

# MEXICO MISSION TRIP 2024



## TRIP INFORMATION

Join La Casa de Cristo Lutheran Church on a mission trip to central Mexico! Working together, we will continue to build on our great relationship with Mazahua Valley Ministries! We will work, play, and worship together alongside our brothers and sisters in Christ! Don't miss this great opportunity to be the family of God together!

## LA CASA DE CRISTO'S RELATIONSHIP WITH MAZAHUA VALLEY MINISTRIES

La Casa de Cristo became involved with Mazahua Valley Ministries (MVM) in 2018 when a group from the church took a mission trip to central Mexico to work with MVM. A solid partnership was formed and another group returned in 2019 to continue the mission. That year, La Casa de Cristo helped support a new-start congregation in Atlacomulco, Mexico under Pastor David (pictured above receiving the cross from La Casa de Cristo church members). Since then we have continued to foster our relationship through a virtual mission trip, financial support, and prayer. Most recently, a group from La Casa traveled down to MVM in the summer of 2023 to continue our relationship. We are very excited to build off of this great foundation for yet another Mission to Mexico!

## OUR MISSION

This trip is all about relationships. The first most important relationship is our relationship with God. This trip will help us all grow in our life of faith with our Savior. We will pray, worship, and praise God in all that we do. The second most important relationship is the one that we will build with each other and with our Christian brothers and sisters in the Mazahua Valley of Mexico. We will be celebrating that we are truly one family of God. Our mission is to strengthen the bond between all of our churches and thus strengthen the bond of the entire Christian Church on earth.

## DATES

The trip is July 23-30, 2024.

## COST

This is an all-inclusive church-group mission. The price includes round trip air transportation from Phoenix to Mexico City, all ground transportation in Mexico, lodging in Atlacomulco, all meals in Mexico, safe purified drinking water, and mission support for the local church ministries in the Mazahua Valley. This is a family mission trip for people of all ages (kids must have an accompanying parent).

Price: \$1200 \*Registrations made after April 17, 2024 are subject to airfare price difference.

Payment Schedule: \$600 deposit is due with registration.  
Full payment is due by May 22, 2024

## TEAM MEETINGS

Preparation Meetings are an important part of the mission. We will be preparing ourselves as a team and planning our mission projects together. As we get closer to the trip you will be contacted about getting together as a group.

## MEALS

All meals, while we are in Mexico, are included. If you have special dietary needs please share them with Pastor Matt at registration. Food that is safely prepared and safe for consumption will be shared on the trip.

Meals in airports, in transit to Mexico, are not included. However, there are several restaurants and opportunities for snacks as we travel.



## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

*What ages can go on this trip?*

Any age is welcome. Families are encouraged to join in mission together; this trip is purposely designed as a great opportunity for families. Kids need to have at least one parent join them.

*What is Mazahua Valley Ministries?*



Mazahua Valley Ministries is a Christian evangelical mission that equips leaders to serve their communities and churches in a holistic way through theological and secular educational programs. MVM serves as a resource to the churches of the Mazahua Valley region of central Mexico. They have on-campus events such as conferences, worship services, and retreats, as well as off-campus activities working in partnership with the local pastors and churches to minister to the needs of the surrounding community. Both Pastor Jeff Ruby and Pastor Matt Knopf have worked with Mazahua Valley Ministries for over 20 years and they have a strong relationship with them.

*Where is this trip to?*

This trip will take us through Mexico City and then up into the mountains of the State of Mexico. The Mazahua Valley Ministries campus is located in the Mazahua Valley outside of Atlacomulco which is approximately eighty miles northwest of Mexico City in the central highlands of Mexico around 9,600 ft. The climate is fresh during the spring and summer with heavy rains; and cold with some frost during the fall and winter.

The MVM ministry covers a radius of forty miles including five counties: Atlacomulco, Ixtlahuaca, San Felipe del Progreso, El Oro y Temascalcingo; reaching out to about twenty four villages and thirty-five churches from different denominations. We will be doing most of our work in the area around Atlacomulco, which is just about right in the middle of the entire country of Mexico.

The red marker on the map above locates Atlacomulco, Mexico, just outside of Mexico City.

We fly from Phoenix to Mexico City and then take a private bus from Mexico City to the mission campus in Atlacomulco. It is approximately 2.5-3 hours from Mexico City to Atlacomulco.

### *Who are the Mazahua People?*

The Mazahua people are one of sixty-two indigenous groups found in Mexico. Although Mazahua is their native language, they are quickly being assimilated into the national culture. Today, many of the young people only speak Spanish. The Mazahuas are generally farmers subsisting on small plots of land. Their main crop is corn used for making tortillas, the main staple in their diet.

Lack of employment has forced many to migrate to the cities, northern border areas, or the United States to find work as vendors, masons, or domestic employees. Most children have access to primary & secondary school, but very few go on to finish high school. Half of the population lives in extreme poverty on less than \$5 a day.

The Mazahua people are known for their gift of hospitality and service, close family ties, and community, therefore; visitation is a very important aspect of our ministry.

### *What is it actually like on a trip?*

In 2020, a group of La Casa de Cristo Lutheran Church members put together a *Virtual Mission to Mexico*. It is a 50 minute video that is available online highlighting what the background of Mazahua Valley Ministries, our church's relationship with them, and what it is actually like to go on a mission trip. It is an excellent resource for anyone wondering what a trip is like. You can find the video at [lacasadecristo.com/mexico](http://lacasadecristo.com/mexico)

### *How do I sign up?*

A Registration Form is available on [lacasadecristo.com/mexico](http://lacasadecristo.com/mexico)

Please turn in the completed Registration Form along with your deposit (or full payment) to La Casa de Cristo's office: 6300 E. Bell Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85255. 480-948-1234. Attention: Pastor Matt Knopf

### *Should I go on this trip?*

Yes, yes you should.