

Paul Nathan Alexander

palexander@apu.edu

Education

2006 **Harvard University** Cambridge, MA
Graduate Studies in Government

8/2000 **Baylor University** Waco, TX

Religion, Theological Ethics; Minor in Anthropology

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

Graduate Assistant to Barry Harvey, 1996-97 (full tuition and monthly stipend for Ph.D.), Young Christian Scholar Fellowship 1997-99 (full tuition and monthly stipend for Ph.D.), Ethics Preliminary Examination Evaluation of "Outstanding"

Dissertation: "An Analysis of the Emergence and Decline of Pacifism in the History of the Assemblies of God." Mentor: Daniel B. McGee

7/1995 **Assemblies of God Theological Seminary** Springfield, MO

Master of Divinity (M.Div.)

Distinguished Assemblies of God Scholar Award (full tuition and fees for M.Div.)

4/1993 **Southwestern Assemblies of God University** Waxahachie, TX

Church Ministries; Specialization in Cross-Cultural Missions

Bachelor of Science (B.S.)

Summa Cum Laude, The National Dean's List, Student Congress President, Southwestern Missions Association President, Mr. Southwestern, College of Bible and Church Ministry Scholarships, Donor Scholarships

4/1993 **Southwestern Assemblies of God University** Waxahachie, TX

Biblical Studies

Associate of Arts (A.A.)

Phi Theta Kappa

5/1990 **Sedan High School** Sedan, KS

High School Diploma

High School

Salutatorian, National Honor Society, University of Kansas Crowell Book Award (top 10% of High School seniors), Student Congress President

**Employment
History**

8/2006 – present **Azusa Pacific University** Azusa, CA
Professor, Theology and Ethics
Department of Advanced Studies
Director, Doctor of Ministry Program

Primary teaching responsibilities include graduate and doctoral classes in Christian ethics, social ethics, theology, and research.

Administrative responsibilities include mentoring Doctor of Ministry students to facilitate the completion of their coursework and doctoral projects; assessing the program and writing accreditation reports; managing the budget; and developing and revising curricula and policies.

6/1995 – 7/2006 **Southwestern Assemblies of God University** Waxahachie, TX

Professor of Bible and Theology (2005-2006)

2001-2005
Associate Professor of Bible and Theology

2000-2006
Graduate Faculty, Bible and Theology

1998-2000
Assistant Professor of Bible and Theology

1995-2006
Faculty, Bible and Theology
School of Distance Education

1995-1996
Assistant Professor of Bible and Theology
Assistant Director, School of Distance Education

Books and Chapters

Peace and War in the American Assemblies of God. C. Henry Smith Series, vol. 9 (Bluffton University and the Mennonite Historical Society). Telford, PA: Cascadia Publishing House, 2008.

“Voting With Our Lives.” Chapter in *Christians and Voting*, edited by Ted Lewis. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock Publishers, 2008.

Signs and Wonders: Why Pentecostalism is the World’s Fastest Growing Religion. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass. Under contract; in progress for publication in 2009.

Pentecostals and Peacemaking: Reclaiming Our Authentic Heritage for Twenty First Century Faithfulness (editor). Pentecostals, Peacemaking, and Social Justice Series, vol. 3. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock Publishers, 2010.

Spirit Empowered Peacemaking: Toward a Pentecostal Theology of Peace with Justice.

American Pentecostalism’s Engagement with Race and Ethnicity: Historical Realities and Theological Perspectives (co-editor with Arlene Sanchez-Walsh). In progress, in dialogue with Columbia University Press regarding this volume.

"Think Twice About Following Jesus: The Ethics of Forgiveness When the Blood is Flowing." Chapter in *Forgiveness and Reconciliation: Pentecostal Perspectives*, edited by Geoffrey Sutton and Martin E. Mittelstadt. In progress, publisher to be determined.

Articles and Reviews

"Praise the Lord but Don't Pass the Ammunition: Pentecostal Pacifism and Resistance to Imperialism." Submitted by invitation to *Political Theology*, under review.

