



**Office of Public Relations**

**Herman C. Rios**

Director, Language Evangelism and Stewardship Department  
Serving the Convention since 1990

**Primary Responsibility:** To assist the director of the language missions division in planning, promoting and conducting the evangelism and stewardship programs among ethnic Florida Baptist Convention churches.

**Birth:** Cidra, P.R., April 27, 1947

**Marital Status:** May 30, 1969                      **Spouse:** Gwendolyn Janettee Fillman

**Children:** Andy                      1975  
Phillip                      1979  
Maria                      1984  
Stephen                      1986  
David                      1987

**Education:** D.Min., Luther Rice Seminary, Atlanta, Georgia, 2001  
M.Div., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Texas, 1973  
B.A., Cameron State University, Lawton, Oklahoma, 1970

**Previous Experience:** Consultant, Evangelism Division, Florida Baptist Convention, Jacksonville, Florida, 1990-1993  
Missionary, HMB, Evangelism Development Department, National Consultant in Evangelism with ethnics, 1978-1990  
Staff Evangelist, Exchange Avenue Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 1977-1978  
Full-time Evangelist, 1973-1978  
Missionary Associate/Student, HMB; Pastor, First Baptist Church, Grapevine, Texas, 1970-1973  
Pastor, Antioch Baptist Church, Faxon, Oklahoma, 1969-1970

**Publications:** Author of tracts published by Mercury Press, 1976-1978

**Church Membership:** First Baptist Church, Macclenny, Florida



## HERMAN C. RIOS

DIRECTOR, *Language Evangelism and Stewardship Department*

Serving the Convention since 1990

**Primary Responsibility:**

To assist in planning, promoting and conducting the evangelism and stewardship programs among Florida Baptist's 500-plus ethnic churches.

**Birth:** Cidra, Puerto Rico

**Spouse:** Gwendolyn Janettee Fillman

**Education:** D.Min., Luther Rice Seminary, Atlanta, Georgia, 2001  
M.Div., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Texas, 1973  
B.A., Cameron State University, Lawton, Oklahoma, 1970

**Previous Experience:**

Consultant, Evangelism Division, Florida Baptist Convention, Jacksonville, Florida, 1990-1993

Missionary, HMB, Evangelism Development Department, National Consultant in Evangelism with ethnics, 1978-1990

Staff Evangelist, Exchange Avenue Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 1977-1978

Full-time Evangelist, 1973-1978

Missionary Associate/Student, HMB; Pastor, First Baptist Church, Grapevine, Texas, 1970-1973

Pastor, Antioch Baptist Church, Faxon, Oklahoma, 1969-1970

**Publications:** Author of tracts published by Mercury Press, 1976-1978

**Church Membership:**

First Baptist Church, Macclenny, Florida

4. Director, Language Evangelism Department

**BACKGROUND:** On November 9, 1992, the State Board of Missions created the position of director, Language Evangelism Department, Language Missions Division. Prior to that time, a jointly-funded field position was assigned the task of language evangelism, within the Evangelism Division.

Since 1990, Herman C. Rios has served as a consultant with the Florida Baptist Convention in the area of planning, promoting and conducting the evangelism program among ethnic congregations in Florida. He previously served with the Southern Baptist Convention Home Mission Board as a national consultant in evangelism. In the newly-created Language Evangelism Department, Mr. Rios is expected to perform the same tasks of promoting evangelism among ethnic congregations.

On January 11, 1993, the executive director-treasurer interviewed Herman C. Rios for the position of director, Language Evangelism Division. Mr. Rios has indicated his willingness to accept the position if elected by the State Board of Missions.

A biographical sketch, position description and specification sheet are attached for information and study.

**STAFF**

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Administrative Committee of the State Board of Missions review the biographical sketch of Herman C. Rios and interview Mr. Rios for the position of director, Language Evangelism Department, Language Missions Division, Florida Baptist Convention; and

Recommend that the Board elect Herman C. Rios as director, Language Evangelism Department, Language Missions Division, Florida Baptist Convention, effective February 1, 1993, with the understanding that the effective date may be altered slightly.

