

MISSION PARTNERSHIP: GUATEMALA PETEN

tinyurl.com/GPTaskForce

**Supporting the
Partnership
between the
Presbytery of
Middle Tennessee
and the Peten
Q'eqchi Presbytery**





PMT/PQP PARTNERSHIP

- Originated in response to inquiry from PQP 2002
- PMT participation from 113 trip members from at least 36 PMT churches
- Christ-centered and rooted in the Reformed Tradition
- Mutual prayer, hospitality, cooperative mission
- On-going programs:
 - Pastor-to-Pastor program in support of non-paid PQP pastors
 - Basico (post-secondary education) scholarships
 - Hunger Relief during 2020/2021
 - Consideration of special requests: education, church expenses
- Nine Church partners in the PQP



ANNUAL VISITS/ MISSION TRIPS

- Involve clergy and laity — commissioned by PMT
- Focused on building relationships between Presbyteries
- Blended--Q'eqchi and Anglo— worship services
- Partner in mission in Peten villages
- Theological education, programs for women, medical clinics, and church building projects
- Meeting with Pastors of the Peten Q'eqchi Presbytery



Being involved in mission teaches us what it means to live in community and mutual respect with people who live with challenges we typically cannot comprehend without a direct encounter.



MARCH 2020 TEAM and ITINERARY

- 11 individuals from Middle Tennessee
- 4 local mission workers
- 9 local translators, health professionals/promoters, and a driver
- Worship in a church in Coban on Sunday, sharing an EBPC Lenten stone.
- Medical Clinics/Visits to four partner churches in Peten villages: Chinatal, Tamariz, Nuevo Canaan, and Cobanita.
- Meeting with Pastors of the Peten Q'eqchi Presbytery
- Visit to Tikal National Park—rich Mayan History of the region.

THEMES DURING OUR 2020 JOURNEY

- Growing our partnership with the people of Peten Province Guatemala
- Elevation of pastors and their churches
- Children-spiritual and physical health edutainment
- Teens-spiritual and physical health edutainment (Soccer)
- Adult-spiritual and physical health edutainment
- Medical clinics:
 - Triage and MD consultations
 - Pharmacy: providing appropriate medicines
 - Dental health
 - Eye health
- Eco-filters for producing pure water and Water testing
- Exploring ways to help our partners develop community health-care infrastructure in their communities.





MEETING WITH PASTORS

- Updates on Congregations, challenges discussed
- One new organizing congregation in Cobanerita
- Distribution of Pastor-to-Pastor support
- Prayer and Fellowship Time



PASTOR-TO-PASTOR SUPPORT



- 2006: Rev. Michael Davis realizes partner pastors receive no financial support from congregations and subsist on farm labor
- He organizes a “Pastor-to-Pastor” fund, recruiting PMT pastors to donate \$10-20 a month to support one PQP pastor.
- 2021: Eight PMT pastors now provide support for nine PQP pastors.
- Listen to their appreciation.....
- Video <https://vimeo.com/338309495>



BASICO SCHOLARSHIPS



- Supporting 21 secondary education students
- School term runs from January – October.
- Churches nominate students and the PQP Executive Committee selects the number, which the GTF donation can support
- The need always exceeds the resources
- Has averaged + / - \$300 each for 21 - 26 students = \$5,500 - \$8,200 / year

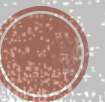


LINKING ARMS IN JOINT MISSION IN COMMUNITIES





MAKING NEW FRIENDS





LEARNING FROM EACH OTHER



SHARING SKILLS AND RESOURCES



CONNECTING THROUGH FELLOWSHIP AND FUN



WORSHIPING TOGETHER





A FAVORITE MEMORY

- Talking (through a translator) to a group of women at Tamariz. The seven women included 2 or 3 generations, and they proudly told me they were from one family. It reminded me of my own sisters and brothers. I asked them about their lives: Did they live close to this church? (Some did, but one lived 2-hrs walk away.) Did they have a vegetable garden? (No, they bought vegetables from someone.)
- “I thought they would ask my age, or how my hair came to be white. But the only question they asked of me was to count to 100 in English. I did, in part. I told them the numbers in English were much like numbers in Spanish: 1-20 are simple; 11-19 are different/unique; and 20-100 are simple.

- Barbara Cobb, Southminster







NEW RELATIONSHIPS IN THE PETEN AND BACK IN THE PMT



RELIEF EFFORTS / CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP (2020-21 PANDEMIC)





There are humbling rewards in being a part of this work, as leaders and congregants as we faithfully participate in God's mission and actively live out the inter-cultural, connectional component of our church.

Supporting this mission partnership with your resources or your time helps to build the work of Christ in rural Guatemala, changing lives and strengthening communities.



As we strive to do mission in partnership, we have the opportunity to grapple with the deeper nature of our lives together as part of one common fellowship in Christ.

Rev. Dr. Mike
Magee



Patrocinia Andres, for all the saints who from their labors rest... she was a health worker, project leader, and was elected head of Presbyterian Women of the Peten Q'eqchi Presbytery. She served our mission partnership from 2005 - 2019 and passed away at the age of 39.

BECOME INVOLVED IN THIS MINISTRY

- March 2022 Trip to Guatemala--preliminary dates: **March 6 – 13 TBD**
 - Medical Clinics in 4 additional churches
 - Need medical and non-medical skills and donations
 - Contact Mike Magee if interested in the trip: mageemichaelj@aol.com; (615) 232-4900
- Provide financial support for the Pastor-to-Pastor Program, Basico Educational Scholarships, general support for theological training, or church special requests, such as (pandemic) Hunger Relief for the Peten:
 - Mail to the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee or Give on the PMT Website
 - Designate as “Guatemala” or for a specific Guatemala program
- Serve on the Guatemala-Peten Partnership Task Force or let the GTF make a presentation to your congregation
- For further general information about the partnership:
 - Visit the Guatemala Task Force portion of the Mission section of PMT website or use this quick link: tinyurl.com/GPTaskForce
 - Contact David Carlton (david.carlton@vanderbilt.edu)



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tinyurl.com/GPTaskForce

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