

MAYOL



Ricardo Mayol-Bracero

GUATEMALA

LANGUAGE

Spanish

MINISTRY PRIORITY

Peace and Justice

BIRTHDAY

2/21



LOCATION

Guatemala



ABOUT

Ricardo is a regional consultant who accompanies the members of the Continental Christian Network for Peace in theological-pastoral formation. Based in Guatemala, where he works closely with the Ecumenical Christian Council of Guatemala, he promotes these goals for peace throughout the continent:

- Research: unraveling the sources and character of violence
- Education: creating a network between agencies that educate for peace
- Advocacy: calling for accountability
- Organizing: mobilizing groups affected by violence to work together for peace



One of the Guardians of Creation, wearing a traditional dress. She stands with other women and men protecting her land against the Cementos Progreso company.



MINISTRY STORY

The ten Kaqchikel communities of San Juan Sacatepéquez protect their land of flowers against Cementos Progreso, a powerful cement and construction company in Guatemala. We, the Ecumenical Christian Council of Guatemala, and our Catholic and Episcopalian counterparts saw these communities acting with conviction and divine clarity. We saw that in them and with them is the Lamb of God who overcomes evil. Like Andrew and the other disciple, we sought them out, and they welcomed us.

On December 12, we went to celebrate Christmas with Francisco Wuamuch and his wife, Estefanía, who told us: "On December 3, the people of the company arrived with machinery to pave our land, claiming that it was their property. I told them, 'This land is mine. I have not sold it, I have the ground deeds; it's mine.'"

In the face of looting and many other aggressions, the Kaqchikeles are on permanent alert, day and night, with voice and nonviolent gestures, protecting the inheritance of their grandparents. They are not the poor Indians we must pity; rather, they are the uncomfortable prophets to the powerful.

Therefore, I am looking for you, as Andrew looked for Peter, so that you recognize in your brothers and sisters the God of life. The Savior wants you to become a rock of justice and integrity, firm against impiety. Have communion, today, with your brothers and sisters from San Juan Sacatepéquez in Guatemala, raising your voice with theirs.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray that God will open the eyes and ears of those who do not see or hear the suffering of his children.

Pray for recognition that aggression against these people is aggression against God.

Pray for clarity and courage to do justice to the little ones of this world and guarantee them dignity.

Pray for the people of San Juan Sacatepéquez, that they will have wisdom in their struggle against evil.

SCRIPTURE

"Come," he replied, "and you will see." So they went and saw where he was staying, and spent that day with him.

John 1:39 (NIV)

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