

Sister Parish Guatemala Representatives Meeting

February 20-21, 2016



The February 2016 representatives meeting was hosted by the ladies of UPAVIM ([United for a Better Life](#)), a Sister Parish community and fair trade cooperative that provides various services to its associates.

Representatives had the opportunity to learn about both the history and the current community-based work carried out at UPAVIM.

See [photos](#) from our weekend.

Attendees



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| Las Margaritas II: | Ricardo Choc |
| Tierra Nueva II: | Clementina , Paul, Evelio |
| Tierra Nueva I: | Irene Gil, Cynthia Trujillo, Rosa Bay, Auri Lemus |
| Chichipate: | Pedro Chiul and Victor Chub |
| Chontalá: | Anastasia Tol and Tomas Tol |
| UPAVIM: | Dina Velasquez, Conchita Mateo, Esperanza López, and various UPAVIMas |
| San Andrés Itzapa: | Otto Iscaya and Basilia Popol |
| Sister Parish: | Carrie Stengel, Brian Tyler |

Sister Parish News and Events

UPAVIM did an amazing job hosting and sharing their personal stories with the meeting attendees. This was also an opportunity for Sister Parish Guatemala representatives to experience other Sister Parish Guatemala communities other than their own. The experience of Sister Parish Guatemala communities hosting activities can widen the reach and presence of Sister Parish within many of the communities we

work in. The ability to mobilize meeting spaces also allows for those that were not previously involved in planning of activities to be present.

The representatives brainstormed concerning plans for the 2016 Southern Encounter, which Guatemala will be hosting. Sister Parish members from the United States and El Salvador will also travel to join the activity, planning, worshipping and learning together.

Educational Topic: General Nutrition



UPAVIM hosts numerous volunteers from around the world to assist their projects, whether in the primary school, daycare, or the pharmacy. The Sister Parish Guatemala Board invited two UPAVIM volunteers familiar with the topic of general nutrition, to give a presentation on health during the meeting. The presenters detailed the need for essential vitamins and nutrients in our diets and the locally accessible foods in which they are found. Food preparation, hygiene, myths, and home remedies to treat common colds were also discussed, as well as the nutritional properties of some Guatemalan meals.

Guatemala *Directiva* Meeting

During the meeting, the Guatemala *Directiva* and representatives:

- Discussed plans for the 2016 Southern Encounter
- Reviewed and passed project proposals
- Evaluated the Guatemala Representative Meeting and discussed ways to improve
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Notes for Upcoming Events

- 2016 Southern Encounter and Open Delegation – If you are interested in joining the delegation, please [contact us](#). The delegation in November 2016 is open to the public. We invite anyone who is interested in learning more about Sister Parish and participating in building our collective-oriented, multi-national community. Visit our website to learn more about the [open delegation planned for this November](#).