Review, Stanley Hauerwas & Romand Coles, *Christianity, Democracy, and the Radical Ordinary: Conversations Between a Radical Democrat and a Christian* for the *Journal of Church and State* (Summer 2008).

"Speaking in the Tongues of Nonviolence: American Pentecostals, Nationalism, and Peacemaking." *Evangelical Review of Society and Politics: An Interdisciplinary Journal for the Christian Analysis of Social and Political Issues*. Vol. 1 No. 2 (October 2007): 1-19.

"Bearing Witness: A Challenge to Christian Zionism." (Vol. 124, No. 1) *The Christian Century*, 9 January 2007, 9.

"Christianity as Civil Religion" in *The Encyclopedia of Christian Civilization*. George T. Kurian, ed. Oxford, UK: Blackwell Publishing, 2008.

"Just Peacemaking" in *The Encyclopedia of Christian Civilization*. George T. Kurian, ed. Oxford, UK: Blackwell Publishing, 2008.

"Nationalism and Ethnicity" in *The Encyclopedia of Christian Civilization*. George T. Kurian, ed. Oxford, UK: Blackwell Publishing, 2008.

Dictionary of Everyday Theology and Culture. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress. Justice (1000 words), Prophecy (1000 words). In Progress.

"Hotel Staff, Cuffs, and My Night in Jail: Risking Frustration for the Working Poor." *Connections: School of Theology Newsletter*, Azusa Pacific University, Spring 2007.

"Evangelicals, International Cooperation, and Weapons of Mass Destruction." *Connections: School of Theology Newsletter*, Azusa Pacific University, Spring 2007.

"Pacifism and Peace" in *Encyclopedia of Pentecostal and Charismatic Christianity*. Stanley M. Burgess, ed. Great Barrington, MA: Routledge, 2006.

"Pentecostal Charismatic Peace Fellowship" in *Encyclopedia of Pentecostal and Charismatic Christianity*. Stanley M. Burgess, ed. Great Barrington, MA: Routledge, 2006.

Review, Erik C. Owens, John D. Carlson, and Eric P. Elshtain, *Religion and the Death Penalty: A Time for Reckoning*, for *Religious Studies Review*, vol. 32, no. 2 (April 2006), 106.

"Historical and Theological Origins of Assemblies of God Pacifism." *Quaker Theology*, vol. 7, no. 1, issue 12 (Fall-Winter 2005-2006): 35-76.

"Magic Seeds of Peace in Palestine." Editorial for *Pax Pneuma: The Journal of the Pentecostal Charismatic Peace Fellowship* (Summer 2005), 1.

Review, Glen Stassen and David Gushee, *Kingdom Ethics: Following Jesus in Contemporary Context*. Downer's Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2003, for *Pneuma: The Journal of the Society for Pentecostal Studies*, vol. 26, no. 1 (Fall 2004), 138-140.

Review, Kenneth R. Chase and Alan Jacobs, *Must Christianity Be Violent? Reflections on History, Practice, and Theology*, for *Religious Studies Review*, vol. 30, issues # 2 & 3 (April & July 2004), 159-160.

Review, Charles Cosgrove, *Appealing to Scripture in Moral Debate: Five Hermeneutical Rules*, for *Religious Studies Review* (2003).

"Spirit Empowered Peacemaking: Toward a Pentecostal Charismatic Peace Fellowship." *Journal of the European Pentecostal Theological Association*. Vol. 22, (2002): 78-102.

Review, Craig Carter, *The Politics of the Cross: The Theology and Social Ethics of John Howard Yoder*, for *Religious Studies Review* (2002).

Review, Stanley Hauerwas, *A Better Hope*, for *Pneuma: The Journal of the Society for Pentecostal Studies*, vol. 24, no. 2 (Fall 2002), 243-244.

Review, Jeffrey Gros & John D. Rempel, eds., *The Fragmentation of the Church & Its Unity in Peacemaking*, for *Pneuma: The Journal of the Society for Pentecostal Studies*, vol. 24, no. 1 (Spring 2002), 78-79.