**COMMITTEE**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**BOARD ACTION:**

**SBM**  
1-22-93

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

HERMAN C. RIOS



Date and Place of Birth

April 27, 1947      Cidra, Puerto Rico

Family

Wife:              Gwendolyn Janettee Fillman  
Married May 30, 1969

Sons:              Andy  
                         1975  
  
                         Phillip  
                         1979  
  
                         Stephen  
                         1986  
  
                         David  
                         1987

Family (Continued)

Daughter:      Maria  
                         1984

Conversion

Converted at age 13; baptized in First Baptist Church, Johnson City,

Ordination

Ordained to the gospel ministry in 1959, by Trinity Baptist Church, Lawton, Oklahoma

Education

High School - Eisenhower High School, Lawton, Oklahoma, 1965  
B.A. Degree - Cameron State University, Lawton, Oklahoma, 1970  
M.Div. Degree - Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, 1973

Former Positions

Consultant - Evangelism Division, Florida Baptist Convention, Jacksonville, Florida, 1990-1992  
Missionary - Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Evangelism Development Department, National Consultant in Evangelism with Ethnics, 1978-1990  
Staff Evangelist - Exchange Avenue Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 1977-1978



Resolution of Appreciation for Herminio (Herman) C. Rios

**BACKGROUND:**

**BACKGROUND:** Since 1990 Herminio (Herman) C. Rios has served on the staff of the Florida Baptist Convention. As a result of several recent years of significantly reduced budget income and the ensuing necessity to reduce costs through the reduction of personnel, the position held by Rev. Rios was defunded beginning in late 2010. Given his age, Dr. Rios is eligible to retire and/or pursue other ministry opportunities by the end of the year. As an expression of appreciation and gratitude for Herman Rios' 20 years of service to Florida Baptists, Convention administration is recommending the approval of the attached resolution. It should be noted that the introductory paragraph of the resolution states that Dr. Rios "retired August 31, 2010," inasmuch as the resolution will not be finally approved until November, during the Florida Baptist State Convention.

**STAFF**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Administrative/Personnel Committee of the State Board of Missions recommend that the Board approve the attached resolution of appreciation for Herminio (Herman) C. Rios and recommend its adoption by the Florida Baptist State Convention, November 8-9, 2010, in Brandon, Florida.

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION  
FOR  
HERMINIO C. RIOS

WHEREAS, Herminio (Herman) C. Rios has served the Florida Baptist Convention since 1990 and retired on August 31, 2010, as director, Language Evangelism and Stewardship Department, Florida Baptist Convention; and

WHEREAS, a native of Cidra, Puerto Rico, Herman Rios was converted at age thirteen and baptized in the First Baptist Church of Johnson City; and

WHEREAS, his spiritual gifts were recognized and he was ordained as a minister of the gospel in 1959 by the Trinity Baptist Church, Lawton, Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, Herman Rios graduated from Cameron State University, Lawton, Oklahoma, in 1970; earned the Master of Divinity degree in 1973 from the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas; and in 2001 received the Doctor of Ministry degree from Luther Rice Baptist Seminary, Atlanta, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Rios served at various times as a pastor, fulltime evangelist, church staff evangelism, and as a national consultant in evangelism with ethnics for the Home Mission Board (now the North American Mission Board) of the Southern Baptist Convention, and

WHEREAS, Herman Rios joined the staff of the Florida Baptist Convention in 1990, first as a consultant with the Evangelism Division (1990-1993); and was elected as Director, Language Evangelism Department (1993-1998); and then was assigned to serve as director of a re-organized Language Evangelism and Stewardship Department (1998 to the present); and

WHEREAS, as a result of Herman Rios' passionate commitment to teach, preach and model New Testament evangelism during the past twenty years, Florida Baptist language churches have re-doubled their evangelism efforts in sharing the claims of Jesus Christ to the countless non-English speaking people groups that have migrated to the Sunshine State; and

WHEREAS, because of Brother Rios' unique emphasis upon stewardship education, an increasing number of Florida Baptist language congregations have made stewardship education and increased missions giving an integral part of their ministry commitment; and

WHEREAS, the life and ministry service rendered by Herman Rios has reflected an unflinching commitment to and the energetic sharing of the gospel because of the Scriptural imperative found in Proverbs 11:30, which affirms that, "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise." now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Florida Baptist State Convention meeting in annual session, November 8-9, 2010, in Brandon, Florida, express gratitude to God for the faithful and committed service of Herminio C. Rios, given to our Lord and to Florida Baptists, and that we assure him and his wife, Gwendolyn, of the prayers, love and best wishes of this Convention; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be presented to Herminio C. Rios as an expression of our love and appreciation to him.