

# EL SALVADOR MINISTRY TRIP



February 24<sup>th</sup> – March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018

## **Our Ministry Partner: ENLACE**

Since 1993, ENLACE has been equipping church and community leaders to identify, design and manage sustainable initiatives in El Salvador. Their projects include water systems, micro-loans, preventative health education, health clinics, new homes, sanitation facilities, and agriculture development, to name just a few.

You can visit ENLACE online at [www.enlaceonline.org](http://www.enlaceonline.org)

## **Our Work**

We support the long-term work of ENLACE and IGLESIA PIEDRA ANGULAR (CORNERSTONE CHURCH). We will potentially be involved in a variety of activities depending upon the needs of the community and the make-up of our team. Some possibilities include: building eco-stoves, construction of a pedestrian bridge, houses and/or latrines; road construction; conducting nutritional programs; clean-up campaigns; and home gardens.

While our primary activities may involve manual labor or teaching a prepared lesson, the ultimate goal of our trip is to encourage and empower the Salvadorans we encounter. We encourage team members to engage with the Salvadorans they meet, building relationships and asking questions.

## **Where are we going? Los Abelines, El Salvador**

The Abelines region is comprised of 11 remote villages in the mountainous northeastern part of El Salvador. It is approximately 2000 meters above sea level and has an estimated population of 19,572. The closest town, Ciudad Barrios, is about a 50 minute drive or a three-hour walk

## **Our Team**

We send a select team of up to 16 people from Crossway. Applicants who are not an active part of Crossway must be involved in a local church and have a reference from their pastor. Preference will be given to applicants from Crossway.

503 Main Dunstable Rd Nashua, NH 03062



[www.crosswaycc.org/serve/global-ministries](http://www.crosswaycc.org/serve/global-ministries)

## Safety

At present **EL SALVADOR IS A SAFE COUNTRY** to visit. Should El Salvador become unsafe and the US Government recommend avoiding travel to El Salvador prior to or during the week we've scheduled, we will not go. During the trip we will take steps such as traveling in (at least) pairs, remaining with our local guides, avoiding certain places at night, etc.

The **WATER** is not safe to drink. We use bottled or treated water for drinking and brushing our teeth. However, it is safe (and encouraged) to take showers.

The **FOOD** is safe, relatively speaking. Any time you eat you are taking a risk. While care is taken in the preparation of our food, the risk of picking up a bug for Americans while eating in El Salvador is greater than when eating in the United States. With that said, the risk is not any greater than in any similar Latin American country. We would be surprised if there was any illness beyond an occasional stomach bug. But, in the words of a veteran missionary, "This is why we pray before we eat."

## Cost

The trip will cost approximately \$1,500, which will cover everything you will need – airfare, lodging, transportation, and food – except for your passport, immunizations, and spending money. Airfare is due by **December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017** and will be approximately \$650.

## Immunizations

Regarding immunizations, you may want to schedule an appointment with a Travel Clinic and follow through on recommended immunization and disease prevention.

## Next Steps

1. Fill in an **application form before October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Applications will not be accepted after this date**
2. **Drop off/mail your application, \$150 DEPOSIT and a COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT** to the Church Office (Attention: Global Team Application, 503 Main Dunstable Road, Nashua, NH, 03062)
3. When your application is received you'll get a confirmation email with info on scheduling an interview
4. After your interview a Global Outreach Team Member will contact you with the status of your application.
5. Once the team is established you'll receive an email from the Trip Leader.

Due to accommodation and logistical restraints, we are unable to take everyone. Although it is less rigorous than our missions to Kenya, this trip is not a "nice trip" to a "nice place." This experience places demands on you physically, emotionally, relationally, and spiritually as you pour yourself out for other people in very difficult circumstances.

The preparation we do as a team will determine the success of our trip. It will involve team-building activities, planning projects, cross-cultural education, watching films, and discussing logistics. Although we will communicate important information, these meetings form the foundation of a cohesive, well prepared team. For this reason, it is extremely important for you to attend all the team meetings.