

A Church Assistance Program

The Association of Free Lutheran Congregations has had a mission work in Mexico for 25 years. Today the work has three branches:

- The Central Mexican Lutheran Church
- The work of our missionaries
- The Northern Mexico Outreach

The Lord has blessed our work in Mexico and we are embarking on a new venture. This venture is patterned after the Church Assistance Program in Brazil which has been a great success. The program is called the Principios

Project. Principios means beginnings in Spanish. The project will allow congregations to begin in their own affordable church building.



Through this program, AFLC churches in the U.S. will provide financial assistance while the national churches in Mexico build the buildings. By providing this assistance, the United States AFLC and our mission outreaches will form a partnership to reach the lost and further the Kingdom of God.

This project has been approved by the AFLC World Missions Committee with the vision of building the Kingdom of God in Mexico.

How Does the “Principios Project” Work?

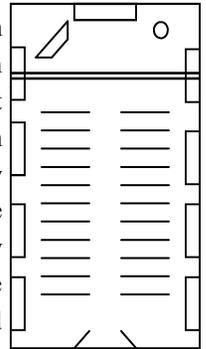
Our missionaries and the national workers in Mexico will select the sites, buy the property, and build the church. This will be done after a core of committed believers have started a congregation and the national church has determined the needs and feasibility of the fledgling congregation. Once the national church determines the location, congregations in the U.S. will provide the finances to buy the building materials.

What does One “Principios Project” Church Cost?

It is almost impossible for a new congregation to borrow money. When it can, the church experiences excessive interest rates and stringent restrictions. Therefore, church buildings almost always have to be built with cash.

The materials for a moderately-sized church cost only \$10,000. For that price, a basic one-story church, can be built. This will provide an immediate sanctuary that can be turned into a fellowship hall or Sunday School rooms as the congregation grows and adds onto the church.

As an example, the Brazilian church assistance program has built buildings with funds from the U.S. that hold about 100 people. In 2004, a beautiful sanctuary was built in this way. The church in that community has now grown. Because of the growth, they would like to build another church in the same area.



Where will the “Principios Project” Church be Built?

There are several locations where a Principios Project church would be a blessing. The church in Jerez is renting and would benefit from a building of their own. In Aguascalientes the church owns a piece of property and needs help

with a building in which to worship. Irapuato also has a congregation that is meeting in rented space and would find their own building a great blessing.



By the help of God, the goal is to build at least one church a year. This is not our work, this is the Lord’s work. Let each one of us be faithful to the Lord.

What are the Benefits?

On the spiritual level, who can estimate the value of souls saved for eternity? On the physical level, the Principios Project would be a significant boost for our work in Mexico. It would invigorate the young established congregations. It would encourage the members, pastors and missionaries. It would give our congregations a place to meet. It would also provide a place to hold activities such as kid's clubs and youth groups which are so successful in Mexico.



Youth from our church in Celaya

Being involved in a project like this multiplies blessings for our local congregations, as we follow Christ's Great Commission and catch the vision of "fields white unto harvest."

How can I get Involved?

The immediate goal is to raise \$10,000 per year from our AFLC districts, congregations and/or individual's. Pray for our AFLC Missionaries and the national pastors as they work with this project.



Gifts can be given to this project by sending them to the AFLC World Missions office. Checks can be made payable to AFLC World Missions with the phrase "Principios Project" on the memo line.

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The Principios Project

AFLC Mexico National Church Assistance Program



AFLBS students donated funds for the land in Jerez



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