

Higgins' Herald

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Among *Los Tarascos*

You may have noticed that sometimes we refer to the P'urepecha peoples of Central Michoacán as *Tarascons*. Sometimes we refer to the language as *Tarascan*, and speak of the Tarascan New Testament. Yet other times we talk of the P'ore language. Confusing, no? It is an interesting note how they came to be called *Tarascons*. When the Spanish conquered the territory, they asked who these people were. When they would ask "Who are those people?" They got the answer, "They are tarascans." That is because the P'ore word for "cousin" is *tarascan*. So while the Spanish thought they were being told the name of the native people, they were simply being told that they were "cousins!" And the name stuck! So while out of convenience we often refer to the *Tarascons*, the more correct name of this people-group is the *P'urepecha*, and their language, *P'ore*.



More progress can be seen in the church building in Paracho, with new plaster and paint on the walls.

An Ordination

Last year we introduced you to a new leader in Acachuen, who began holding meetings in his metal-working shop in that town. Elder José Magaña has been helping in that work, and it has grown. This year at the Reformation Day service in Paracho, elders Custodio, Joaquin, and Magaña took part in an ordination service for Anciano Serrano.



The ordination service in Paracho. (l to r): David Custodio, Anciano Serrano, José Magaña.

It is encouraging to see new leadership emerging among the Tarascans themselves. A year's careful training and examination, watching the growth of a new church in a new town, followed by a solemn ordination to ministry in the Lord's Church, - it was a gratifying moment here among the P'urepecha. Greg and Bill were impressed by how much the brothers labored to be sure everything was done decently and in order.

Minister's Meeting

There were a few very helpful discussions among the leaders there, held in the Pizza restaurant owned by Eric. [Greg and Bill were agreed that the Pizza's were fantastic, and voted to hold *our* next Presbytery meeting there in Eric's Pizzeria!]



A ministers' meeting at Eric's Pizzeria!

The churches are showing progress, some more quickly than others. In some ways the church in Paracho appears to be taking the lead, and David and Eric are handling the pastoral duties well. They are also showing sound strategic insight for the future of the Manifestors' work.



This metal-work shop in Acachuen makes for a serviceable house of worship.



Pastor Eric leads music in worship, accompanying on the guitar. Music is a vital part of the worship, with God-centered songs, in both P'ore and Spanish.

Items for Prayer

Thank you for your prayers for our work among the Tarascans. We would ask that you continue to lift up the Tarascan pastors, as they labor faithfully in the face of numerous difficulties. Pray for the churches in Paracho, Tzopoco, San Lorenzo, Acachuen, Cheranastico, Ichan, Anga'uan, as well as the other villages where interest is beginning to grow in the Reformed ministry of the Manifestors. Also lift up Misael Custodio, and his many responsibilities, both among the Tarascans, and at Juan Calvino Seminary in Mexico City. We also appreciate your continued prayers for the Higgins family. Bill's Dad has recently been relocated to a nursing home nearer to Bill's sister, in Rittman Ohio. Pray for his adjustment to the change. And let us know how we can pray for you.

The *Higgins' Herald* is published as often as we can get to it. The opinions expressed herein are those of the Editor-in-chief, and/or its Editorial staff, unless we didn't really mean to put it just that way. For any blessing you may receive from this publication, we give all glory to our Lord. For any blame, it lies with me. *sic biscuitus disintegrat, cum grano salis.*
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