# NMI Central

# NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

25 May 2022



**Mexico** 

The Church of the Nazarene officially began work in Mexico in 1908. However, the roots of the work in Mexico can be traced all the way back to 1903 when members of the Texas Holiness Association moved to the south of Mexico, making Mexico one of the very first missions fields. The country borders the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico, between Belize and the United States. It also borders the North Pacific Ocean, between Guatemala and the United States. The population is approximately 128.9 million. The official language is Spanish.



76,291 Members



693 Organized

Churches and 196

Not Yet Organized

Churches across 15 districts



303 District Licensed and 505 Ordained Ministers



12 Missionaries serving from Mexico



## PRAYER

- Pray for the church planting project called "RENUEVA." The goal is to raise up 250 young adults to become church planters.
- Pray for the continuous growth of the church in Mexico.
- Pray for all the church leadership in Mexico, including the field, district, and local church leaders.



### PRAISE

- We praise God for the opportunity to host the "Mexico Challenge 2022" Congress on March 4-7, 2022. The church leadership felt renewed and encouraged to continue doing the work of evangelism in Mexico. Additionally, they learned about different work tools and projects to make use of in the local church
- We praise God for the faithfulness of local churches that continue contributing to the missionary work of the Church of the Nazarene through the World Evangelism Fund (WEF).



Central Vision Church in Mexico ministers to children from the community



Pastors Ezequiel Santiago and Karina Altamirano of the Central Vision Church of the Nazarene in La Chigulera, Oaxaca, Mexico, felt God's call to minister to the children in their community. In 2021 they began to pastor the Vision Central church and quickly noticed the diverse needs of the children surrounding them.

The pastors, along with a team of committed and willing members, decided to begin the children's ministry through Vacation Bible School. The VBS program consisted of sharing breakfast, teaching Bible stories, and giving singing lessons on Saturday mornings.

The team's main goal was to teach the children about God's love and lead them to encounter Jesus. They tried to achieve this through fun games and entertaining activities to share the Bible. On Saturdays, they typically receive a group of between 15 to 20 children.

Abi Luna Brena, children's teacher and collaborator at Nazarene Compassionate Ministries in Etla, said that she was very grateful to God for the opportunity to teach, share, and serve so that children have knowledge of His Kingdom. She said that the Etla compassion group prepared early to go to Vision Central and that everyone was happy to be able to help in some way.

"I got to share the Word with the children. The class was about the story of Simeon. It was fantastic to see their faces when they heard this story that they had never heard before," Luna said. "We talked about how we feel when someone says bad things about us, and we also talked about how beautiful it is to receive a powerful blessing. We prayed for them and that day we blessed them as our children. I cannot describe what we felt when we saw the little ones receive those blessings, it was beautiful!"

The direction the pastors of Vision Central want to take is clear and goes beyond what God has allowed them to do with the children of their community until now. They went on to say, "the vision we have with this project is that children and their families know Jesus and be saved."

#### Could You Serve?

Is God calling you to serve in Mexico? Click <u>here</u> to learn more.

#### See the past archive of NMI Central publications here.







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