



**pastors
for
peace**
50th anniversary

Travel to Cuba with IFCO/Pastors for Peace (not as a tourist)

May 11-21: An overview of Cuba today: *Learn how Cuba's diverse religious community (Christian, Jewish and African-based) is an integral part of the broader society, and about their work in Community organizing, economic development, sustainable food production, etc. Learn how the health care system works and how African-based religions and culture are central to Cuban life. Added attraction: Participate in activities of the National Week Against Homophobia and Transphobia, including the annual Pride March.*

The program is still being constructed, so please tell us your 'wish list' and we'll do our best to include it. But here are some questions we could explore with our Cuban friends and partners:

What LGBT issues are Cubans discussing today: in the LGBT community, in the religious communities and in the larger society? How do religious communities interact with the government?

How has African-based culture and religion influenced Cuban life? What are the relationships between the Cuban religions of African origin and the other religious practices in Cuba today? What ARE some of the religious practices in Cuba today?

Cuba is the ONLY country that has met the UN standards about sustainable use of energy. How did this happen? What does this mean in daily life?

Cuba has a goal of food self-sustainability: what are the problems and solutions in meeting that goal?

There have been many economic changes in Cuba within the past few years. How has this affected the 'average' Cuban and Cuban society?

The US is dealing with issues of race and class. What about Cuba?

Cuba is world-famous for its medical system. Why? There are 90 students from the US currently studying medicine in Cuba – at full scholarship. We'll talk to them.

Yes, we WILL hear music and do some dancing – can't experience Cuba without music and dance!

Details: Cost: currently \$1900 (plus round-trip airfare from NYC and visa), including all costs in Cuba: food, lodging, transportation, program, translators, etc. We'll stay at the Martin Luther King Center, in a working class part of Havana, as well as other travel. This community center has double rooms, family style meals and is warm and welcoming, with lots of local folks coming and going. For more info: call Emily 347-262-6466.

Interested in joining us? Fill out this application: <https://fs24.formsite.com/IFCO7120/form6/index.html>

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Other delegations currently being scheduled:

July: 28th US-Cuba Friendshipment Caravan: Travel to the Eastern part of the Island: Santiago, Guantanamo, and Baracoa. See how Cuba has worked to recover from Hurricane Matthew – and more. Added attraction: Join us as we mark the 50th anniversary of Che’s death and participate in Cuba’s annual July 26th Celebration.

October 6-14: Community Organizing: Learn about Cuba’s many different grassroots community groups: labor, women, young people, elders and more. See how communities and government work together to solve problems at the grassroots level.

December 7-18: Cuban Culture: Experience and learn first-hand about various parts of Cuban culture: Music (timba, jazz, Afro-Cuban, even hip-hop), dance, art and more. Learn more about Cuba's world-famous culture and how it has influenced US culture in many ways. Added attraction: participate in the jazz festival in Havana.

January, 2018: Sustainable food production: Green medicine in your window box, urban hydroponic farming, large-scale organic farms, or a rabbit hutch on your balcony and a 'food forest' in your back yard... Learn about the many ways that Cuba has developed sustainable food production. Added attraction: Experience “guajira” a style of folk music that originated among Cuban farmers.

More delegations are possible. If you have 10 or more people, we can create a trip tailored to your interests. Just let us know! Under discussion: Health Care (physical and mental and social), Labor, Senior's softball, and ??

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