

REACHING ROUTE 58 for Christ

English

So now give me this hill country of which the Lord spoke on that day...”

Joshua 4:12

Reinel Castañeda (left) and Rolando Guardia (right)



Rolando Guardia and Reinel Castaneda are two veterans in God’s labor force. They are both in their 60s and have these important qualities in common: passion and vision. Rolando is the pastor of Nuevo Amanecer Danville, the Hispanic congregation planted in 2010 by Nuevo Amanecer Lynchburg. Reinel came from Colombia some years ago and is part of the leadership of the Lynchburg congregation. Both have a passion for prayer and for asking God to work through them. The two felt led by the Lord to meet every Wednesday ask Him to move and show His vision for the Hispanic community in their area.

After Pastors Rolando and Reinel prayed together for several months, a new family began attending Nuevo Amanecer Lynchburg. They traveled all the way from Collinsville (almost a two-hour drive) to find a church home. The family seemed to be enjoying the congregation but asked the pastor if there was a church closer to them. They were connected right away with Pastor Rolando of Nuevo Amanecer Danville and began attending there. They soon shared with him that there were other Hispanic people in Collinsville who needed a church—in fact, there were six such families.

Again prayer came into action, and after months of getting together with the Collinsville families every

Friday, Pastors Rolando and Reinel felt it was time to find a place to start Nuevo Amanecer Collinsville. The Lord connected them to Pastor Michael Harrison of The Community Fellowship Church in Collinsville, who gladly opened the church’s doors to these brothers. Since the new church began meeting at The Community Fellowship, both congregations have worked together on various outreach opportunities as one body in Christ.

Pastors Rolando and Reinel just attended their first Church Planter Network and brought some new leaders with them. From this group of leaders, two are traveling from Lynchburg to Charlottesville every weekend to support and strengthen another Spanish-speaking church plant. The vision is to soon fill Route 58 with multiple Hispanic congregations.

When Pastor Reinel preached his first sermon at Nuevo Amanecer Collinsville, he addressed his partner in prayer and said, “Rolando, if Caleb and Joshua conquered the Promised Land in their 80s... compared to them, we are teenagers—let’s do this!”

We can join all of these brothers in their passion to reach others with the Gospel by praying for them and by considering supporting this great and passionate vision: “¡La 58 para Cristo!” (“Conquering Route 58 for Christ!”)