

RUBEN RIVERA R.

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PERSONAL DATA:

Birthplace: Mexico City
US Citizenship
Married to Patricia Rivera

GIFTS AND COMPETENCIES:

Leadership, administration, church growth, teaching, missiology, and pastoral counseling

EDUCATION:

1981-1985 B.A. in Theology. University of Montemorelos. México
1989-1991 M.A. in Theological Studies. Northern Seminary. Illinois
1996-1996 Master of Divinity (Equiv.) Andrews University. Michigan
1999-2006 M.A. in Pastoral Ministry. Andrews University. Michigan
1997-2006 Doctor of Ministry. Andrews University. Michigan

CERTIFICATES:

1990-1991 One Unit of Clinical Pastoral Education. McNeal Hospital.
Chicago, Illinois
2005-2005 Family-to-Family Educator Certification. The National Alliance on Mental
Illness (NAMI). Atlanta, Georgia
2008-2009 Ministerial Education Certificate. Denver Seminary-IDEAL. Littleton,
Colorado
2014-2014 Children's Ministries Certification. Mid-America Union Conf. of SDA
Lincoln, Nebraska

- 2015-2015 Anger Management Therapy Program. Shepherd's Gate Counseling Center, Littleton, Colorado
- 2019-2019 Mental Health First Aid Certification. Community Reach Center. Commerce City, Colorado

PASTORAL AND DEPARTMENTAL EXPERIENCE:

- 1985-1986 Assistant Pastor, Central Mexican Conference
Churches: Central, Santa Clara, and Caracoles
- 1986-1988 District Pastor, Central Mexican Conference
Churches: Padierna, Coyoacán, Pedregal, Ajusco, Torres, Primavera, and Contreras
- 1991-1993 Assistant Pastor, Minnesota Conference
Church: South St. Paul
- 1994-1997 Hispanic Ministries Coordinator and Pastor, Minnesota Conference
Churches: Minneapolis, South St. Paul, St. James, and Rochester
- 1997-2000 Pastor, Michigan Conference
Churches: Grand Rapids Central, Wyoming, Shelby, and Elk Rapids
- 2000-2002 Pastor, Michigan Conference
Churches: Wyoming and Kentwood
- 1998-1999 Hispanic Ministries Superintendent, Michigan Conference
- 2000-2002 Hispanic Ministries Coordinator, Michigan Conference
- 2002-2004 Pastor, Georgia-Cumberland Conference
Churches: Gwinnett, Gainesville, Canton, and Athens
- 2004-2005 Pastor, Georgia-Cumberland Conference
Churches: Atlanta First and Gwinnett
- 2005-2006 Pastor, Georgia-Cumberland Conference
Churches: Gainesville, Athens First, Athens Second, Canton, Cornelia, and Highlands
- 2006-2009 Pastor, Rocky Mountain Conference
Churches: Denver Hispanic and Denver Central Hispanic
- 2009-2014 Senior Pastor, Rocky Mountain Conference
Church: Denver South Hispanic
- 2010- Hispanic Ministries Coordinator, Rocky Mountain Conference

LITERATURE EVANGELIST:

- 1979 - 1980 México City. Central Mexican Conference
- 1980 - 1981 Monterrey, México. Northeast Mexican Conference
- 6/82 - 8/82 Ponce, Puerto Rico. West Puerto Rico Conference
- 6/83 - 8/83 Los Angeles, California. Southern California Conference
- 6/84 - 8/84 Odessa, Texas. Texico Conference
- 6/88 - 8/88 Vineland, New Jersey. New Jersey Conference
- 1988 - 1989 Chicago, Illinois. Illinois Conference

