

Commissioning of 2008 Guatemala Mission Team

Ron Amberg, Communications

Number 1, July 13, 2008

Spring Valley United Methodist Church



The 2008 Guatemala Mission Team was officially commissioned at the conclusion of the Sunday, July 13th, 11 o'clock traditional worship service in the sanctuary of Spring Valley United Methodist Church.



* Jan Andersen	*Joan Copeland	Susan Hanchey	* Michael Johnson
* Frank Andersen	Kay Eubanks	Lucy Hemming	Jerry Malone
Carol Baughn	Peggy Gilbert	*Andrew Horton	*Suzanne Metzler
Bekki Beverly	Robert Gross	Mark Jacobson	Norma Warner
Meghann Beverly	Elizabeth Gross	*Shelly Johnson	**Ron Amberg

* Joining Spring Valley from Seattle
** Communications liaison, stateside support

For the Commissioning, the Spring Valley Mission Team members were uniformly dressed wearing long-sleeve dark blue denim style team shirts with SPRING VALLEY UMC SALUD Y PAZ insignias.

LITANY FOR THE COMMISSIONING OF MISSIONERS 2008 GUATEMALA MISSION TEAM

Pastor: Dr. Anna Hosemann-Butler

Pastor to Volunteers: Will you go from this place as representatives of the arms and legs, heart and soul of Jesus Christ, as faithful disciples embracing all with whom you are in contact and relationship with unconditional love and mercy, through His grace? If so, you say, "I will."

Volunteers: We will.

Pastor to Volunteers: Will you, as you go from this place, understand that you are empowered and commissioned as disciples of Jesus Christ and as you are called to be in relationship, do so without boundaries regarding race, creed, color or nationality – empowering all you meet with the unconditional acceptance of Jesus Christ?

Volunteers: We will.



COMMISSIONING OF THE 2008 GUATEMALA MISSION TEAM
Left to right: Rev. Mark Teasdale (Guest Preacher); Dr. Anna Hosemann-Butler (Associate Pastor, presiding)
Front Row: Jerry Malone, Meghann Beverly, Lucy Hemming, Peggy Gilbert, Norma Warner Back Row: Ron Amberg, Susan Hanchey, Elizabeth Gross, Mark Jacobson, Kay Eubanks, Carol Baughn, Robert Gross

Pastor to Volunteers: As you go from this place, will you claim and understand that you go with the prayers of this faith community whom you represent on God's behalf, and will you honor that claim, empowered with their support through prayer and the strength of the Holy Spirit?

Volunteers: We will.

Pastor to Congregation: Will you send these missionaries forth with your full support, with your prayers for them daily, and by name, and hold them and their efforts, and those whom they encounter close in the love of Jesus Christ?

Congregation: We will.

After the 11 o'clock worship service, the attending members of the Spring Valley Guatemala Mission Team gathered on the steps of the chancel area of the church for a group photo.



Front Row, left to right: Peggy Gilbert, Kay Eubanks, Norma Warner
Second Row: Jerry Malone, Carol Baughn, Meghann Beverly, Susan Hanchey, Lucy Hemming
Back Row: Ron Amberg, Mark Jacobson, Robert Gross, Elizabeth Gross

The team then held a very brief meeting to go over last minute details for the upcoming mission trip.

A special thanks to Ellie Sims (*Strong Travel Agency*) in making the travel arrangements for the Spring Valley Guatemala Mission Team.

*Dates for the 2008 trip:
Depart Saturday, July 19th; return Sunday, July 27th.*

*Report by Ron Amberg
Dallas Communications liaison for the Team*