



The Community of St. Martin  
La Comunidad de San Martín

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Press Release  
June 25, 2008

For Immediate Release  
Contact Person: Jose Salinas

**PRESS CONFERENCE**  
**JUNE 27 AT 5:00 pm**

**CULTURAL EVENT**  
**JUNE 27 AT 5:00 pm**

**(direccion)**

**U.S. Delegation to Visit Aguascalientes  
To Assist the Blind  
Cultural Event to Feature Musician from Guadalajara  
Press Conference**

June 27, 2008, 5:00 PM

en la Unión de Invidentes de Aguascalientes

localizada en Calle Alegría # 222, Colonia El Encino. Aguascalientes, Ags

***Aguascalientes:*** The Community of St. Martin will visit Aguascalientes to show its solidarity with the members of la Union de los Invidentes and (name of other union). These two unions represent the invidentes en Aguascalientes. The Union de los Invidentes are those who became

blind later in life due to an illness or accident CIPRAC were born blind. Both provide important services for the invidentes en Aguascalientes.

“The purpose of the visit,” says The Rev. David J. Kalke, “is to show our solidarity and support for the work of these two unions. They work miracles in the lives of the blind in Aguascalientes and their work goes by unnoticed. Our support will help buy canes, books in Braille and writing tablets. More importantly we hope our visit will help make more visible in Aguascalientes the important work of these two unions so that their services are known and can be supported.”

The delegation will include 5 youth leaders from San Bernardino who are in Mexico for 3 weeks on a Jornada para Forma Lideres. Five adults will join the delegation in Aguascalientes. All work with the Community of St. Martin, a religious community based in San Bernardino, CA.

Following the press conference on June 27<sup>th</sup>, Ricardo Gonzalez, a singer and performer from Guadalajara, will lead the two unions in a celebration featuring music and dance. “It is important that people learn how to enjoy life and share their happiness,” says Gonzalez. The goal of the party is to raise funds for the work of these two unions. The public is invited to attend this celebration. Ricardo Gonzalez also works closely with the Community of St. Martin.

President Jose Salinas of la Unión de los Invidentes de Aguascalientes invited the Community of St. Martin to visit the two unions to show support and solidarity. Mr. Salinas works tirelessly to assist the invidentes to receive the things they need to improve the quality of their lives.

President Salinas visited the Community of St. Martin in December, 2007, where he received funds to purchase canes and writing tablets. He also received a complete Bible in Braille. A complete Bible in Braille is several volumes and enough to fill several suitcases! The Bible is used to teach members of the unions how to read Braille and encourages adults to continue their education. Several books of the Bible will be presented to Mr. Salinas by The Rev. David J. Kalke during the press conference.

Members of the press are invited to attend the Press Conference scheduled for 5:00 pm on June 27<sup>th</sup> at the unión hall of the Union de los Invidentes de Aguascalientes, Calle Alegria #222, Colonia El Encino, Aguascalientes. Members of the delegation will be introduced. Books of the Bible in Braille will be presented. The Presidents of the two unions will share more of

their work as they seek support from both the city of Aguascalientes and the public. Alma Duran, President of Lasos con Mexico, an organization based in San Bernardino which supports the Union de los Invidentes de Aguascalientes, will speak and make a presentation. A representative of the youth delegation will bring words of solidarity underlining the importance of people-to-people contact and service.

The Community of St. Martin is a religious community in the apostolic and catholic traditions of the Christian communal life. As apostles of charity, in the tradition of San Martin de Porres, the members of the congregation provide healthcare and educational services to the poor in San Bernardino, Guadalajara and San Martin. They have recently begun to support the work of the Union de los Invidentes en Aguascalientes. It is a young and growing congregation. [www.comunidaddesanmartin.org](http://www.comunidaddesanmartin.org).

Lideres. Five adults will join the delegation in Aguascalientes. All work with the Community of St. Martin, a religious community based in San Bernardino, CA.

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