

Presbytery of WNC Delegation to Guatemala

JUNE 5 - 12, 2012

GOALS OF THE TRIP:

- Broaden our understanding of our brothers and sisters in Guatemala and bring us closer to each other;
- Learn their stories and share ours;
- Take Christ's love there and bring it back;
- Provide opportunity for the Guatemalans and for us to learn from the strengths of our faith in each culture, and to help us come more into balance, moving closer to the abundant life;
- Demonstrate the strength of our ongoing partnerships with churches and presbyteries in Guatemala;
- Foster communication and relationships between partner congregations.

The cost will be \$1,250 excluding personal preparation expenses (passport, immunizations, malaria pills, etc.). A deposit of \$700 must be sent with the application and received no later than **March 15, 2012**. Make the check out to "PWNC." If we are not able to accept your application, the deposit will be returned. Once plane reservations are made, deposits become non-refundable. The final payment of \$550 is due April 13, 2012..

This application and the "Recommendation, Commitment, & Endorsement" form completed by your Pastor and your Session must be in the Presbytery office at the address below by March 15, 2012. (The recommendation form is on the presbytery website www.presbyterywnc.org, look in the "Mission Zone" and click on "Mission Forms/Apps".)

Name: _____ Age: _____ Congregation: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone/Cell: _____ e-mail: _____

Name as it appears on your passport: _____

Passport number: _____ Birthdate: _____

Please answer the following questions briefly on a separate sheet of paper:

1. Describe your understanding of the purpose of the Guatemalan Partnership.
2. Why do you think God is calling you to participate with this delegation?
3. In what ways do you think you might be able to strengthen your congregation because of your participation on this team?
4. What gifts of personality, skills, and experience will you bring to the team? (The team will need a broad variety to become a unit, so include anything you think might help ... first aid training, good humor, music, photography, good organizer, etc.)
5. Do you have any health problems or dietary restrictions? ____ What are they?
6. Do you speak Spanish? If so, with what proficiency?

(over)

All participants must make certain commitments before, during and after their mission experience. **Please consider and initial these below and sign your pledge to pursue them.** If accepted, you will receive an orientation handbook and other materials for reflection and study.

- _____ 1. **I commit myself to working with my pastor and the session in order to develop a plan to help my congregation grow in faith and vitality** as a result of our involvement in this delegation trip.
- _____ 2. **I will pray** regularly for all participants in our delegation and their churches (including myself and my own), and for those with whom we will be interacting in Guatemala, that we will all be sensitive to God's leading.
3. **I will attend** the following meetings:
_____ Informational Meeting, Saturday, March 3 or 10,
(location to be announced)

_____ Team Building/Orientation, Saturday, May 5 or 12
(location to be announced)
- _____ 4. **I will study the orientation booklet** in preparation for the trip. (This will be given to all participants at the March meeting.)
- _____ 5. **I will abide by the guidelines for the team.** I understand these exist for the well-being of the group and our relationship with Guatemalans.
- _____ 6. **I will keep a journal of my experience and prepare to share my reflections** with others in my church and in other congregations or groups within the Presbytery.

I pledge myself to do the above.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Mail forms and deposit check to: *(Must be received by March 15, 2012)*

Guatemala Partnership Delegation
Presbytery of Western North Carolina
114 Silver Creek Rd.
Morganton, NC 28655