

Guatemala

Information from the NMI Central email:

The Church of the Nazarene began work in Guatemala in 1904 when Rev. Richard S. Anderson and his wife, Ana Maude, arrived at Puerto Barrios, which is now the Atlantic District. Guatemala is a Central American country south of Mexico. It is home to volcanoes, rainforests, and ancient Mayan sites. The first-ever Alabaster building was built in 1949 in Coban, Guatemala. This was the Nazarene Theological Seminary of Guatemala. In 2013, Guatemalan Gustavo Crocker was elected as the 41st general superintendent for the Church of the Nazarene.

Church in Guatemala Celebrates Baptisms, Result of Evangelism in the Midst of the Pandemic



The Church of the Nazarene, Camino de Santidad “Mi Casa,” located in the center of Guatemala City, celebrated the baptism of 27 people. The co-pastor, Plinio Urizar, said that all the pastors of the church see this celebration as the result of the evangelistic work that the church carried out during the pandemic.





More than 250 adults and children attended the celebration at Mount Sion Camp on April 27. The church reopened in late November 2021, which Urizar said was a challenge for the leadership, but they decided to put their trust in God. From that date, they held two celebrations where he claims to have seen the growth both in number and spirituality of the

congregation. “This growth brought families in need of God, and as a church we are focused on making Christlike disciples,” Urizar said.

Freddy Velásquez, a young man who was discipled through youth video calls, was one of those baptized along with his mother and sister, whom he took to church.

“I am 24 years old. I suffer from a disability that limits my movements and makes it difficult for me to speak. I had distanced myself from God due to family circumstances that affected me so much that they managed to cool my spirit. I fell into a deep depression and came to have very dark thoughts. I told a friend about it and she invited me to the video calls. At first, I didn't give it much importance, but then God began to give me answers through the teachings, and He made me free from depression! Also, for several years I had a battle with a very strong sin and I remember that one day in a teaching about Jonah, God made me free from that sin. I confronted God about my disability and asked why He allowed it, but today I understand that I am a reflection of God's love. I have a smile that proves it. God loves you and has a purpose with every circumstance that He allows you to go through, but you must allow Him into your life and let Him act. God restored a broken heart and my whole being through my leaders. Today I thank God for Mi Casa since they accepted me without knowing me and they loved me. On March 27, I made the decision to be baptized together with my mother and sister, and now my desire is to serve God.”

-By Mesoamerica Region

 <p>99,766 Members</p>	 <p>738 Fully Organized Churches and 104 Not Yet Fully Organized Churches</p>	 <p>375 District Licensed and 428 Ordained Ministers</p>	 <p>16 Missionaries serving in Guatemala; 9 Missionaries from Guatemala</p>
		<p>PRAYER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pray that there will be a revival in the people of God across the districts and that the church continues to be and make disciples in our cities. • Pray for the visa processes for the delegates being sent from each district to the 2023 General Assembly and Conventions. • Pray for the planting of new churches in cities where we do not have a presence and the pastors who are planting them. 	

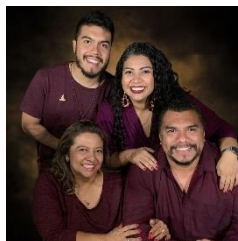
PRAISE

- We praise God for the two zones that have been able to carry out various activities to edify and train the boards of the local churches on the South Verapaz District.
- We praise God for the growth of the church in the Verapaz del Norte District as two new churches have been organized and two more are already being planted. Today there are 113 churches on this district!
- We praise God because despite the pandemic, the Church of the Nazarene has not stopped and we have kept moving.

You can visit: <https://missionary.nazarene.org/> to get the current missionaries in Guatemala. Sometimes it is easier to pray for missionaries in a certain area if they can see and face and relate to them.



Carlos and Nancy Cordero



Milton and Olga Gay



Ulises and Micaela Solis



Roger and Deysi Lemus



Roger & Damaris Kellogg



Ed and Kim Nichols



Monte and Bethany Cyr



Ana Crocker Diaz



Ruthie Cordova

ALL OF THE ABOVE IS ON POWERPOINT.

Suggestions that could be used in mission meetings:

The first alabaster building is in Guatemala. There is a video of this building on YouTube; [The First Alabaster - Guatemala](#)



. Show a picture of the first building and then go to: [NMI - Alabaster | Church of the Nazarene](#) and show the video. You can also put these in your PowerPoint presentation if you would like.

Serve tortillas with cheese and salsa.

This is quite easy to make. Take one the small flour tortilla and cover with shredded cheese (Mexican blend is good, but any will do). Place another flour tortilla on top of the cheese, like a sandwich. Cook in microwave for about 45 seconds or until cheese has melted. Cut into 4 pieces with a pizza cutter. Have sour cream and salsa for the congregation to eat with their tortilla.

Serve some Hot Chocolate or chocolate candy

Considered the birthplace of chocolate and the quality of chocolate here is exceptional. The Maya deemed it 'the food of the gods, and cacao played a large part in the local history. It was traditionally served as a drink rather than eaten, and even now locals prefer to sip on it rather than bite into a bar.

Explain Cincos. Then have a couple of people come up and play for about 3-5 minutes to show them that it is not as easy as they thought.

[Guatemalan](#) children play a variety of games in their free time, including **Cincos**, a marble game. Cincos is usually played by boys and requires two or more players. The players set up the playing field by drawing a circle and placing several marbles within the circle. The first player makes a loose fist with their thumb slightly tucked inside of the fist. He/she then picks up a marble and places it on the inside of his/her forefinger. The shooter then flings the marble from the forefinger. The shooter's hand can be inside or outside of the boundary – you make the rule on this before they begin. The object of the game is to hit their marble into the other players' marbles and knock it outside the boundary lines. The player that hits the most marbles out of the circle is the winner.