

The Founding of the Convenção Batista Nacional (National Baptist Convention)



Pr. Esdras Dias (center) is the excellent General Secretary of CBN and pastor of Igreja Batista Jesus Vive in Santa Marta-DF, Brazil. Cheri and Clayton Ford are on the left, and American Baptist missionaries Ann and Bruce Borquist are on the right. The Borquists have served in Barazil for ten years and were invited to join national CBN Staff three years ago. They are doing an amazing job!

Founded in 1967 during a time of spiritual awakening and Holy Spirit-led revival, the CBN throughout its history has focused on evangelism and church growth in Brazil, and the sending of cross-cultural missionaries to over 20 different countries. It is a convention that intentionally uses the word “National” in its name to emphasize the fact that it does not depend on human or financial resources from outside the country. When the Convention invited the Ford family to minister during its biennial national pastors’ congress this year, this represented a major change and a unique opportunity - as well as a risk. No one knew how they would be accepted and how it would all turn out ... but God did! Clay’s favorite new word in Portuguese

became the theme for their whole visit: *maravilha* (a wonder, a marvel)!

Left to right: Pr. Robson Júnior da Silva (Executive Secretary of ORMIBAN, and pastor of Igreja Batista Vitória in Serra-ES); Pr. Marco Aurélio de Oliveira (President, ORMIBAN, pastor of Igreja Batista Vida e Paz in Vila Velha-ES) and his wife Claudia; HSRM Chair Clayton and Cheri Ford; and American Baptist International Ministries Missionaries Bruce and Ann Borquist, who are now both Staff members of CBN. They work in leadership roles on the national level in a variety of very important ministries, including leadership training with a focus on servant leadership.



(See next page for more interesting history and information)

OTHER INTERESTING FACTS YOU MAY BE INTERESTED IN:

The Portuguese and the English translation for ORMIBAN:

- Ordem de Ministros Batistas Nacionais = the Order of National Baptist Ministers

The relationship between ORBIMAN and CBN:

- Similar to the role of the Ministers' Council in the ABC-USA, ORMIBAN is the fellowship of pastors within the CBN that sets national standards for the ordination and admission of pastoral candidates, mediates conflicts between pastors and with their churches, and handles disciplinary and ethical questions.

Are there any specific facts or history of ABC & CBN relationship, or other things you think I should be sure to include in this pictorial report? Here's some grist for the mill:

- ABCUSA through International Ministries has been a partner of the CBN since the early 1990s
- ABCUSA through International Ministries is the CBN's only official foreign partner convention
- IM's involvement with the CBN was primarily through JAMI, the CBN's global mission agency
- Ann and Bruce are the first foreign missionaries invited to serve with the CBN, arriving in 2004
- The Borquists spent their first 7 years with JAMI, serving as professors, counselors and consultants for the CBN's cross-cultural missionaries in training and on the field
- In 2012 they were invited by the CBN's leadership to assume leadership of two national departments of the denomination: SEDELIM (the Secretariat for the Development of Leadership and Ministries) and REDEMI (the Integral Mission Network) - the first foreigners invited to serve in this capacity

<http://www.ormiban.org.br/eventos.php>