

The Presbyterian Peacemaking Program, Presbyterian Hunger Program, and World Mission are pleased to announce the 2017 Travel Study Seminar to Central America.

Peacemaking, Climate Justice and Faith in Central America



GUATEMALA AND COSTA RICA TRAVEL STUDY SEMINAR

AUGUST 7-18, 2017

INTRODUCTION TO THE SEMINAR

Central America countries have a fascinating relationship with peacemaking and climate concerns. From highly conflicted communities to historically peaceful places, from environmentally degraded areas to ones of great ecologic beauty, people of faith in Guatemala and Costa Rica have been responding to issues of peace and environmental justice issues for generations.



Our Time in Guatemala

In the first portion of the seminar, participants will visit Guatemala to understand current political developments, conflict, and migration related to environmental and climate change concerns. We will study resource extraction and its social, economic and environmental implications for the country, as well as church activism in response to it. As we cover these complex issues, we will also look at the criminalization of environmental activists, indigenous communities and land rights, and climate change's impact on agriculture. We will take a site visit with CEDEPCA to see community efforts and environmental sites.

Our Time in Costa Rica

After sharing worship in Guatemala, the seminar will travel to Costa Rica for the final four program days. In Costa Rica, participants will explore current indigenous communities' struggles in Costa Rica such as land rights and renewable energy production as well as examine the country's vocation for peace. In addition we will hear from various perspectives about climate change, ecotourism, sustainable agriculture, and rainforest ecology. A special connection in this portion of the trip will be theological and biblical reflection with UBL faculty.





ACCOMMODATIONS

This 12-day trip includes two travel days, 6 nights in Guatemala and 5 nights in Costa Rica. Participants will be away for one Sunday unless they choose to extend their stay on their own. Accommodations are double-occupancy and modest.

COST

The seminar cost is currently estimated to be **\$1,995** (per person, double occupancy). This includes all seminar expenses (including all meals, accommodations, programs, tips, tours, in-country transportation and airline ticket between Guatemala and Costa Rica). International travel from and returning to the U.S. is not included.

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

The seminar cost includes a flight during the seminar from Guatemala to Costa Rica. Participants are responsible to book their own flights from and returning to the United States. Arrivals on August 7 must be to **Guatemala City, La Aurora Airport (GUA)** and departures on August 18 must be from **San José Airport, Costa Rica (SJO)**. Participants may book these tickets only after they have received acknowledgement of their admission in the seminar and their itineraries have been reviewed by seminar leadership.



APPLICATION DUE DATE

Applications are now available and may be submitted for this Travel Study Seminar through May 1, 2017. (After that date, applications will be reviewed as space is available.) Applicants will be notified by May 15. A deposit will be required shortly after acceptance to reserve your spot in the seminar.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The seminar itinerary and application form are available on the Peacemaking Program's [Travel Study Seminar webpage](#) or by calling 888-728-7228 x 5200