Grants

"Unified Aliens," in *God's Tabernacle: Then and Now*. Springfield, MO: Gospel Publishing House, 2001.

Peace, Power, and Pentecost: A Pentecostal Word for the Rest of the Church. Chicago, IL: The Ekklesia Project, 2001. www.ekkelsiaproject.org.

\$40,000 grant (with Glen Stassen) from Colombe Foundation for *The Matthew 5:21-26 Project – Evangelicals for National Security through International Cooperation*. April 1, 2007 – October 31, 2008.

\$24,500 grant (with Arlene Sanchez-Walsh) from The Louisville Institute for *American Pentecostalism's Engagement with Race and Ethnicity: Historical Realities and Theological Perspectives*. June 2008-May 2010. I coordinate the work of the theologians, ethicists, and clergy and will edit our chapters for a co-edited book on this topic.

Presentations

\$2,500 grant (with Arlene Sanchez-Walsh) from Coalition for Christian Colleges and Universities for *American Pentecostalism's Engagement with Race and Ethnicity: Historical Realities and Theological Perspectives*. June 2008-May 2010.

"Pentecostal Prophetic Protestimony and Political Discourse," in the Religion, Public Policy, and Political Change Consultation at the American Academy of Religion annual meeting, November 1-3, 2008 in Chicago, Illinois.

Keynote Speaker, "The Role of Religion and Religious Leaders in the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights," at the Expert Meeting of the International Interreligious Conference in The Hague, Netherlands. This conference is sponsored by The City of The Hague, the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Justitia et Pax Netherlands, and

STEK (For State and Church), June 2-4, 2008. We will draft *The Hague Declaration of Human Rights* in view of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

“God, You are a Failure: A Pentecostal Protestimony on Injustice, Anti-Theodicy, and HIV/AIDS in Africa.” Society for Pentecostal Studies/Wesleyan Theological Society joint meeting, March 13-15, 2008 at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina.

“A Response to ‘Just Peacemaking, Nuclear Weapons, and International Cooperation’ by Glen Stassen.” Society for Pentecostal Studies/Wesleyan Theological Society joint meeting, March 13-15, 2008 at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina.

“The Gospel and Peace: A Pentecostal, Methodist, Quaker, Baptist Conversation.” Moderator of panel discussion by Stanley Hauerwas, Ann Riggs, Glen Stassen, and W.C. Turner, Society for Pentecostal Studies/Wesleyan Theological Society joint meeting, March 13-15, 2008 at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina.

“Tongues and Interpretation as Prophetic Nonviolent Direct Action.” Azusa Pacific University School of Theology Colloquium, January 8, 2008 in Azusa, California.

“Praise the Lord But Don’t Pass the Ammunition: Pentecostal Peacemaking and Resistance to Imperialism.” Society of Christian Ethics, January 4-6, 2008 in Atlanta, Georgia.

“Praise the Lord But Don’t Pass the Ammunition: Pentecostal Peacemaking and Resistance to Imperialism.” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 17-20, 2007 in San Diego, California.

Moderator with Glen Stassen, “Lessons on Dialogue With Adversaries: Why Unilateralism Violates Biblical Texts.” Global Leaders Forum of the National Association of Evangelicals and Micah Challenge USA, Washington, D.C., October 11-12, 2007.

“Citizen’s in God’s Kingdom.” Keynote speaker for Mennonite Church USA biennial convention, July 4, 2007 in San Jose, California (audience of 6,000).

“A Conversation with Paul Alexander.” Mennonite Church USA biennial convention, July 4, 2007 in San Jose, California.

“Mennonites and Pentecostals: Power and Peace.” Mennonite Church USA biennial convention, July 5, 2007 in San Jose, California.

“Reflections on Wesleyan Methodism, Pentecostalism, Nonviolence, and War.” Faculty colloquium April 26, 2007 at Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, California.

“Pentecostal Faithfulness and the Future of Justice and Peace.” Society for Pentecostal Studies Annual Meeting, March 8-10, 2007 at Lee University in Cleveland, Tennessee.

