



# LAIM

**"A Better Tomorrow!"**  
*Our commitment to the  
Indians of Latin America*

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Ruth Kietzman

**LAIM Home Office**  
669 S. Oak Knoll Ave  
Pasadena, CA 91106  
626-795-0902

**LAIM Texas Office**  
6685 Kentwick Drive  
Houston, TX 77084  
281-856-9788

**LAIM Admin Office**  
P. O. Box 2050  
Orange, CA 92859

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## Church Profile Las Lomas: Veracruz and Silvestre Perez

The congregation of Las Lomas, in the State of Veracruz, is a Totonac speaking congregation, and began four years ago as a result of the radio program. Two people from that town visited with brother Silvestre in the town of Coyutla to ask for New Testaments and preaching CDs in Totonac. They asked him to reach Felipe Ramos and ask that he visit them and start services in a private home in their town. That is how Felipe first went to that town, and the church began with two families. They asked brother Silvestre to visit them each week and he agreed. Little by little the church grew and a few were baptized. And now there are about 40 adults plus the children. In 2007 this town hosted the dedication of



the New Testament in their Totonac dialect where 300 pastors and leaders attended.

The Christian brothers there are very fervent in the work of the Lord, and when they no longer fit in the home where they were worshiping, they built a small temporary building (above) in which they now meet. They are currently buying a property for the permanent church building. The land is being purchased with half of the cost borne by the local congregation and half by a group of American Christians. Now they are finalizing the property purchase, its legal papers, and will begin the church construction soon.

Felipe also want to mention that the radio program is carrying the Word to many other towns, and there are people that want to accept Christ in various towns and need people to visit and minister to them. They come and visit with brother Silvestre and ask him to visit them and evangelize their towns. That is how he and the brothers from Las Lomas have started 4 new missions and continue to visit them each week. A mission has started in a nearby town named Ermitano where seven people were baptized recently, and there are three families that brother Silvestre and the brothers from Las Lomas are in charge of. Also recently, a radio listener called from a place named El Arenal in the State of Veracruz asking Felipe to visit him. When we went to his home, we found three people anxious to receive Christ as their Savior, and in that moment they received the Lord they asked brother Silvestre to visit them weekly. So was born another new mission.



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Silvestre Perez is 45 years old, and he received his biblical training at Manuel Arenas' school in La Union. He lives with his wife and one daughter in Coyutla Veracruz. His living is from working in the fields raising crops but now most of his time is dedicated to the ministry. On Sundays he visits Las Lomas, on Wednesdays he visits El Arenal, on Thursday he visits Las Lomas

again, and on Saturdays he goes to Ermintano.

Latin American Indian Ministries has equipped Silvestre with a laptop and video projector so that he can effectively assist Felipe in meeting the many requests for evangelism and training that come from the radio program. He gives Coyutla dialect New Testaments and CDs free of charge to people who cannot afford to pay. And he sells those materials to those who can afford to pay. In this way the Gospel reaches as many as possible.

LAIM needs a sponsoring church to help support Silvestre and the now booming evangelism he finds himself a part of. He is the most prominent evidence of the legacy left behind by Herman Aschmann and Manuel Arenas. Since graduating from El Centro Pro Totonaco in La Union many years earlier Silvestre has served the Lord with a low profile, however, he presided over the dedication of the Coyutla New Testament (Herman's third and final New Testament translation which was completed in 1987) in Las Lomas in 2007. LAIM would like to see Silvestre in full time ministry with a helper and the evangelism resources needed to effectively spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the Coyutla, Veracruz region (which is too far for Felipe to reach easily). Here we see the congregation of Las Lomas walking down to the nearby river for a baptism service and one of the members honoring God through obedience to Christ. Above is Silvestre and the congregation in Las Lomas after Sunday services.



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Latin American Indian Ministries supports Felipe Ramos and his evangelism/ church planting ministry. This ministry includes a weekly Totonac Radio Hour program transmitted from Poza Rica in the state of Veracruz, Mexico. The broadcast is instrumental in organizing congregations in remote areas of the Totonac High Sierra mountains. LAIM suggests

monthly support of \$400 per month to help support Silvestre (\$200) and also provide for evangelism materials and needs in the congregation. The adopting church, if able, is encouraged to help with half the cost of building projects. As the Totonac congregation grows and takes on more and more of the monthly financial obligation the financial support should be phased out over a two to three year period.

For more information on the church in Las Lomas and the ministry of Felipe Ramos among the Totonac Indian tribe of central Mexico please contact Peter Petry (President of the Board of Directors of Latin American Indian Ministries) at 713/253-9905 or E-mail to [peter@laim.org](mailto:peter@laim.org). For more information about the ministry among the Totonacs and other projects in Latin America please visit [www.laim.org](http://www.laim.org). Be sure to subscribe on the web-site for our monthly newsletter.



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