

HISPANIC MINISTRIES

Rev. Dr. Dottie Escobedo-Frank, Chair

Meeting dates: August 6, 2020, October 8, 2020, January 7, 2021, and March 4, 2021

Technology & social media training provided support for some Hispanic pastors in August 2020. Many thanks to Christina Dillabough, Director of Communications.

MARCHA was online this year in November 2020. The event was attended by Pastor Raul Velazquez and Rev. Jaime Vazquez.

During the pandemic shutdown, the Hispanic Ministries Committee provided assistance to Hispanic churches including cleaning supplies, projector, camera, microphones, internet support & connections, stands, and lighting for online worship.

The committee provided an Advanced Preaching Course in Spanish, led by Rev. David Rangel, Perkins School of Theology, in April 2021.

Conference Strategic Plan for Hispanic Ministry was developed. In summary:

1. Engage in 1st Generation Work, including: Spanish language resources; Immigrant/Asylee engagement and support; social and legislative reform; tell the story of the joys and struggles.
2. Engage in 2+ Generation Work. Recognizing many Latinx have been in the U.S. territories prior to the formation of the USA, some Latinx have long-standing history and context. We will grow multi-ethnic communities of faith, and model reflecting the demographics of the local community. Develop worship and educational resources for multi-ethnic communities. Encourage multi-ethnic leadership in churches. Take the lead on messaging for the Hispanic/Latinx population for the conference and UMC.
3. Work with Religion and Race Committee to address racism and social justice in our conference and in the United Methodist Church.
4. Provide Leadership Development for Latinx pastors and Lay Leaders.
5. Propose a Hispanic/Latino Coordinator on DSC Conference Staff.

Thank you to all the committee members who worked diligently to support and plan for the Hispanic/Latinx people in our conference and communities.