

From the Peace House guestbook:

“This House of Peace is truly what its name says it is – a place of peace, and of friendship, a presence of compassion and justice among people who have known much violence. May this little refuge be greatly blessed.” – *Kay Schmitt*

“I hope we continue to create spaces like this one where we can find peace, friendship and truth. Thank you for your support, your presence, and all that cannot be said in words.” – *Nico Contreras*

“Your presence here is culturally and historically meaningful; it changes things, makes them happen.” – *Don Juan Ixchop*



A community project takes shape at Peace House.

Even the sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young.

(Psalm 84:3)

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*Peace House and the Guatemala Mission are
entirely dependant on the generous support of
dozens of friends from around the world.*

*To make a donation to the work of
Peace House please contact:*

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*If you would like to visit Peace House, either as an
individual or as a group, please contact:*

The Rev. Emilie Smith
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*To follow the work and ministry of
Peace House please see:*

vimguatemala.wordpress.com

Casa de la Paz

Santa Cruz del Quiché,
Guatemala



How lovely is your dwelling place,
O Lord of hosts!
.... my King and my God.
(Psalm 84:1, 3b)

Peace House: a sanctuary, in the heart of Santa Cruz del Quiché, Guatemala.



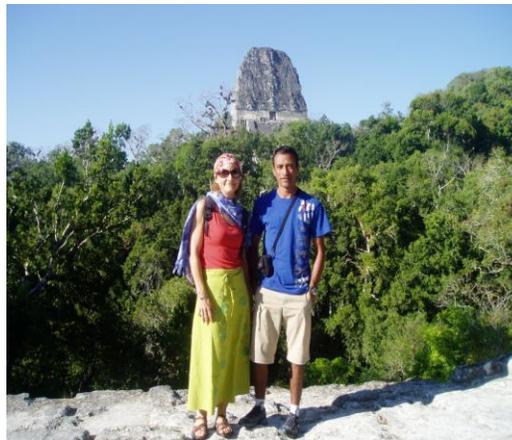
Emilie Smith and Don Juan Ixchop, Maya spiritual leader in the Peace House garden.

In a warring, greedy world, Peace House quietly exists as a place of healing, a place of rest and renewal, a place of encounter – with oneself, one another, and with the Holy One.

The Guatemalan war, in the early 1980s, was particularly ferocious in the Quiché region, and the long term effects of the violence are splayed throughout the community in a thousand ways.

Founded in 2010 as an offering of the Canadian Anglican Church's Volunteers-

in-Mission program, Peace House exists as a non-denominational, multi-spirited place. The Chapel of the Holy Innocents, a mission of the Episcopal Church of Guatemala, is a place for Christian worship, and the courtyard and other spaces are shared with practitioners of Maya sacred traditions. Peace House is also a guest house, offering short and long term stays for Guatemalans, and for international friends as they visit the region. Secure and efficient tours and transportation can also easily be arranged.



Peace House member and driver Marco Antonio Lopez Sanchez and Emilie Smith visiting Tikal

***Give us many good roads that are wide,
Give us deep and quiet peace,
tranquility and the good life,
Let us be gentle and kind in our being.***

(Pop Wuj – Sacred Book of the Maya K'iche', Part III, v. 583)



The Rev. Emilie Smith has had a relationship with the people of Guatemala since the early 1980s, working with Guatemalan refugees and immigrants in Canada and Mexico and travelling extensively throughout the country. She was ordained as an Anglican priest in 2004 and served for several years at various Vancouver parishes. The opportunity to return to Guatemala and begin Peace House is the realization of a dream close to Emilie's heart.