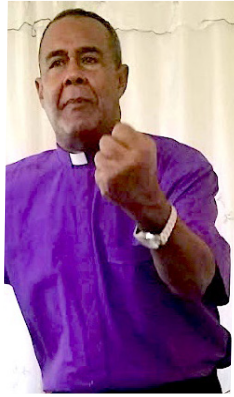


## History

In 1997, Armando Rusindo, a Catholic Priest from Cuba, met some Moravians in Jamaica and was inspired by the way they worshiped. Upon his return to Cuba, he began to study about the Moravian denomination. The more he studied, the more it became clear that God was calling him to share with his fellow Cubans the Christian faith through the Moravian Church.



As time passed, he began to spread the "Moravian" word from Havana to Guantanamo. People began to hold services in their homes without the official approval of the Cuban government. Eventually the communist government of Cuba gave official approval for the Moravian Church to be recognized as a sanctioned church on the island.

In 2012 Reverend David Guthrie (President of the Southern Province of the Moravian Church in America), Jorgen Boytler (Unity Business Administrator) and Bishop Sam Gray traveled to Cuba to give official recognition to the Cuban Moravian Church by the Moravian Church of America.

In 2013, Bishop Sam Gray and Joe Jarvis attended the first official National Conference of the Cuban Moravian Church. Fifty delegates from five provinces were in attendance representing all the Moravian churches from across the island. The Book of Order was approved by the Church and the Cuban government and Armando Rusindo was elected as its first president. As the Rev. David Guthrie pointed out, "This was a truly historic event for the Moravian Church."

Since that momentous day in 2013, the church has grown faster than anyone could have imagined. The second National Conference was held in 2017, where Tania Sanchez was elected president and Armando was elected Bishop. Three members of the Church participated on the board of the Cuban National Council of Churches. The church in 2019 is now worshipping in 8 different provinces across Cuba and membership has gone from a few hundred to over a 1,000. Most importantly, all the churches have ongoing projects that are not only supporting their individual congregations, but their local communities as well.

God Is truly working In Cuba!

## God IS Working in Cuba!

If you feel God's calling to support this effort, send your check to:

ARMF  
2121 Harper Rd.  
Clemmons, NC 27012

Or, schedule your monthly donations online:

<http://www.armfcuba.org/donate.html>

Email [joe@armfcuba.org](mailto:joe@armfcuba.org)  
Website: [www.armfcuba.org](http://www.armfcuba.org)

You can direct your donations to a project or to the overall effort. PLEASE NOTE: If a specific project is completed or no longer needed, any unused funds in that specific project fund will be redirected to the general fund at the discretion of the ARMF board.

Armando Rusindo Mission Fund  
In Loving Memory of  
Joe & Lahoma Gray  
Woody & Ruth Jarvis

Joe and Lahoma Gray's devotion to serving our Lord led them to Nicaragua as Missionaries in 1949. For the next 40 years they would serve God in remote areas of Nicaragua, Honduras and Sierra Leone (Africa). They believed the Good News needed to reach people everywhere and would be thrilled to know that the Moravian Church is now growing in Cuba.

Joe Jarvis' parents also believed the love of Jesus Christ should be shared the world over. Woody and Ruth were lifelong Moravians who spent their entire adult lives as members of New Philadelphia. We know that they would be extremely proud of the work going on in Cuba.

We honor this foundation in memory of these two loving Christian families.

Armando Rusindo Mission Foundation is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization. All donations are tax deductible under IRS regulation 501(c) 3

### ARMF Board of Directors

**Executive Board**  
Joe Jarvis, President  
Bruce Ledwith, Vice President  
Alina Ricardo, Secretary  
Evon Crooks, Treasurer  
Brad Pitts, at Large

**Directors**  
Bishop Sam Gray  
Ron Vogler  
Tommy Cole  
Justin Rabbach  
Donna Gordon  
William Long

# Armando Rusindo Mission Foundation



## Strengthening Relationships and Building Bridges While Sharing God's Word

*"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ . . .*

*If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it."*  
— 1 Corinthians 12:12, 26



[armissionfoundation.org](http://armissionfoundation.org)

## Church Expansion

With everyone's dedication to grow the church across the island, several new areas have started house churches that ARMF has begun to develop action plans for support. Villages in the provinces of Santa Clara and Las Tunas and Baraco, Guantanamo have all established Moravian churches in the homes of the pastors serving those areas. Each one of these fellowships have 25 or more people attending services on a regular basis. Several other areas are in the planning stages as of this printing.

It is very exciting to be part of this continued growth in Cuba and experience the word of Jesus Christ being systematically spread across Cuba.

