

NMI Central

NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

8 November 2023

Mesoamerica Region



Belize

The lush jungles of Belize are noted for the ancient Mayan city states that existed there until their decline at the end of the first millennium A.D. The ruins of one of the largest Mayan pyramids towers over the modern civilization that has grown outside the jungles towards the coastline. During the 17th and 18th centuries, there were constant disputes between Great Britain and Spain over who should rule the country, ultimately to be formally known as the colony of British Honduras in 1862. Further disputes over the territory between the UK and Guatemala delayed independence, until in 1992, when it became recognized as the new nation of Belize. The work of the Church of the Nazarene began officially in 1934, so the Church has been a part of the developmental chapters in this nation's history. Today, it continues to have influence in the development of new generations through education collaboratively provided with the help of government.



3,123 Members



59 Fully Organized Churches; 2 Not Yet Organized Churches



25 District Licensed and 19 Ordained Ministers on 2 Districts



PRAYER

- Pray for more Christian teachers to be part of the school and school management.
 - Pray for local missionaries to be part of all schools in the country.
 - Pray for the government, that they will continue to see the need for partnership with Christian churches.
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PRAISE

- Praise God for His grace in the lives of the teachers and students in our schools.
- Praise God for three newly ordained ministers, completing their long journey of studies.
- Praise God for the renewal of the ladies' three-day retreat, which hosts over 90 ladies.

NMI SNAPSHOT



In Belize, the Church of the Nazarene manages two high schools, seven primary schools and two preschools, with the help of the government providing salary. With this opportunity the nearest church to the school acts as the local manager and the district appoints the general manager.

Schools function with assistance from school fees, and from Nazarene missionaries who support the work in many ways. Local churches engage with their nearest school through feeding programs where possible. Most of the children would not be able to buy a proper meal.

During the chapel time, children hear the Word of God. They are encouraged to attend Sunday school and children services with their teachers.

Not all the teachers are Nazarenes. The government must approve our teachers and approve that material that is to be taught. There are also government schools, but they allow others, like Nazarenes, to provide spiritual guidance within their schools.

Missionaries, both Nazarenes and others, help with upkeep of the buildings, teacher training, and the support of children, with fees, school supplies, and the “Bread of Life.” As the light of Christ’s love is shared and modeled, the hearts of students are softened to receive Christ as Lord.



The Sarteneja Nazarene School.

One example of this partnership is in the village of Sarteneja. At the primary school in their community, their principal is a member of the Church of the Nazarene. Each week, a day is spent by the children and staff at the church; a children's music group and a dance group have formed there. Some of the students have gone on to become teachers in this same school.

Could You Serve?

Is God calling you to serve on the Mesoamerica Region? For more information, click [here](#).

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