

## **Presbytery of WNC Youth Delegation to Guatemala July 11-19, 2017**

### **GOALS OF THE TRIP:**

Broaden our understanding of our brothers and sisters in Guatemala and bring us closer to each other.

Experience the Spirit at work in Guatemala and giving witness to the Spirit at work in Western NC

Provide opportunity for the Guatemalan youth and youth from WNC to share stories.

Demonstrate the strength of our ongoing partnerships with churches and presbyteries in Guatemala focusing on the young people;

Foster communication between partner congregations through the young people of each congregation so that the youth can lead the way for future relationships.

### **Adults on the trip:**

Along with the approximately 8 youth that will be going on the trip, we will have up to 4 adults also attending. All adults will be expected to fully participate in the entire trip, and to stay with the group throughout the trip. Adults in the group will serve in one of these two capacities:

**Translator:** Adult chaperones serving as translators will be expected to translate English/Spanish throughout the entire trip. This will include times of group discussion, one to one conversations, and translating in more formal and public settings like worship services. Translators are expected to have prior experience in serving in this kind of capacity. Awareness and sensitivity to Guatemalan (Central American) culture and expectations will also be an important part of this role. The group will have 2 translators in the delegation.

**Trip Leader:** Two adult chaperones will be serving as trip leaders. Between them, they will be expected to function in specific capacities, including:

- Monitoring where the WNC youth are at all times
- addressing any behavior issues with members of the WNC delegation during the trip
- Coordinating with our Guatemalan leaders on site
- Shepherding the delegation during travel times
- keeping and spending the group's money, following the budget set for the trip
- ensuring pictures of the trip are taken
- offering pastoral care to WNC youth delegates when needed
- leading or coordinating any devotion/debriefing times during the trip
- speaking on behalf of the group when called upon during meetings, gatherings, or services.
- communicating with appropriate WNC partnership people back home during the trip.

Prior experience in youth ministry and/or trip leadership is expected.

## Costs

The cost will be \$1300 excluding personal preparation expenses (passport, immunizations, malaria pills, etc.) A deposit\* of \$450 must be sent with the application and received no later than Feb. 10, 2017. Make the check out to "PWNC." If we are not able to accept you for the trip the deposit will be refunded. Once plane reservations are made, deposits become non-refundable. The final payment of \$600 is due June 15.

Translators will have the entire \$1300 trip cost waived (\*deposit waived).  
Trip Leaders will have \$650 of their trip cost waived.

This application and the reference form are due at the Presbytery office at the address below by Feb. 10, 2017.

### Mail forms to:

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name on your passport \_\_\_\_\_

Passport # \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

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

1. Why do you think God is calling you to participate with this delegation?
2. What experience do you have with Spanish/English translation?
3. What experience do you have in youth ministry?
4. What experience do you have with leading trips such as this one?
5. Do you have any health problems or dietary restrictions? What are they?

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 work with the Youth Ministry and Guatemala Partnership committees to develop a plan to strengthen the relationships among the youth in our three partner presbyteries.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ 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 Team Building/Orientation/Informational meeting (date and location to be announced - mutually agreed upon day and time in late spring or early summer - please list any dates that you would **NOT** be available between April 15<sup>th</sup> and June 15th.)
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. I will study the orientation booklet in preparation for the trip. (This will be mailed to all participants after the selection process.)
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Presbytery Youth Mission Trip tentative plans (as the details for our time are finalized we will be sending each participant a final schedule)

Tuesday, July 11 - Wednesday, July 19, 2017

Arrive in Guatemala City

Finca (coffee farm) experience, orientation, cultural experiences

Youth to Youth (time with several of our sister Presbyteries to form relationships, learn about the partner churches and areas in which these host youth live)

Participation in the Youth Rally and overnight Retreat for sister Presbytery and WNC youth at the Seminary with Guatemalan youth (possibly both Sur and Suchi) sharing lives, stories, talents and leadership ideas.

Service work alongside youth from Guatemala