

**Guatemala Pilgrimage**  
**Ecumenical Christian Council of Guatemala**  
**April 10-15, 2016**  
**A Check-List and Stuff**

- Host / Partner Concejo Ecu­mé­ni­co Cri­stia­no de Gua­te­ma­la (Ecumenical Christian Council of Guatemala)
  - Dr. Vitalino Similox and Nora Coloma
  - Gloria Vicente – Global Ministries Missionary
  
- Purpose
  - To further develop a mutual relationship with the Council and explore opportunities for shared ministries.
  - To learn and to share challenges and vision in ministry – visit council partner sites.
  - To become informed interpreters of this partnership upon return to the Christian Church in IL/WI
  
- Daily Itinerary / Emergency Contacts
  - A daily itinerary with emergency contact information will be available as we are closer to our travel dates.
  
- Passport
  - Make sure you have a valid Passport with at least six months (from April 10) remaining before expiration.
  - Be sure emergency information is filled in on Passport.
  - Make a copies of your passport identity page - one to take with you and one to leave at home.
  
- Medical
  - Attached medical form is to be returned to the CCIW Office if not already submitted.
  - Personal medications should be in original packaging
  - Immunizations – check with...
    - Center for Disease Control <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/guatemala.htm>
    - Check with your personal physician about what is best for you. (We will be primarily in the city, with a possible visits to countryside.)
  
- Travel
  - Travel in-country will likely be in small van with driver provided by partners.
  
- Baggage
  - Travel Light
    - Each participant will be responsible for his or her own bags
    - This will ease transportation needs for our hosts
  - One checked bag (50 lbs.), one carry-on bag (40 lbs), purse or small backpack.
  - Bags can be lost. Pack essential items in carry-on bag.
  
- Embassy
  - Global Ministries is aware of our travel plans and will make appropriate contacts for us.
  
- Weather
  - Nights – mid 60's
  - Days – mid 80s-90s Humid
  - Rain is common
  
- Clothes
  - Business Casual for worship / formal meetings
  - Comfortable walking shoes / sandals
  - Women – jeans or slacks, dresses / skirts below the knee (skirts for worship, formal visits)
  - Men – jeans or slacks
  - Jackets or sweater or waterproof jacket

- Language
  - Primarily Spanish
  - Thirty-One additional ethno-indigenous Mayan languages
  - Translation will be provided
  - See attached Spanish phrase sheet
  - It is possible participants may be asked to introduce, speak, or read.
- Devotions / Journaling
  - Devotions – each day will begin and end with scripture, song, prayer, and/or reflection led by participants
  - Journaling – each day one participant will be asked to keep a journal of the day’s activity
- Gifts
  - It is appropriate that we share a group gift to present to the Council. (In 2012 we presented a chalice and paten.)
  - At the close of the trip we gave our unspent Guatemalan currency as a gift to our wonderful driver and translator.
- Cell Phones
  - Please check with your cell phone provider for service and costs in Guatemala.
- Accommodations
  - We will likely stay in a retreat center or hotel. They are aware of adjustments we may need to make for rest and diet.
- Food and Water
  - We will have bottled water for daily use. Not wise to drink or brush with tap water.
  - While we want to be gracious guests, use your best judgment of what you eat. We will likely eat at a retreat center/hotel and occasionally as guests in churches, etc.
  - Food should not be purchased from vendors (even washed fruits/vegetables.)
- Money
  - About \$100 cash would be enough for extras along the way. Our partners will help with some exchange of currency when we arrive.
  - Check with your credit-card provider regarding use of card in Guatemala.
- Shopping
  - There will be some opportunity for shopping (Antigua and Guatemala Market)
- Links
  - Global Ministries <http://globalministries.org/lac/>
    - Ecumenical Council <http://globalministries.org/lac/projects/ecumenical-council.html>
    - Vitalino Similox, <http://globalministries.org/resources/multimedia-resources/videos/video-mission-moments/guatemala-similox.html>
    - Nora Coloma <http://globalministries.org/resources/multimedia-resources/videos/video-mission-moments/guatemala-coloma.html>
  - Newspapers <http://www.onlinenewspapers.com/guatemal.htm>
  - Weather <http://www.weather.com/weather/today/Guatemala+City+Guatemala+GTXX0002>
  - Mayan Culture [http://www.questconnect.org/guat\\_heart\\_mayan\\_world.htm](http://www.questconnect.org/guat_heart_mayan_world.htm)