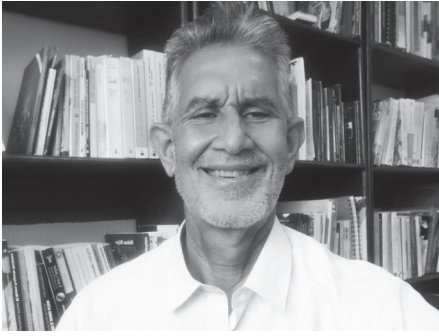


MAYOL



Ricardo Mayol-Bracero

REGIONAL

LANGUAGE

Spanish

MINISTRY PRIORITY

Peace and Justice

BIRTHDAY

2/21



LOCATION

Iberoamerica and the Caribbean



ABOUT

RICARDO is a regional consultant who accompanies the members of the Continental Christian Network for Peace (RECONPAZ) in theological-pastoral formation. Among RECONPAZ's goals are: to protect humans rights and integral ecology; to investigate and denounce those who originate violence beyond

their borders; to educate and inspire the defense of life; to advocate for the use of arts and social media to denounce violence; to move churches and believers to defend human rights and integral ecology. Based in Guatemala, where he works closely with the Ecumenical Christian Council of Guatemala, Ricardo promotes RECONPAZ's goals for peace and justice throughout the continent, and invites and works with IM partners whose goals and ideals align with the Continental Christian Network for Peace.

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Parents of the murdered children (13-year-old Haggai Isaac Güitz Maas and 11-year-old David Estuardo).

“ MINISTRY STORY

Allow me to share with you about the Monte Olivo community, defender of the river in Alta Verapaz.

The municipality, without consulting the residents, brought machinery to the river and began to install the Santa Rita hydroelectric plant. The community expelled the hydroelectric plant from its territory but the state sent a military detachment, also expelled by the community.

A hit man came to kill the community leader, David Güitz, and when he could not find him, in a rage, the hit man murdered 13-year-old Haggai Isaac Güitz Maas and 11-year-old David Estuardo.

A public official offered water tanks to store water. The community responded: Why do we want water tanks, if we have the river? He offered bribes, a sum that, in the face of their refusal, tripled. The leaders were not sold. A

thousand policemen forced the eviction of the community who took refuge in the mountains. The state's security forces came to the community's checkpoint and shot Carlos Güitz four times, leaving him a paraplegic with lung and kidney problems. Carlos died of his injuries.

The community reported the hydroelectric plant to the offices of the World Bank, who withdrew their financing and the project was canceled. The Spirit descended, heaven was opened, and the Son of God was manifested. However, powerful families, wanting to muddy life in the area, impose hydroelectric projects on other river slopes and monocultures of coffee and oil palm.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray to the God who is more powerful than the evil forces we fight against.

Pray that the communities that suffer from the environmental war imposed by the economy of dispossession will radiate healing force and direct the paths toward peace.

Pray that our voice of denunciation resounds.

Pray for strength and our ability to confront those who harm and distort rights.

SCRIPTURE

“His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

Luke 3:17 (NIV)