

Updates for Partners for Arlington and Guatemala – PAG:

PAG is part of UUCA's Faith in Action ministry and is now in its 10th year.

UUCA/PAG partners with existing community organizations locally and in Guatemala to 1) sponsor human rights accompaniers in Guatemala; 2) provide scholarships to Mayan middle and high school students; and 3) promote mutually beneficial partnerships with local immigrants in Arlington. Some exciting news on all three fronts:

Guatemalan Accompaniment: To date, the church has sponsored 17 Accompaniers. The first – Dylan Ramsey – served in the Rabinal area 10 years ago, standing with genocide survivors who were bearing witness to what had happened in their community in the 1980's. UUCA co-sponsored Dylan with another group based in Oberlin, Ohio.



Dylan in Guatemala

Mayan Scholarships: Thank you UUCA for contributing nearly \$8500 in Give the Plate offerings on January 29 to support students whose families were directly impacted by the massacres in their community in 1982. Without UUCA support, they could not continue their education, because free, public education ends in 6th grade in Guatemala. Most of the scholarship students (two-thirds of whom are girls) live in fairly remote villages that do not even have secondary schools; so they travel to the larger town of Rabinal, often walking for several hours.



Student at home

Immigrant Partners: Congratulations to **Ubaldo Sanchez**, Guatemalan immigrant and artist who has participated in numerous UUCA and Buckingham joint activities.

Ubaldo and his fellow Mayan AWAL dancers have often been a part of worship; he has displayed his art in the Center, and participated in various educational activities to help our congregation better understand the experiences of immigrants. **On February 4, the Guatemalan Chancellor recognized Ubaldo's contributions to the Guatemalan community and to the promotion/preservation of Mayan culture by awarding him Guatemala's highest honor: the Order of the Quetzal.**



Ubaldo with other dancers