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

1986 Church planted: San Juan Church. Mexico City. Asociación Central
1991 Church planted: South St. Paul Hispanic. Minnesota Conference
1994 The most successful pastor in baptisms in the Minnesota Conference
1995 The most successful pastor in baptisms in the Minnesota Conference
1996 Church planted: St. James Hispanic. Minnesota Conference
1996 The most successful pastor in baptisms in the Minnesota Conference
1996 Church planted: Minneapolis Hispanic. Minnesota Conference
1997 The most successful pastor in baptisms in the Minnesota Conference
1998 Church planted: Shelby Hispanic. Michigan Conference
1998 The most successful pastor in baptisms in the Michigan Conference
1999 Church planted: Kentwood Hispanic. Michigan Conference
1999 The most successful pastor in baptisms in the Michigan Conference
1999 Helped recover church from disbanding: Elk Rapids Church. Michigan Conference
2000 The most successful pastor in baptisms in the Michigan Conference
2001 Church planted: Second Generation Youth Church. Michigan Conference
2001 The most successful pastor in baptisms in the Michigan Conference
2004 Helped recover church from disbanding: Highlands Hispanic, Georgia-Cumberland Conference
2005 Church planted: Cornelia Hispanic. Georgia-Cumberland Conference
2005 The most successful pastor in baptisms in the Georgia-Cumberland Conference
2009 Director. Television program *Temas de Actualidad*. TVFE 61. Rocky Mountain Conference
2012 Helped establish the Theological Institute for Leaders Training. Rocky Mountain Conference
2014 Helped recover church from disbanding: Steamboat Springs. Rocky Mountain Conference
2021 Helped establish a second Hispanic Youth Federation. Rocky Mountain Conference

WRITTEN WORK:

“Divorcio y crisis: Una perspectiva terapéutica sobre el divorcio”. *Enfoque de Nuestro Tiempo*. GEMA editores. Febrero 1995.
“Hispanic plan evangelism explosion!” *Outlook*. Lincoln, NE. June 1995.
“Machu Picchu, anticipo de una ciudad maravillosa”. *El Centinela*. Pacific Press. Septiembre 1999.
Profiling as a Method of Identifying the Needs of Immigrants. Doctor of Ministry Dissertation, Andrews University, 2006.
“Visitación Pastoral: ¿Opción u obligación? Guía práctica para la visitación”. *Revista Adventista*. Pacific Press. Octubre-diciembre 2011.
“Jesucristo y la Ley de Dios”. *Enfoque de Nuestro Tiempo*. GEMA editores. Septiembre 2014.
“Le debo mi conversión a esta revista”. *El Centinela*. Pacific Press. Enero 2015.
“Dimensiones de la predicación bíblica. ¿Está la predicación de los mensajeros supliendo las necesidades de los feligreses?”. *Revista Adventista*. Pacific Press. Enero-marzo 2015.
“Para la Sanidad de las Naciones”. *El Centinela*. Pacific Press. Junio 2017.
“El miedo a morir”. Jesús vino al mundo para sufrir la segunda muerte. *El Centinela*. Pacific Press. Marzo 2018.

“Benignidad vs maldad”. Cristo se sacrificó por la humanidad. *El Centinela*. Pacific Press. Septiembre 2018.

“Día de los muertos. ¿Esperanza vacía o consoladora?” *El Centinela*. Pacific Press. Noviembre 2018.

“Hábitos importantes para resoluciones importantes”. *El Centinela*. Pacific Press. Enero 2020.

“Día internacional de la convivencia en paz”. ¿Se puede convivir en paz en una aldea global? *El Centinela*. Pacific Press. Mayo 2020.

¿“Nacer para morir o morir para nacer? El Redentor que vino a salvar al mundo”. *El Centinela*. Pacific Press. Diciembre 2020.

“Entrevista a un cantante de multitudes: Felipe Garibo” *Revista Adventista*. Pacific Press. April-June 2021.

“Cómo enfrentar las presiones de la vida”. *El Centinela*. Pacific Press. Febrero 2022.

“Todo Israel será salvo ¿Salvación individual, exclusiva o colectiva?” *Outlook digital*. Mid-America Union. Febrero 2022.

“El Día de los muertos: ¿Motivo de tristeza o esperanza?” *El Centinela*. Pacific Press. Noviembre 2022.

“Vida abundante: Es esencial percibir y comprender las maravillosas promesas de Dios”. *El Centinela*. Pacific Press. Junio 2023.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Anthropology. School of Education. Dominican Adventist University. April 2002.

Pastoral Ministry. School of Theology. Dominican Adventist University. April 2002.

Eschatology. Atlanta Institute for Lay Training (INCLA). Atlanta, GA. March 2006.

Leadership. Theological Institute for Leaders Training Denver, CO. February 2011.

Introduction to Theology. Theological Institute for Leaders Training. Denver, CO. April 2012.

Marriage and Family Counseling. Theological Institute for Leaders Training. Denver, CO. May 2013.