### Items that all the Cuban churches need:

- Bicycles for the pastors to get around visiting their congregations
- Musical instruments
- Christian education materials
- Funding for emergencies







## ARMF Projects Across the Island

**Havana** -- HQ church, 3 house churches, Comenius Center (youth center and eventual daycare facility)

- Looking to purchase or lease a facility to support further growth in Old Havana congregation.
- Purchase equipment and up fit the Comenius Center to support the creation of a daycare facility (est. cost \$6,000)

**Matanzas** -- 5 churches in the Province

- Support of an 80-acre farm (Produce from farm supports church, shut-ins, homeless, schools' children est. cost \$2000)
- Provide funding to support breakfast every Sunday for the children of the church (est. cost \$1,000 per year)

**Santayana** -- 1 church and 3 prayer groups in the province an hour away that they anticipate turning into house churches.

- Complete the installation of the clean filtered water system to support the church and community. (est. cost \$1,000)
- Support a 70-acre farm supplying meat and vegetables for the church and community. (est. cost \$2,000)
- Support the creation of a daycare center in the church. (est. cost \$2,000)

**Holguin** -- 1 main church and 4 house churches in the province.

- Complete the construction of a secure building to house the clean filtered water system. (\$1,000)
- Complete the installation of the water system (est. cost \$1,250)
- Sewing machines and material for the women of the church. They make outfits for the community. Proceeds are given to the church for additional projects.

**Guantanamo City** -- 1 church 3 active daycare centers

- Daycare center needs: microwaves, refrigerators, cots, etc. Operators of the daycares take the net profit and go into the community helping the homeless, shut-ins, and others in need.
- Creation of a 4th center (total est. cost for all the daycares \$6,000)



**San Antonio, Guantanamo** -- 1 church and 1 satellite house church about 80 kilometers away.

- Funds to support a 2.5-acre produce farm. Just starting out and need a well, and pump for irrigation.
- Funds to purchase a horse and buggy that can transport disabled church goers. When not in use they intend to rent out bringing income back to the church. (Est. cost: \$400 for Horse and \$700 for an 8-passenger buggy).
- Sewing machine and material to support the women of the church who make pocketbooks to sell to the community. Proceeds plowed back into the church.
- Filtered Clean Water System has been approved for this church. The system, 2 tanks and a secure building will need to be built and funded. (est. cost \$8,000)

**Mayabeque** -- One of the original fellowships in Cuba. Very rural, about 45 minutes from Havana.

- Needs large fans for the outdoor church facility
- Urgent need for a clean water system

All these projects throughout the island are designed by the Cubans to make their churches "self-sufficient." They want to support their church and their community without heavily depending on others.

The clean filtered water systems currently being installed are all large enough to provide the church and the community clean drinking water. They are setting up times of the day and week that they will be available for the locals to bring their water bottles to the church and draw out clean water at NO COST. They feel blessed to have clean water and are excited to share their good fortune with those less fortunate. The farms we support are all designed to supply meat and produce to the church and the local community in need and then sell to the schools at a reduced rate to support the young people in need. The daycares will support a great need and bring in some revenue for the church so they can expand their activities.

ARMF has always been very judicious with your donations and we are elated to see what wonderful stewards our Cuban brother and sisters are with those funds as well.

## History of ARMF



Growing a church from scratch is a challenging effort in the best of circumstances. Growing it in a communist country is much more difficult. Average salaries are \$20 to \$30 per month. A large percentage of the Cuban people have unclean drinking water filled with bacteria. These conditions lead to horrible water related illnesses that are prevalent across the island.

As brother Joe Jarvis began to experience these conditions firsthand on his trips with Bishop Sam Gray in 2013, he felt God calling him to help this emerging church in Cuba. He recognized that the people were willing to look for ways to support themselves, their church, and community, but they desperately needed financial support and guidance.

Joe saw the firsthand needs across the country as he visited the Moravian churches. From Havana to Guantanamo, Joe saw the poverty, and poor living conditions that our brothers and sisters in Cuba are faced with daily. He saw the determination, ingenuity and love of Christ that everyone at each village exhibited and knew he wanted to help.

After much prayer and discussions with church leaders, Joe decided to set up the Armando Rusindo Mission Foundation. This foundation is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization with all donations tax deductible under IRS regulations.

The focus of the foundation is to work closely with our Moravian brothers and sisters in Cuba to identify critical needs, to raise the funds within the foundation to support those needs directly and to help them meet their goal of improving their everyday lives, spreading the word of God throughout their communities and becoming a self-sufficient member of the Moravian church.

By working together, it is our vision to build better bridges and relationships between our two countries.