

Our Sister Parish Covenant

For:

- ***Partner Churches & Delegations***
- ***Partner Communities***
- ***Compañeros***
- ***Pastoral Team & Mission Co-Worker***

But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.
Jeremiah 31:33

Partner Churches & Delegations:

1. All ***Delegations*** and visitors shall follow all posted rules at the Pastoral House and verbal instructions given by the ***Pastoral Team*** and ***Mission Co-Worker***.
2. All ***Delegations*** shall appoint a treasurer and an official delegation leader. The ***Pastoral Team*** and ***Mission Co-Worker*** shall be notified of who the treasurer and leader are before the arrival of the ***Delegation***.
3. All ***Delegations*** shall inform the ***Mission Co-Worker*** of their specific arrival and departure flight times no less than one month before the arrival of the ***Delegation***.
4. No monies should ever be given directly from church or ***Delegation*** members to members of a community, either in person, by means of other ***Partner Community*** representatives, or via electronic transfer. All funds must pass through the ***Pastoral Team***. This includes, but is not limited to: a) small cash gifts presented to families, scholarship students, and others via letters, physical meetings, and third-party transportation, and b) electronic transfers of funds via credit associations, banks, and other means.
5. All ***Partner Churches*** shall respond to communications from the ***Pastoral Team***, the ***Mission Co-Worker***, and ***Compañeros*** in a reasonably timely matter.
6. All ***Partner Churches*** shall endeavor to have a representative at each ***Compañeros*** meeting and report relevant information to their congregation's El Salvador committee.
7. ***Partner Churches*** shall not hire the translators or drivers for their ***Delegations***. This is the responsibility of the ***Pastoral Team*** and ***Mission Co-Worker***.
8. ***Partner Churches*** shall make a good faith effort to visit their ***Partner Communities*** frequently, preferably at least once every calendar year.
9. ***Delegations*** cannot approve solicitudes. Solicitudes may be approved (or denied) only after consulting with the ***Pastoral Team***, the ***Mission Co-Worker***, and other members of the ***Partner Church*** who are involved in the mission.

Partner Communities:

1. All members of the ***Partner Community*** Directiva should meet with ***Partner Church*** representatives during ***Delegation*** visits to Berlín and their community.
2. ***Partner Community*** representatives shall attend the community-wide meetings sponsored by the ***Pastoral Team*** every two months. Valuable information and ideas are shared at these meetings.

Compañeros, Pastoral Team & Mission Co-Worker:

1. ***Compañeros***, the ***Pastoral Team***, and the ***Mission Co-Worker*** shall be willing resources for all parties regarding education, guidance and logistical assistance.
2. ***Compañeros***, the ***Pastoral Team***, and the ***Mission Co-Worker*** shall maintain frequent communication via the ***Mission Co-Worker*** and they will keep each other apprized of current plans, projects and issues.
3. ***Compañeros*** shall support the ***Delegations*** and work of the ***Partner Churches*** with prayer, advice, moral support, etc.
4. A representative from ***Compañeros*** shall meet with each ***Delegation***, prior to its trip, to provide education and advice related to the philosophies of **Our Sister Parish** mission and the realities of a ***Delegation*** trip. If at all possible, the representative should not be a member of the ***Delegation*** nor closely affiliated with the church or group that is sponsoring the trip.

All Parties:

1. When a ***Partner Community*** member wishes to ask for something from a member of a ***Delegation***, a member of the Directiva and a member of the ***Pastoral Team*** need to be present.
2. All initial partnerships shall be for a commitment of five years. At the end of the five year period, representatives from the Directiva of the ***Partner Community***, the ***Pastoral Team***, and the ***Partner Church*** shall meet to discuss the possible renewal of the partnership, which shall be for a period of no less than two and no more than five years. To renew a partnership, at least two members of the ***Partner Church*** must be present.
3. All solicitudes from the ***Partner Communities*** must pass through the ***Pastoral Team*** before presentation to the ***Partner Church***, or must be presented with the ***Pastoral Team*** present.
4. ***Partner Churches*** may help with brainstorming of projects, but priorities for the ***Partner Community*** will be by the Directiva with the consensus of the community.
5. Direct communication between ***Partner Churches***, ***Partner Church*** members, and ***Partner Church*** leaders and ***Partner Communities***, ***Partner Community*** members, and ***Partner Community*** leaders, whether via written letters, direct verbal communication, electronic communication, or social media should be done with caution.
6. Under no circumstances shall direct communication be used to discuss projects received via the work of the ***Pastoral Team*** or be used to request or grant financial assistance to specific families, individuals, communities, or intra or inter-community committees.
7. All official communications regarding partner relationships and their connected projects will pass through the ***Pastoral Team***.
8. All parties must respect the cultural, linguistic, religious, political, and other differences between themselves and others.
9. All disagreements, challenges, and suggestions shall be met with respect with the ***Pastoral Team***, the ***Partner Churches***, the ***Partner Communities***, and the ***Mission Co-Worker***. Should conflict

between any of these parties arise, it shall be resolved by peaceful dialogue in the spirit of Christian love.

10. Decisions about which families shall be included in a list of community members will be determined by the Directiva of the community in consult and concert with the ***Pastoral Team***, not by ***Delegations*** or ***Partner Churches***.

11. ***Delegations*** and ***Partner Churches*** will respect the internal rules, regulations, and institutes of their ***Partner Community***.

All Parties' Signatures:

Partner Church Name

Partner Church City

Partner Church Representative

Partner Community Name

Partner Community Representative

Compañeros Representative

Pastoral Team Representative

Mission Co-Worker

Date

Valid Until

January, 2014