

Iron Rose Sister Ministries Newsletter

Spring 2021

Volume 9, Issue 1



Good News to Share!

- Portuguese resources coming soon!
- Monthly Bilingual Virtual Events see 100+ women in attendance and 25+ volunteers
- Meet our newest Board Members

Portuguese Translations Coming Soon!



Director Michelle J. Goff met Sabrina in 2017 in Bolivia while both were at a national retreat. Sabrina was part of a Brazilian intern program and Michelle was teaching the women. Since that time, Michelle and Sabrina have prayerfully asked for God's guidance in the right timing for Portuguese translation and printing of the Iron Rose Sister Ministries (IRSM) Bible study books.

In the meantime, Nathan Holland, missionary to Angola, began working to create more resources for Portuguese-speaking (Luso) Africa through Luso-African Missions Publishing.



IRSM and LAMP have partnered to create

resources to be printed in Africa (int'l edition) by LAMP and in Brazil and the U.S. by IRSM.

After working together with the church in Argentina, Sabrina and her husband John now live in Gainesville, TX, where John was hired as youth minister.

Trilingual in Portuguese, Spanish, and English, Sabrina is a key translator and our new Portuguese Team Leader. Please join us in thanking God for His timing for the translations and for wisdom re. Michelle and Sabrina traveling to Brazil to equip women and promote resources.



Portuguese Team Leader, Sabrina Nino de Campos with her husband, John

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Monthly Bilingual Virtual Events, Additional Speakers



Cynthia Cedeño



Michelle J. Goff



Amanda Nitsch



Johana Batres

Every second Saturday of the month, English and Spanish speaking women across the Americas gather on Zoom for a time of bilingual worship and study in the Word.

Michelle and Cynthia spoke in January (in English and Spanish respectively) on being *Refined and Redefined*.

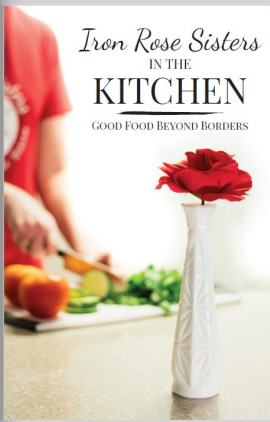
More than 25 volunteers participated in the February bilingual worship and prayer time as a large group and in small breakout groups. All were *Redefined by Prayer* during our time together.

March was about *Priorities Redefined*. Amanda spoke in English and Michelle in

Spanish. Then, Cynthia and Johana shared about *Joy Redefined* on April 10th.

Be sure to join us on May 8! Registration and more info are on our website.

Women have expressed deep appreciation for how **they have been redefined, encouraged, and equipped.**



Looking for a gift idea for Mother's Day?

Visit IronRoseSister.com under "Resources, Online Store"

(All proceeds go toward the work of Iron Rose Sister Ministries)

IRSM Vision:
Equipping women to connect to God and one another more deeply in English, Spanish, and bilingual contexts across the Americas

IRSM Board Members:

- Katie Forbess, Pres.
- Julio Cedeño, Elder
- Bill Richardson, Elder
- Cynthia Cedeño, Treas.
- Kat Bittner
- Rossana Hernandez
- Mark Vaughn
- James Huff, advisory

Pilot Studies for Singles Books

A dozen Spanish-speaking sisters dedicated eight Saturday evenings to participation and evaluation of the content for the upcoming book *One Single Reason: Conversations with Single Women*.

The English and Spanish versions of this book will be unique in light of the distinct cultural dynamics in the U.S. and across Latin America.

We are extremely grateful to the single, single again, and married women who participated in both of these pilot groups. Their input, as well as those of our beta readers are providing invaluable

feedback that will allow this resource to be an equipping tool for many.

The pandemic lockdown in March 2020 forced the English pilot group to complete their study and share their feedback virtually.

Michelle's sabbatical also forced a delay, but one year later, the demand for this book and its resources is even greater.

Please pray for the final steps in this project and that God will use it to equip more

than just single (never married) and single-again (separated, divorced, or widowed) women. While these single women are the primary audience of these books, there are many married women and other church leaders that look forward to joining in the conversation.



Writing and Ministry Intern, Abigail Baumgartner, in May



Abby Baumgartner is an English major at LSU (Louisiana State University). "I see IRSM's commitment to Christian mentorship of women as both a biblical and an effective approach to sharing the gospel. I, too, am passionate about helping other women come to know Jesus personally and have had the privilege of mentoring a few girls in various settings over the past few years. I would appreciate the opportunity to work with IRSM and learn more about building Christian relationships that hold women accountable and encourage them to walk with God... IRSM is committed to writing and publishing resources that guide women in their spiritual journeys, and I would be pleased to work in this area." **Welcome, Abby!**

Newest Board Members



Kat Bittner
Colorado Springs, CO



Rossana Hernandez de Sosa
Houston, TX



Dr. Bill Richardson Searcy
AR

We welcome their experience in nonprofit publishing (Kat), leading small groups using our Bible study materials (Rossana), and decades in missions and Hispanic ministry (Bill).

