

# A Delegation to Guatemala

Sponsored by UUCA, ADIVIMA\* and NISGUA\*

**Dates:** February 10 – 20, 2018

**Purpose:** Observe, Learn, Understand the work of UUCA's partner organizations in Guatemala to support the indigenous Mayan people's struggle for self-determination.

## Southeast Guatemala

Visit and see first hand the Mayan people in their struggle to defend their communities and educate their children. Observe the work of NISGUA, Network in Solidarity with the People of Guatemala, as it works to support indigenous communities surrounding the Tahoe Resources Escobar mine in Southeast Guatemala. Meet with community organizations in the surrounding villages.



Encampment in Casillas  
Protesting Tahoe silver mine



Boat ride to Rio Negro

## North Central Guatemala

Participate in an intercultural exchange with our scholarship students, meet with ADIVIMA leaders and learn the history of Maya Achí people including damage done to their culture by the Chixoy dam and the subsequent genocide, observe Mayan religious ceremony, visit students in their homes and schools, visit the Chixoy hydroelectric dam, take a boat trip to visit Rio Negro, site of civil war massacre.



Chixoy Reservoir



ADIVIMA staff in Rabinal

**Cost:** \$900 for food, lodging and transport in Guatemala  
**Airfare:** \$400 - \$600

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\*ADIVIMA, The Association for the Integral Development of the Victims of the Violence of the Verapaces, Maya Achí

\*NISGUA, Network in Solidarity with the People of Guatemala

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NISGUA Portion: Feb 10 – 12

Cost: \$350 including food, lodging, transportation

ADIVIMA Portion: Feb 13 – 20

Cost: \$550 including food, lodging, transportation

## Testimonials

**Bea Ann Phillips, November 2015:** I have just returned from Guatemala with a small delegation headed by Reverend Aaron, tasked with learning from and exploring ways to deepen the UUCA relationship with our Guatemalan partners. ... It was intense, emotional, exhausting and empowering. And I have come away with a new understanding and appreciation for what it means for the people of Guatemala for UUCA to be in solidarity with them. I have seen, firsthand, the power of witnessing; the hope and strength we instill simply by our presence and our pledge to help their cause in any way we can. I am forever changed and I am forever convinced that this is a cause to which we—as a faith community-- must dedicate ourselves.

**Chris Sutton, November 2015:** Spending time *in Guatemala* with Accompaniers added a whole new dimension to my appreciation of the remarkable work that they do. The letters and photos sent by them to UUCA are incredibly informative and poignant, of course. ***But being with them*** there, briefly, but deeply immersed in the context of the years (centuries, really) of oppression, injustice and violence to which their presence bears witness and brings hope, is nothing short of amazing.