

## Share the Plate: NISGUA - April 22, 2018 (important to get the first paragraph visible on the page)

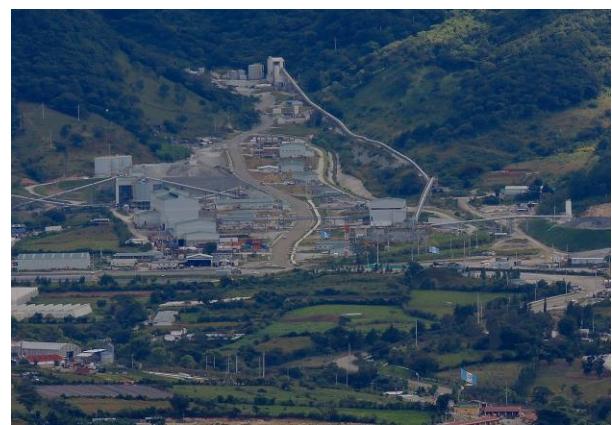
This Sunday (April 22) the Share the Plate offering is dedicated to our congregation's partnership between **NISGUA** – the Network in Solidarity with the people of Guatemala - and our own social justice ministry, **PAG** - Partners for Arlington and Guatemala. **Since 2007, UUCA has sponsored a total of 18 human rights Accompaniers in Guatemala through this partnership.** UUCA financially supports these Accompaniers **entirely** through contributions to the Plate offering; 12 months of accompaniment costs \$9,300. Seventy percent of **the Plate offering on Sunday, April 22, plus any checks or one-time online contributions received between April 22-April 28, will be applied to the work of these remarkable young people. Be sure to mark contributions as Share the Plate.** Without your generous contributions, UUCA could not be a Sponsoring Community.

It is most fitting on this Earth Day to honor and support our Accompaniers since so many of their current requests come from indigenous communities whose *spiritual, cultural and material way of life* is threatened by multi-national mining, hydroelectric and agribusiness projects that seize indigenous communal lands without permission, exploit the local resources and irreparably harm the local environment and economy. For these defenders, their struggle to preserve their connection to Mother Earth is continuous and vital to the very fabric of their existence. For them, *every day is Earth Day*.

Recent UUCA/NISGUA delegations have visited some of these communities to hear their stories and express our solidarity. The February delegation of UUCA travelers, in the company of Accompaniers, met with several different groups who actively oppose the Tahoe Resources Escobal silver mine located in the heart of indigenous agricultural land southeast of Guatemala City.



Emily Francomano talks with members at a mine resistance encampment .



Tahoe Resources' Escobal Silver Mine, near community of Santa Rosa las Flores.

**Visit the PAG table in Fellowship Hall on Sunday to learn more.**