

NMI Central

NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

17 August 2022

South America Region



Colombia

Colombia is a country in northern South America, bordering the Caribbean Sea between Panama and Venezuela and bordering the North Pacific Ocean between Ecuador and Panama. The population is approximately 50.88 million people, and the official language is Spanish. The Church of the Nazarene began work in Colombia in 1975. Dean and Gwendolyn Galloway were the pioneer missionaries in the region, and they experienced their first major success when they obtained government recognition of the denomination on 26 May 1975. The strategy that was adopted to spread the gospel was to begin Bible studies in homes in the main cities: Bogotá, Cali, Medellín, and Barranquilla. Since then, the church in Colombia has grown tremendously and continues to thrive today.



22,093 Members



89 Fully Organized Churches and 6 Not Yet Fully Organized Churches



132 District Licensed and 42 Ordained Ministers



11 Missionaries serving in Colombia and 3 Missionaries originally from Colombia

PRAYER



- Pray that the Lord will strengthen the superintendents, pastors, lay leaders, and national ministry coordinators.
- Pray for the Lord to continue sending workers to serve in His harvest as there is a need for more leaders and missionaries in the country.
- Pray for God's blessing upon each local church Colombia so that they can grow in their ability to send offerings to the World Evangelism Fund (WEF).



PRAISE

- We praise God for the missionaries from other nations who are serving in Colombia.
- We praise God because the church in Colombia continues to seek the Lord and cry out for revival amongst its people.
- We praise God for the 12 Church-Type Missions in the country that will soon be organized churches.



600 People Accept Christ at Exodus Mission 2022



Iglesia del Nazareno Gloria Postretera held an evangelistic event attended by more than 1,700 people, where more than 600 individuals committed their lives to the Lord. The Exodus Mission initiative began in 2006 as an Easter celebration service for the local church in Giron, Colombia. That year, Pastors Milton and Gina Mateus felt challenged by the Lord to step out of their comfort zone when they saw many people practicing idolatry and wandering without God.

“It broke our hearts to see so many people lost while we were enclosed in four walls enjoying our own salvation,” Milton said.

In 2012, the service turned into an evangelistic event for the community. Year after year, more people joined the event, and in 2018, there was an attendance of more than 580 people. In 2019, the church leadership decided to rename the Easter church service Exodus Mission. In 2020, because of the pandemic, the event was held online. More than 500 devices followed the live event.

In preparation for the April event this year, church leaders committed to praying and fasting for 40 days. The prayer sessions began at 3 a.m. to intercede for the logistics and the potential attendees. The church spread out in the community to invite people, show the *JESUS* film, and knock on doors to pray for the sick. The event was held in an open space. Many responded to the message by going to the altar for a time of prayer.

Many who have attended the event for years have experienced healing and transformation during Exodus Mission. One of them is Mayra*, who attended the event in 2019 for the first time when she was just 14 years old. At the time, she was a victim of abuse of many kinds.

Since then, the church has gotten involved in her life and has helped her in her spiritual journey. Mayra testifies that she has received freedom.

“God has brought me peace and healed my body. I experienced total healing in my heart during the event,” Mayra said. This year, she was part of a skit and was one of the organizing committee members. “I have been able to forgive others, and for the first time, I was able to put behind many of my fears,” she said.

*Name changed to protect the identity

-By South America Region

Could You Serve?

Is God calling you to disciple youth and pre-teens in Colombia? Click [here](#) to learn more.



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