Preaching. Theological Institute for Leaders Training. Denver, CO. April 2014.

Missiology. Theological Institute for Leaders Training. Denver, CO. June 2016.

Contextualization of the Gospel. Theological Institute for Leaders Training. Denver, CO. June 2018.

Lecturer. Seminar presented at the Theological Symposium of the University of Montemorelos. July 7, 2016. Ponencia semi-plenaria: “Cómo resolver conflictos eclesiásticos aplicando los consejos de Elena G. de White”.

Academic Media Project. Department of Religion. Andrews University. Sites: Turkey and Israel. August 2016.

Lecturer. Seminar presented at the Mission Symposium of Andrews University. September 14, 2017. Ponencia semi-plenaria: “Asuntos de transculturación/aculturación de latinos en EE UU.”

Lecturer. Seminar presented at the Theological Symposium of the University of Montemorelos. July 4, 2019. Ponencia semi-plenaria: “Como tratar con grupos disidentes que cuestionan la doctrina del santuario.”

Lecturer. Seminar presented at the Theological Symposium of the University of Montemorelos. July 1, 2023. Ponencia semi-plenaria: “Identidad adventista desde una perspectiva ecuménica en el contexto de la ética social y cristiana.”

THEOLOGICAL SYMPOSIUMS AND CONFERENCES ATTENDED:

1996 Theological Symposium, “Current Issues in Eschatology.” Adventist Theological Society. University of Montemorelos.

1999 H. M. S. Richards Lectureship on Biblical Preaching. “Preaching that is Alive and Well.” Morris L. Venden. Andrews University.

1999 Stewardship Conference, “Stewardship for this Millennium.” Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. Andrews University.

2000 H. M. S. Richards Lectureship on Biblical Preaching. “How to Preach for People to Remember.” Frank Ottati. Andrews University.

2003 Theological Symposium, “Revelation and Inspiration.” Adventist Theological Society. Atlanta, Georgia.

2009 Conference. “Conflict Management in the Church.” Jim Adams. Denver Seminary.

2012 Bible Conference, “Trinity.” Inter-American Adventist Theological Seminary. University of Montemorelos.

2013 Bible Conference, “Eschatology.” Inter-American Adventist Theological Seminary. Linda Vista University.

2014 Bible Conference, “Ecclesiology.” Inter-American Adventist Theological Seminary. University of Montemorelos.

2014 Annual Lectureship. “Exploring the Bases and Ethical Implications of Capital Punishment.” Denver Seminary.

2014 Conference. “Theology and Practice of Worship.” Association for Hispanic Theological Education. Fuller Theological Seminary.

2015 Theological Symposium. “Gift of Prophecy in Scripture and Prophecy.” Center for Adventist Research. Andrews University.

2015 Symposium. “Just Food: A Symposium on Faith and Food.” Colorado Council of Churches. Iliff School of Theology.

2016 Bible Conference. “Gift of Prophecy in Scripture and History.” Inter-American Adventist Theological Seminary. University of Montemorelos.

2016 Symposium. “Five Hundred Years Later: Hispanic Perspectives on the Reformation.” Association for Hispanic Theological Education. Princeton Theological Seminary.

2017 Conference. “Leadership.” World Trade Center - Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León. Monterrey.

2017 Mission Symposium. Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. Andrews University.

2018 Conference. Administration and Leadership Development. Instituto de Superación Personal. Ciudad de México.

2019 Theological Symposium. “The Sanctuary.” Montemorelos University and Ellen G. White Research Center.

2022 Theological Symposium. “Adventist Identity.” Andrews University and Ellen G. White Research Center.

2023 Theological Symposium. “Identity.” Montemorelos University and Ellen G. White Research Center.

CHURCH PLANTING CONFERENCES ATTENDED:

Seeds 1998. Church Planting Conference. North American Division Evangelism Institute. Andrews University. Michigan.

Seeds 1999. Church Planting Conference. North American Division Evangelism Institute. Andrews University. Michigan.

Seeds 2001. Church Planting Conference. North American Division Evangelism Institute. Andrews University. Michigan.

Seeds 2002. Church Planting Conference. North American Division Evangelism Institute. Andrews University. Michigan.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

Adventist Theological Society

The Hispanic Adventist Center for Theological Dialogue

Association for Hispanic Theological Education