

New Church Sanctuary Obregon Baptist Temple, Mexico

A new ministry of CanAmera Baptist Missions International is a group under the leadership of the Pembina Valley Baptist Church and Pastor Michael W. Sullivant called the "Anderson Fellowship." The inspiration and the name came from Dr Russell Anderson, long-time Christian businessman, preacher, missionary supporter, and church planting "spark plug." As many of you are already aware, Dr. Anderson started out life in the coal mines of Kentucky, and became a very successful businessman in Michigan, assisting many churches and missionaries throughout his career.

A group of saved, actively serving, soul winning business men, and business owners using their talents, influence, and finances to fulfill the Great Commission is the main thrust of the Anderson Fellowship.

Secondly, it provides an opportunity for those business leaders in the community to meet, fellowship and receive godly instruction in ways to deal with all of today's pressures in business while maintaining a good testimony for the Lord Jesus Christ.

The first "project" of the fellowship was to take a group of men and ladies down to Obregon, Mexico and construct a sanctuary measuring thirty-nine by



sixty-six feet in a very short timeframe of just two weeks. The Obregon Baptist Church, pastored by Brother Bill Wall had long outgrown their current sanctuary and had for some time needed the expansion.

The goal of the fellowship was to not only provide the necessary labor for the project, but to also provide all building materials and accommodations for the group. This was a step of faith as there were no monies available to start, and no real source of income to provide the funds to complete this project. Money was raised in two ways--the people taking the trip and local businesses in Winkler.

Many logistics had to be worked out as we planned to cross two international borders carrying many trade tools and bringing thirty-two workers into



Mexico. Four men left one week ahead of the large group to build rafters and set up material purchases for the project. They took a fifteen passenger van loaded with trade

tools and equipment needed for the construction. All tools needed to be registered with borders and letters of intent showing purpose of use of tools, not to be sold but simply used for construction, then returned to Canada. In spite of all the documents

provided, the first group had trouble crossing into Mexico. After some time however, they did make it safely to Obregon and construction began on March 9, 2009. Since the church men there had prepared the concrete floor, our men started directly on purchasing material and framing walls and rafters.

To the amazement of the second group, consisting of twenty-five men and three ladies who arrived one week later, the first group had the entire twenty-seven hundred square foot building completely framed and rafters installed. Things really got going once over thirty people organized, and motivated



with a professional focus on achieving a single task got to work. In only a few days, the building was insulated and the interior was being completed. Local church men and women also worked hard during the construction, and have completed the baptistery, tiled the floor, and finished the outside of the building. Praise the Lord for the testimony that this new facility is to the glory of our great God.

On March 24, 2009 services normally held on Wednesday were held a day early so the visiting group could attend the first service in the new facility and be able leave for home a day earlier than originally planned. The building was truly a gift from God in more ways than one and many prayers were answered along the way. The Anderson Fellowship group handed out countless Gospel tracts in English, German, and Spanish. Two men were led to the Lord right at the Mexican border crossing during an unexpected delay.



We pray that as we approach the second coming of our Lord, that hearts would be stirred to action to fulfill the Great Commission.

The Anderson Fellowship continues to meet regularly, and is already in the planning stages of a second church planting project.



Considering what Brother Russell Anderson has accomplished as just one man living in the will of and for the glory of God, it is exciting to consider what may be achieved by a group of men following his example who are committed to the furtherance of the Gospel.



To God be the glory great things He hath done!