

OPEN LETTER TO OUR COMMUNITY

Monday, March 2, 2026
Orlando, Florida

Dear AETH Community,

Grace and peace! This year, as we celebrate **AETH's 35th anniversary** under the theme **Roots and Horizons**, our Association is experiencing a moment of deep gratitude, reflection, and renewed vision. This milestone invites us to honor the journey we have traveled while also discerning, with responsibility and hope, the future toward which God is guiding us. And we give glory to Him for all the great things that are unfolding in this new season.

As part of this new season in AETH's life, I am pleased to share that Dr. Litza Rivera has joined our team as Associate Director for Formation, Academy, and Resources. Dr. Rivera is an academic and formative leader with a deep vocation for theological education. Her experience as a professor, academic administrator, and program director reflects a sustained commitment to the formation of leaders, curriculum development, and the strengthening of institutions in service to the Church and our communities. Her leadership, marked by collaboration, academic excellence, and pastoral sensitivity, will be essential as we advance AETH's mission in this new chapter. We give thanks to God for her calling and her willingness to serve, and we invite you to join us in extending a warm welcome.

Dr. Rivera's arrival is also part of a broader organizational reconfiguration. In response to AETH's sustained growth and to emerging opportunities to serve with greater depth and reach, we have implemented a new operational structure designed not only to sustain our current growth, but also to position us faithfully and strategically for new possibilities of impact in service to Hispanic theological education and the Church.

As Executive Director, five core areas will now report directly to the Executive Office, allowing for greater clarity, integration, and effectiveness in fulfilling our mission:

1. Capacity, Certifications, and Community

This area, led by Dr. Marta N. Luna together with a group of expert practitioners, reflects the historic heart of AETH: to accompany, strengthen, and certify Bible institutes and leaders committed to excellence in Hispanic theological education. Through program certification, institutional strengthening, and relational engagement with our membership, we continue to affirm our vocation within the theological community as a network that promotes quality, integrity, and sustainable development.

2. Formation, Academy, and Resources

This new area, led by Dr. Litza A. Rivera, represents a strategic approach to ensuring that all our formative programs, academic resources, and educational initiatives are integrated coherently and multiplicatively. Its purpose is to work alongside each program consultant to weave together our various formative offerings, strengthen their collective impact, and generate exponential outcomes that benefit pastoral ministry, churches, and affiliated leaders and institutions.

3. Administration, Operations, and Shared Services

This area, led by Ms. Glorie A. Acevedo, constitutes the backbone of our administrative infrastructure, ensuring that our operations reflect both our theological ethos and a responsible, healthy, and transparent stewardship. Her work, together with an excellent team, sustains our mission on solid, trustworthy foundations.



4. Justo & Catherine González Resource Center

Our center, directed by Dr. Ondina González, represents a tangible expression of our commitment to theological legacy and access to knowledge. As both a physical and digital space, the center houses and makes accessible to our community and to the “Friends of the Center” unpublished materials from Drs. González, strengthening research, formation, and theological development for present and future generations.

5. Growth and Fund Development

In faithfulness to our mission, this area, supported by independent consulting, focuses on cultivating relationships, promoting sustainability, and expanding AETH’s capacity to serve. Growth, understood as an expression of faithful stewardship, allows us to broaden our reach, strengthen our programs, and respond more deeply to the needs of the Church and our communities.

Dear community, we humbly recognize that all that has been possible, and all that is yet to come, is the fruit of God’s grace, the seed sowed by those who came before us, the diligent work of our team, the governance guidance of our Board of Directors, the trust of our collaborators and partners, and the faithful commitment of all of you that walk alongside us. This new operational structure is not simply a change; it is an expression of our shared responsibility to serve with greater faithfulness, clarity, and vision.

As we celebrate our roots, we also look with hope toward the horizons opening before us, trusting that AETH will continue to be a space of formation, connection, and strengthening for leaders and institutions serving the Church and our communities for the good of society. As a respected colleague recently shared, “AETH is an engine of excellence from, with, and for Hispanic theological education.” This conviction captures both our calling and the work to which we remain committed every day.

Thank you for your trust, your accompaniment, and your commitment to this shared mission. #WeAreAETH

With gratitude and hope,



Rev. Dr. Jessica Lugo, MBA, MDiv.
Executive Director | AETH

