

**Candidate Guidelines**  
**2020 MEXICO INITIATIVE PILGRIMAGE**  
**Los Fresnos, Texas April 22-27, 2020**

Required Paperwork (due now):

- \_ Application
- \_ Recommendation from minister of applicant's congregation  
(Ministers should submit recommendation from Church Board Chair.)
- \_ A valid passport with an expiration date of at least six months after the end date of the journey

Able to endure tough travel conditions:

- \_ Schedule will change frequently
- \_ Limit of one 26" checked bag under 50 pounds.
- \_ Food will be ample and nourishing
- \_ High temperatures during the day

It is important that our group is diverse including:

- \_ Racial/Ethnic diversity
- \_ Geographical diversity (within Indiana)
- \_ Age/Occupation/Interests diversity

Requirements of Participants:

- \_ Active member of a Disciples of Christ congregation in Indiana
- \_ Participate in 3-4 pre-trip preparation meetings
- \_ Complete required study and pre-reading for trip
- \_ Lead devotions/day's reflections once or twice during the trip
- \_ Be prepared to give multiple interpretation presentations and/or written articles following the trip
- \_ Help host partners from Mexico during future visits to Indiana
- \_ Reflection and journaling
- \_ Willing to take on responsibility for some portion of trip (managing money, photography, reporting back on web if possible, health care, etc.)
- \_ A commitment to remain healthy and engaged, and follow directions

Physical Demands:

- \_ Able to follow an intensive schedule, as much as 12 hours some days
- \_ Able to carry your own luggage
- \_ Able to walk a mile with minimal stopping and keep up with the group
- \_ Able to climb in and out of vehicles
- \_ Able to go without alcohol and cigarettes for a week
- \_ Able to check pre-trip emails regularly and print materials
- \_ E-mail address is required (no exceptions)
- \_ Ability to listen with brain and heart as well as ears

Personality / Spiritual:

- \_ Flexibility (some activities/days will not go as planned)
- \_ Ability to deal with being immersed in a totally different culture and learn a few phrases in Spanish
- \_ Willingness to get along with those different than yourself
- \_ Willingness to go outside of personal comfort zone to be a help to fellow participants

- \_ Willingness to accept others who may be having a bad day
- \_ Willingness to talk to outside groups and ask for their help either with your fund-raising or with donations
- \_ Realize you will not have all the comforts of home
- \_ Willingness to share a room for a week with someone who may be very different from you in age, temperament, or background
- \_ Realize that contact information will be published online as a speaker for the experience
- \_ Ability to put personal wants and desires aside and to participate fully in all activities
- \_ Ability to live out of one suitcase for a week