

## On-Going Needs

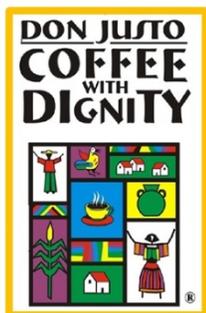
Funds for the on-going needs are always being collected:

- Fertilizer to help produce a crop on the horribly depleted soil from years of overuse
- Water tanks to store rain water when it rains and the running water when and where it is available.
- Scholarships for middle and high school students to travel to and from school safely and school supplies for a year.
- Medical supplies for the Our Sister Parish annual medical delegation to distribute.

## Don Justo Coffee with Dignity

The Don Justo Coffee with Dignity project was started in 2002 with the sole purpose of raising funds for the Our Sister Parish mission. The project promotes:

- Fair prices for coffee growers and workers
- Environmental protection and biodiversity
- Profits are re-invested in Salvadoran communities
- Economic and Social justice



On Facebook:

<https://goo.gl/owY7M3>

By Email:

[donjustocoffee@gmail.com](mailto:donjustocoffee@gmail.com)

## How Can You Support OSP?

- **Donate:** Send donations to Our Sister Parish Inc., PO Box 71632, Clive, Iowa 50325. Unless otherwise designated, donations will go to the General Fund. To specify a designation, include that information with your donation. You can also make a one-time donation online here: <https://goo.gl/PxNuPN>
- **Get involved:** The Our Sister Parish Board meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm. Contact the Presbytery of Des Moines office (515-276-4991) to confirm location.
- **Drink or serve Don Justo Coffee with Dignity®:**  
Email: [donjustocoffee@gmail.com](mailto:donjustocoffee@gmail.com)  
or purchase here:  
[www.oursisterparish.org/buy-coffee](http://www.oursisterparish.org/buy-coffee)
- **Learn More:** Visit and like the Our Sister Parish page on Facebook:  
<https://goo.gl/juouLH> or the Our Sister Parish website here: [www.oursisterparish.org](http://www.oursisterparish.org)
- **Visit Berlín:** Come with us on a delegation, or schedule a delegation from your church! All are welcome. Visit the Our Sister Parish website and click on the *Delegations* tab.
- **Become a Sustaining Donor:** Contact us at: [osp@oursisterparish.org](mailto:osp@oursisterparish.org) to set up automatic, recurring donations or online here: [goo.gl/wWdn4E](http://goo.gl/wWdn4E)



**Our Sister Parish Inc.**  
PO Box 71632  
Clive, Iowa 50325  
[www.oursisterparish.org](http://www.oursisterparish.org)



# Our Sister Parish



Presbytery of Des Moines  
El Salvador Mission  
Berlín, Usulután, El Salvador

## Who Are We?

For over 25 years the Presbytery of Des Moines has partnered with our Salvadoran brothers and sisters of the Pastoral Team in Berlín, Usulután, El Salvador to improve the lives of the people living in that area. This partnership has grown into the Our Sister Parish (OSP) mission, based on long-term relationships between churches and villages around Berlín.

## Our Sister Parish Board

The Our Sister Parish Board is the coordinating body for the Presbytery of Des Moines' Our Sister Parish El Salvador mission. Their responsibilities include: educating people in the Presbytery of Des Moines and others about the work of the mission; assisting churches that wish to form relationships and organize delegations; and promoting specific projects that support the mission, and fundraising.

## Mission Statement

Our Sister Parish brings hope and development to the poor of Berlín, Usulután, El Salvador through committed relationships of solidarity between US churches and organizations and our Berlín brothers and sisters. Faith will grow and the love of God will be profoundly experienced for all involved.



## The Pastoral Team

The Pastoral Team has served the people of Berlín since the 1990s when this group of local Salvadorans felt the call to help their brothers and sisters. They organize and educate community leaders, facilitate project requests, financially manage projects, fulfill basic requests for health, education, food, and clothing that come to them every day, and provide pastoral care to the people of Berlín.



## What Do Delegations Do?

**Listen.** Delegations hear firsthand from people living in poverty what their struggle to survive and thrive is like. They listen to community boards, committees, and families living in rural villages about their lives as subsistence farmers, the difficulties they face in acquiring water and growing food in a context of global climate change, how hard it is for their children to attend school, and the near-impossibility of finding well-paying work. Delegations also hear about the communities' triumphs and successes: to better organize themselves, to acquire development projects or trainings for their communities, to help their students succeed in school, and to build stronger and more united communities.

**Laugh.** Delegations are fun! They break piñatas, celebrate birthdays, dance and joke with older community members, play games with kids and soccer with teenagers, and meet one another in places of shared humor and joy across cultural differences.

**Love.** Delegations build long-term, loving relationships with the communities of Berlín by visiting all the families in their homes, learning how best to work in solidarity with their community development organizations, and by worshiping and praying with them. They actually get to *know* the people their church or organization partners with, building *real* relationships of mutual mission and Christian love. Salvadorans receive not just material aid but the spiritual gift of feeling connected to, respected, and cared for by people on the other side of the world, and North American Christians receive the gifts of mutual love and concern from the people in their partner communities.