Mark Your Calendar: 2021 IRSM Destination Retreat, November 5-7th

Bilingual worship, challenging Bible-centered keynote lessons, breakout classes, small group discussions, and opportunities for lifelong friendships from various congregations.

Total cost: \$140 (2 nights, 5 meals, and more)



Reserve your spot with a \$20 deposit.

Location: Camp Aereopagus (same as 2019 Destination Retreat)

Camp cabins available for 50 women. Nearby hotels in Conway, AR.

Unable to join us for the retreat? Virtual streaming of the main sessions will be available the following weekend.

Invite your Spanish-speaking friends too!

IronRoseSister.com, Be a Part, Destination Retreat

2021 Calendar and Plans

Monthly Bilingual Virtual

Events: May 8, June 12, July 10, Aug. 14, Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov. 13, Dec. 11 via Zoom

Other Virtual Events

May 4—Kickoff of *Llamada a Escuchar*, Corquín, Honduras

June 26—Ladies' Class in Floridablanca, Colombia

In Person Events

Sept. 26-29—Harding Lectureship

Nov. 5-7—Bilingual Destination Retreat (Details above)

Prayerfully, a trip to **Brazil** in late summer for classes and promotion of printed materials in Portuguese

We continue to be prayerful about other virtual or in-person events. Please contact us if you are interested in partnering with us to equip the women in your area or in a mission point in Latin America that you support.
ironrosesister@gmail.com

“I can’t wait for the singles book to come out! It has already been a huge blessing to me in my walk with God.”
 ~Eliannys Uzcátegui

Teaching to Teach to Teach; “Granddaughter” Studies

Eliuth Araque de Valencia (pictured below) participated in one of the *Llamada a Escuchar* (Called to Listen) online events and then later as a member of a private Facebook group in which women share what they have been hearing from God during their forty days of listening exercises.

She was equipped to lead her own group through the *Llamada a Escuchar* book, shared on our blog and through the private Facebook group.

Also pictured are the women’s art and reflections from the listening exercises. The best part of the story is that one of the most reserved members of the group Eliuth facilitated was inspired and equipped to facilitate her own group that is now studying *Llamada a Escuchar* together!

Teaching to teach to teach, Amen!



2020 Annual Report summarizes the God stories from a challenging and blessed year (available online)



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Searcy, Arkansas

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Ways to Contribute



Prayers: Our prayer warriors are our biggest advocates! 2 Cor. 1:11



Financially: Your bank's BillPay, Checks, ACH (monthly withdrawal; forms online), PayPal, AmazonSmile (choose IRSM)



Time and Talents: Contact us about getting involved by spreading the word, starting a small-group Bible study, planning an event, volunteering, and other opportunities.



All financial donations are tax-deductible.

www.IronRoseSister.com



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A Note from Michelle: Totally Redefined by Prayer

The apostle Paul often expresses his gratefulness for the prayerful support of the congregations with which he has worked. I echo that sentiment. I have felt each of your prayers, esp. for my health. This time last year, I was a shadow of my current self.

While I am not 100% out of the woods and must constantly find the grace to pace (a future book theme, actually), I am eternally grateful for the strength God has granted me to be able to serve in the ways that I can.



In 2021, our theme of *Re-defined* has been appropriate on an individual and ministry level.

Roles have been redefined, my view of prayer, and even of my relationship with God have all been redefined and renewed.

The greatest evidence of the power of prayer is experienced every February during our Prayer Month. This year, the pandemic afforded us the opportunity to gather weekly to pray together (Mon. evenings on Zoom). March 1 fell on a Monday, so we concluded our Prayer Month with a night of thankfulness over the prayers we had seen answered, specific to the topics lifted up the previous four weeks.

We started with the desire to merely summarize a few answered prayers or highlight one or two... Nope. That became impossible. Instead, we rejoiced over answered prayers for every single day's topic. Every one. And for many days, there was more than one way in which the prayer was answered.

Evidence of God's faithfulness has been seen through the timing of the



Portuguese translations, our Team and Board of Directors, Cuban women equipped through the blog and that joined us in prayer, Iron Rose Sister stories, virtual event plans and invitations, new ministry consultations, and more. And we are especially grateful for our church and individual prayer and financial partners. Thank you! You are God's instruments to help make these things possible. Blessings, *M.*