, Austin, TX 78735
[Website](#) / Phone # 5125514009

Hampton Inn Austin/Oak Hill

6401 US-290, Austin, TX 78735
[Website](#) / Phone # 5128917474

Extended Stay America - Austin - Southwest

5100 U.S. Hwy 290 W, Austin, TX 78735
[Website](#) / Phone # 5128924272

La Quinta Inn & Suites by Wyndham Austin Southwest

4424 S MoPac Expy, Austin, TX 78735
[Website](#) / Phone # 5128993000