

ABOUT THE SPAS/SES ILAG PARTNERSHIP

Founded in 1991 by Padre Horacio Castillo, the ILAG (Iglesia Luterana Agustina de Guatemala) ministers to people from the margins of Guatemalan society, particularly the indigenous poor. The church has about 2,000 members in 17 congregations. The ILAG also operates an elementary school in Guatemala City.

The ILAG pastoral team is represented by several pastors, evangelists, and catechists who typically work with more than one congregation. Bishop Castillo retired in 2014, and Pastor Karen Castillo now serves as President of the ILAG.



A key component of the companion synod relationship is partnerships between U.S. congregations and the ILAG congregations or ministries. U.S. churches have partnered with El Mirador School and with Women's Ministry. Other U.S. churches have long-term relationships with a particular ILAG church. The relationship is grounded in prayer, communication, visits, & financial support.

To assist congregations in developing a relationship or to learn more about the work in Guatemala, synod leaders can provide speakers who will meet with congregation councils and other interested groups or lead adult or youth forums.

For more information, contact:

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(SES) Rebecca Kolowe, 404-589-1977 x 236
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HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Your gifts will have an amazing impact on the lives of our Guatemalan sisters and brothers.

Any amount is welcome, no matter how small or large.

Below is a quick reference of the ministry costs. Send your donation along with a notation about which project(s) you are supporting.

Mail your donations to:
Saint Paul Area Synod
Attn: Bookkeeper
105 University Ave. West
St. Paul, MN 55103



Thank you!
—Pastor Karen Castillo

Opportunities for Offerings

\$ 10	.....	communion supplies for 1 church
\$ 20	.....	hymnal
\$ 35	.....	filter to purify water in home
\$ 40	.....	textbooks for El Mirador School
\$ 50	.....	theological texts for leaders
\$ 55	.....	educate 1 child for one month
\$ 65	.....	1 child in before-school program/month
\$100	.....	guitar for music training
\$200	.....	water storage tank for 1 family
\$300	.....	sponsor 1 woman for 1 retreat
\$300	.....	sponsor 1 youth for 1 retreat
\$375	.....	sponsor 1 leader for 1 training session
\$500....	.....	sponsor 1 health promoter/3 training sessions
\$1,000.....	.....	scholarship for secondary school student

Learn more about the partnership:

spas-elca.org/mission/global-relationships/guatemala



Iglesia Luterana
Agustina de Guatemala



Partnership



Saint Paul Area Synod
Southeastern Synod

Each year, the ILAG (Iglesia Luterana Agustina de Guatemala) grows by a few mission sites and churches. Word spreads that the church “walks with the people,” with a pastoral team that visits the communities regularly. Be a part of this amazing work by investing in the lives and leaders in Guatemala.



INVESTING IN LEADERS

By training local leaders, the Gospel can be communicated more clearly and in local languages. The ILAG identifies two people from each of the many church communities to attend leadership retreats and conferences to be prepared as pastors & ministry leaders.

Leadership Development

\$1,500 funds one leader’s participation for one year, which includes theological and Biblical training, pastoral skill development, travel to national conferences, as well as ongoing support and supervision. (4 training sessions, \$375 per session per leader, \$50 for materials (Bible, theological texts, etc).

Women’s Ministry

\$900 supports leadership & spiritual development for one woman for one year. This includes retreats, monthly meetings, skill-building, and pastoral visits to communities.

INVESTING IN CHILDREN

Education in Guatemala is free and compulsory for six years, yet there are not enough schools for its growing population. And, of those enrolled in school, many are forced to drop out to help at home. In fact, only 30% of the children will complete the 6th grade. El Mirador Lutheran School (K-6) fills a gap in a poor neighborhood of Guatemala City, offering quality education and an environment safe from gangs. Families who send their children to this school are investing in the future.



Children’s Education

Elementary School Program -

\$555 per child per year (\$55 per month)

Before School Program - \$650 per child per year

Scholarship for Secondary School -

\$1,000 (\$100 per month)

Text Books \$40 per child per year

Teacher Support - any amount

Youth Ministry

\$1,000 funds the participation of one young person in this ministry, for one year, which includes several youth retreats and ongoing programs and support.

\$300 funds one youth for one retreat.

Music Program

\$1,000 funds the participation of one student in this program for one year, which includes the purchase of instruments and other equipment and training events in Guatemala City. \$100 funds musical instruments for one person \$20 will purchase a hymnal.



INVESTING IN HEALTH

Despite living in rain forest areas, the water that is readily available is not always safe to drink and can contain deadly diseases. Traveling long distances to get safe water is common. To assist ILAG members in the cleaning and storage of water, the ELCA is partnering to provide water filters and storage containers.

Health Ministry

\$500 funds the training and support of one health promoter for one year as they learn sustainable preventative health practices. 3 sessions per year.

Clean Water

Providing clean water for each family in their communities is a new and important project. The goal is to provide a storage tank and purification system for each of 250 households at a cost of \$250 per family.



DARING TO DREAM!

The ILAG dreams of building a **NEW SCHOOL**, closer to the Lutheran Center. \$125,000 will purchase the land, and another \$125,000 will build a K-12 school building.

