

The Pastoral Staff of Belmont Assembly of God

Senior Pastor – Rev. Carlos Paniagua

Pastor Paniagua began his ministry at Belmont in September of 2003. Prior to being in Chicago, he served as the Senior Associate Pastor at Christ Tabernacle in Glendale, New York. Pastor Carlos brings to us a wealth of experience gleaned from Christ Tabernacle, where he was involved in assisting with the pioneering of that church and its continued growth to over 2,000 members. Prior to Christ Tabernacle, Pastor Carlos learned the fundamentals of ministry as a member of the well-known New York City church, Brooklyn Tabernacle. Pastor Carlos and his wife Yvonne are "real people" with a heart for the city of Chicago. They understand city life and city needs – so essential for urban ministry. Pastor Carlos speaks to today's issues of life with a solid biblical perspective that you will find both challenging and life-changing. Pastor Carlos and Yvonne would love to meet you and help you in your Christian experience.

Associate Pastor – Rev. Thomas J. Stack

Pastor Stack came on staff in August of 2004. He has been a part of Belmont since 1998 and was serving as a Deacon prior to this present ministry. Pastor Tom brings a bi-vocational experience to the ministry staff. Beginning in 1983, he has been on the mission field (Guam), served as an Interim Pastor and Associate Pastor, along with other areas of church leadership. From secular employment, Pastor Tom has been involved in quality assurance, engineering, and product management. These experiences have served to provide solid business exposure along with the ministry involvements – serving to support the ministry development of Belmont. Pastor Tom is married (Libby) and has three children (Jeremy, Joanna, Joi).

Music Ministries – Pastor Esther Faith Estela

Pastor Esther Estela joined us in January 2006. She is a graduate of North Central University with a B.A. in Arts (Music Performance) and Cross-Cultural Studies (Missions). After graduation, Esther traveled in ministry as part of the music group "One Accord." She has a family history with Belmont Assembly of God and we are now blessed to have her on our staff. She has spent many years preparing and developing the musical skills gifted to her by the Lord, which will now be put to further application in her ministry at Belmont. Pastor Esther and her husband Joey Estela, (who volunteers in helping to manage our sound system ministry) are an important part of our team here at Belmont.

Student Ministries Pastor – Pastor Joey Silva

Pastor Silva joined the staff of Belmont in 2009 as an Assistant Pastor to our previous Student Ministries Pastor. Pastor Joey assumed the leadership role in the Excel youth ministry at Belmont beginning in February of 2010. He is a product of the Excel Student Ministry, being a part of the group for a number of years initially as an attendee and then in growing responsibilities involving the volunteer leadership team of Excel. This is one of those examples where God develops someone from within the church and then calls them to a ministry role. We are excited about Pastor Joey and his team as God continues to grow the youth ministry at Belmont.

Children's Ministries Pastor – Pastor Ric Laboy

Pastor Ric Laboy joined the pastoral staff as our Children's Pastor in March of 2006. Prior to that Pastor Ric was serving as the supervisor for our Master's Commission program. Additionally, he has experience with children stemming from roles in several Christian elementary schools. Pastor Ric along with his wife Aida have a heart for God and God's people, and especially towards our children. Since taking over this responsibility, he has brought a lot of excitement, energy and new direction to our Kids inC children's ministry. Pastor Ric and Aida are parents of three, which certainly is a resource to draw on for ministry to our children.