

GLOBAL MINISTRIES GIVING TOOLKIT FOR CUBA

Learn more about the work of Global Ministries partners in Cuba you can support.

Why your gifts are making a difference today!

How to make a gift to support ministries in Cuba.



I visited Cuba in 2000 with a church delegation, and I was inspired by the history and spirit of the work done by the church there. Supporting Matanzas Evangelical Seminary in Cuba through a recurring, monthly gift Global Ministries is an easy way to continue walking with the Cuban church.

Reverend Michael Erwin
UCC Pastor in Evansville, Indiana



CHRISTIAN PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF CUBA (ICPC)

The Christian Pentecostal Church of Cuba (ICPC) is a grassroots church established in 1956 by Puerto Rican missionaries. After the revolution, its founder left Cuba and the church reorganized under Cuban leadership. The church is presided over by Reverend Eliseo Navarro. Its total membership is approximately 15,000 people and is scattered throughout Cuba.

Some of the ICPC priorities include:

- Evangelization, given the spiritual search of many Cubans
- Building, reconstruction, and equipping of many church buildings and parsonages
- Theological education to equip church leadership through the ICPC's Bible Institute ELIM, founded in 1959
- Systematizing its church structure and procedures

The Christian Pentecostal Church of Cuba is a member of the Cuban Council of Churches (CIC), the Latin American Council of Churches (CLAI), and the Caribbean Conference of Churches (CCC). It is a long-standing partner of Global Ministries and has been an important window into Cuban society for U.S. and Canadian Christians.



CUBAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES (CIC)

The Cuban Council of Churches (CIC) in Havana, a longstanding Global Ministries partner, was founded in 1941 on the theme “united to serve.” For more than half a century the CIC has stood by its churches and people during economic unsettlement and natural disasters. There are several purposes of the CIC.

The CIC gives unity to the Christian Churches of Cuba and to help unify Cuban churches with other churches around the world. The CIC encourages dialogue between different movements and institutions as a means for churches to expand their ecumenical vocation of service, thus deepening their responsibilities towards society and all of God’s creation. CIC also promotes study, dialogue, and cooperation among Christians to increase Christian witness and enhance life in Cuba.

Since Cuba is located in the Caribbean it suffers from strong hurricanes and natural disasters. The CIC Committee of Emergency Relief stands committed to providing relief and building an emergency response infrastructure for the Cuban population in times of natural disaster. The Committee of Emergency Relief is deployed the minute an emergency arrives and the CIC churches coordinate to help those in need to overcome damage and other issues that arise after a natural disaster.



DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. MEMORIAL CENTER

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Center (CMMLK) is an organization of Christian inspiration in which Cuban people and their churches contribute prophetically to the solidarity of their country and communities. The Center contributes to society with a liberating and contextual theology and practice. They give hope by organizing social participation, ministering with the Cuban people, actively striving for social justice. They give substance to their commitment by ministering with the Cuban people and actively striving for social justice. CMMLK is in dialogue with players in Latin America and the Caribbean and make generating and strengthening partnerships with institutions and organizations a priority.

Trauma Recovery and Income-Generation Project for Women

The Trauma Recovery and Income-Generation Project for Women of the Center is a network of emotional support, skills training, and income-generation projects for women from difficult circumstances. Using the model of popular grassroots education, many women find healing from domestic violence situations in the group, and find a network of support from women in the community. Each woman in the project learns an artistic skill and means of self-expression such as doll-making, making clothes, cooking, and more. Women in the group then use these skills to generate an income and to contribute back to the project for other women to join.



MATANZAS EVANGELICAL SEMINARY

The Evangelical Seminary of Theology was established in the city of Matanzas in 1946 as an ecumenical training center. The seminary provides high-level theological education to prepare students for full-time ministry in churches and other Christian service endeavors throughout Cuba and elsewhere. The seminary also trains pastors in a town called Holquin for those who want to train but cannot be away from their employment.

The seminary provides classes in ministry, including Christian Education and Prison Chaplaincy. Students at the seminary also study outside the walls of the facility. Students serve churches on the weekends, and in addition to their coursework, through the week they engage in service with HIV/AIDS programs, community centers, orphanages, and hospitals. The school also has an organic garden in which it feeds the seminary, local schools, and members of the community. After the fall of the Soviet Union in 1990, Castro declared Cuba a "secular" state instead of an "atheist" state. With the changing of that word in the constitution, there has been a surge of church participation in Cuba. Churches are growing very rapidly and Evangelical Seminary of Theology is attempting to meet the needs of the people and churches of Cuba by training ministers.

Gender Studies program

Students taking courses with the Gender Studies program of the seminary study the coming together of issues of gender and church and ministry. One graduate of the program shared that the program led her to discover the ways she has internalized machismo in her own life. After the program, she feels more prepared to address this in her own life and in her community.



As we heard the heart of God and the compassion of Christ in the prayers of our sisters in Cuba, it was my prayer that I would stand with them through concrete action. One way I have done this has been through providing support for the work of partners in Cuba who are making justice happen and bringing healing and wholeness to our fragmented world.

- Sage Appleby, participant of the 2018 Disciples Women-to-Women Worldwide pilgrimage to Cuba

Why give?

There are many reasons to give.

Your gifts to Global Ministries further a relationship between you and partner communities of faith, action, and ministry in Cuba.

Giving is an opportunity to continue your presence with Cuban partners as they provide ministries of music, theological education, income-generation, community engagement, and more.

Through your gifts to Global Ministries, you are participating in the already-lasting history of engagement between the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ and partners in Cuba.

How to give

Send a gift to Global Ministries **online** at www.globalministries.org/give.

Send a gift **over the phone** by calling 317-713-2555 or **by check in the mail** to:

Global Ministries
P.O. Box 1986
Indianapolis, IN 46206

OR

Global Ministries
Treasurer
700 Prospect Avenue East
Cleveland, OH 44115-1100

If you would like to become a Global Ministries Mission Advocate by setting up an **monthly, automatic gift** learn more at www.globalministries.org/recurring_gifts

To request a Global Ministries display, free project materials, photos, giveaways, or for additional information, contact the Office of Resource Development at (317) 713-2555 or gifts@dom.disciples.org.



**Thank you for walking together in hope today
with Global Ministries and partners in Cuba!**

