



Your Mission Co-Worker:
Rev. Katherine Pater



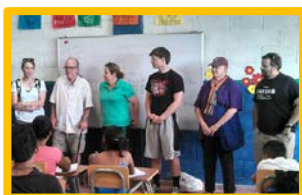
Your Pastoral Team Members:
Margarita, Idalia, Jesús, Balmore, Blanca, Cecilia

What do Delegations do?

Listen. Delegations hear from people living in poverty *themselves* what their struggle to survive and thrive is like. They listen to community boards, committees, and families living in rural villages about their lives as subsistence farmers, the difficulties they face in acquiring water and growing food in a context of global climate change, how hard it is for their children to attend school, and the near-impossibility of finding well-paying work. Delegations also hear about the communities' triumphs and successes: to better organize themselves, to acquire development projects or trainings for their communities, to help their students succeed in school, and to build stronger and more united communities.



Laugh. Delegations are fun! We break piñatas, celebrate birthdays, dance and joke with older community members, play games with kids and soccer with teenagers, and meet one another in places of shared humor and joy across cultural differences.



Love. Delegations build long-term, loving relationships with the communities of Berlín by visiting all the families in their homes, learning how best to work in solidarity with their community development organizations, and by worshipping and praying with them. They actually get to *know* the people their church or organization partners with, building *real* relationships of mutual mission and Christian love. Salvadorans receive not just material aid but the spiritual gift of feeling connected to, respected, and cared for by people on the other side of the world, and North American Christians receive the gifts of mutual love and concern from the people in their partner communities.



EQUIPO PASTORAL
La Casa Pastoral
Berlín, Usulután, El Salvador

2016 Delegation List:

January 7-14: Heartland Presbyterian Church (Clive, IA)
 • Visit to the communities of *Tablón Centro* and *Tablón Cerna*.

April 22-29: Compañeros Delegation
 • Visit by *Compañeros Board* members seeking to improve relationships with the *Salvadorans on the Pastoral Team* and community leaders to build a stronger mission of mutual Christian solidarity.

May 28-31: First Presbyterian Church (Wichita, KS)
 • Visit by a church with a longstanding independent relationship to the communities of *Talpetates* and *Rio de Los Bueyes*.



June 18-26: Baltimore Interfaith Youth Delegation (Baltimore, MD)
 • Visit by diverse *Presbyterian and Muslim youth* from Baltimore, MD who sought to learn more about the struggles for peace and survival that *Salvadoran youth* face.

June 30-July 4: Rooted in Hope group (Denver, CO)
 • Visit by the *Rooted In Hope* NGO, an organization dedicated to improving life for farmers in the developing world through access to drip-irrigation systems and reforestation projects.



July 9-16: Art for El Salvador (Cedar Falls + Central IA)
 • Visit by *Art for El Salvador*, an Iowa-based NGO dedicated to using art in all of its forms to improve educational access and conditions in El Salvador.

July 19-28: Long Island Presbytery (Long Island, NY)
 • Visit to the community of *Santa Cruz*, as well as working in partnership with *Red Uniendo Manos El Salvador (RUMES)*, a PCUSA-based mutual mission organization in El Salvador.



August 7-14: Southwest Partners (Southwest IA)
 • Visit by a group of churches from the *Southwest Iowa partnership* who partner with the community of *Alejandría*.

October 25-November 1: Compañeros Medical Delegation
 • Visit from a group of medical professionals seeking to provide basic medical care and medical education to impoverished communities.

November 8-15: First Presbyterian Church, Dallas Center (Dallas Center, IA)
 • Visit to the community of *Virginia*, their longstanding partner.

Come visit us in 2017!

COMPAÑEROS
Presbytery of Des Moines
Urbandale, Iowa, U.S.A.