

Sister Parish, Inc.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Learn More

☐ I would like to learn more about how to make my church a Sister Parish church!

☐ I want to learn how to get involved in Sister Parish as an individual.

Donate

☐ Please accept my donation of \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ I would like to be contacted about monthly giving, matching grant programs, or other giving opportunities.

Please mail this completed card to:  
Sister Parish, Inc.  
PO Box 5202  
Fargo, ND 58105

Sister Parish, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3)  
Tax ID: 41-1622569

For More Information

US Office  
PO Box 5202  
Fargo, ND 58105

usoffice@sisterparish.org  
www.sisterparish.org



Building community across borders.

## Who We Are

Sister Parish exists to foster mutual understanding and commitment to peace and justice among people in the United States and Central America. This objective is pursued through intentional linking between churches and Christian communities in the United States and in Central America. Delegations travel to the North and South, with home stays as an essential aspect in enhancing awareness and understanding, and in nurturing closer relationships.



## Our Vision

- **Consciousness-Raising.** We seek to transform the world by sharing each other's experiences so that we can better understand and overcome the sources of injustice and oppression.
- **Solidarity.** By putting ourselves in the reality of others and by building an interdependent community of brothers and sisters within and among countries, we will promote mutual respect and dignity for all people, advocate for human rights, and work for social and economic justice for all.
- **Reconciliation.** We will live in peace with one another by finding the courage to recognize our own failings and to forgive each other despite the history of violence that has caused so much pain.
- **Ecumenism.** We will accept each other and respect each person's beliefs and practices, as we unite to work together so that all may share equally in the fullness of God's creation.

## Not Just Another Mission Trip

Sister Parish is based on long-term transformative relationships between communities in the US and Central America. Some of our churches have been 'linked' in a 'sistering' relationship' for over 20 years. As a member of Sister Parish, your church will send delegations to visit your sister community in Central America, and will also be able to 'host' people from Central America when they visit you in the United States. In between delegations, Sister Parish staff will keep you connected to your sister parish by sending regular community updates, translating letters and facilitating phone and video conversations.

## Join Us!

Interested churches are invited to contact our staff who can help you discern if a sister parish relationship is right for you. If your church decides to join Sister Parish, you will be invited to fill out an application form describing who you are and what you are looking for in a partner relationship. Once a linkage is found, your church can officially join Sister Parish by paying a \$1,000 annual linkage fee. After the linkage fee has been paid, staff will work with both communities to plan the first delegation. An average delegation costs \$1,200-\$1600 per person, not including airfare, depending on the number of delegates and the dates.

To learn more about how you can join Sister Parish, please fill out the attached sheet or email [usoffice@sisterparish.org](mailto:usoffice@sisterparish.org)

## Our Story

Sister Parish was founded in 1988 by Dick Fenske and Vicki Schmidt. Both had transformative experiences in Central America and wanted to share this experience with others. Today, Sister Parish is an ecumenical organization that facilitates thirteen long-term relationships between faith communities in the US, El Salvador and Guatemala. We remain committed to Dick and Vicki's vision of building a more peaceful and just world through direct, person-to-person relationships.