“Pentecostal Peacemaking and Evangelical Integrity.” Evangelical Theological Society national conference, November 15, 2006 in Washington, D.C.

“My Journey Into Peacemaking.” Mennonite Church USA Interchurch Relations Consultation, July 19, 2006 at Lindenwood Retreat Center, near South Bend, Indiana.

“Building Cultures of Peace.” International Prayer for Peace. Religions and Cultures:

The Courage of Dialogue, April 26-27, 2006 at Georgetown University in Washington D.C.

"American Pentecostals, Nationalism, and Peacemaking." Southwest Commission on Religious Studies of the American Academy of Religion, Regional Meeting, March 4-5, 2006 in Dallas, Texas.

"A Response to 'Toward a Pentecostal Liturgical Ethic: Implications of the Lord's Supper, Prayers for Holy Spirit Baptism' by Katy Attanasi." Society for Pentecostal Studies Annual Meeting, March 23-25, 2006 at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California.

"Conflict Transformation in the Church." Weekend Leadership Retreat for Grace Methodist Church, March 10-11, 2006 in Fort Worth, Texas.

"Jesus, Pentecostals, Peacemaking, and Justice." Inaugural welcome to the first annual conference of the Pentecostal Charismatic Peace Fellowship, October 10-12, 2005 in Midlothian, Texas.

"Extreme Church Makeover: Implementing Compassion Ministries in Pentecostal Congregations." Presented at the Pentecostal Communities of Compassion conference, April 10-15, 2005 at Southwestern Assemblies of God University in Waxahachie, Texas.

"Pentecostal Peacemakers? Speaking in the Tongues of Nonviolence." Seminar session presented at the Christian Peacemaker Congress VIII, Seeking Peace: The Courage to be Nonviolent, September 8-11, 2005 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

"Historical and Contemporary Pentecostal Critiques of Nationalism." Society for Pentecostal Studies Annual Meeting, March 10-12, 2005 at Regent University, Virginia Beach, Virginia.

"Peace and Peace Work in My Tradition." Paper presented at the Quaker House Interfaith Peace Seminar, June 4-6, 2004 at Guilford College in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Invited Theologian. The International Charismatic Consultation on the Suffering Church, January 20-23, 2004 in Salina Bay, Malta.

"A Response to 'Jesus: God of the Hindus' by Happy Alexander." Society for Pentecostal Studies/Wesleyan Theological Society Annual Meeting, March 20-22, 2003 at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky.

"Early Pentecostal Dissent from American Nationalism." American Academy of Religion, November 23-26, 2002 in Toronto, Canada.

"A Pentecostal Theology of Peacemaking." Society for Pentecostal Studies Annual Meeting, March 14-16, 2002 in Lakeland, Florida.

"Spirit Empowered Peacemaking as Opportunity: Toward a Pentecostal Charismatic Peacemaking Fellowship." Society for Pentecostal Studies Annual Meeting, March 14-16, 2002 in Lakeland, Florida.

"Spirit Empowered Peacemaking: Toward a Pentecostal Charismatic Peace Fellowship." European Pentecostal Charismatic Research Association/Theology

Audio/Video

Faculty of the Catholic University of Leuven, July 17-21, 2001 in Leuven, Belgium.

Banana Republic, Gap, Old Navy. Video exposing sweatshop labor and encouraging sweat free purchasing (2007). Available at www.youtube.com/pcpfvideos.

Introduction to Biblical Greek I. Waxahachie, Texas: Southwestern Assemblies of God University, 2005 (video lectures for web based course).

New Testament Greek Multimedia CD ROM. Waxahachie, Texas: Xapis, 2001 (CD ROM).

New Testament Theology. Waxahachie, Texas: Southwestern Assemblies of God University, 2001 (audio tapes).

Studies in the Prophets. Waxahachie, Texas: Southwestern Assemblies of God University, 2001 (audio tapes).

Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Theology. Waxahachie, Texas: Southwestern Assemblies of God University, 2000 (audio tapes).

Studies in Pauline Epistles. Waxahachie, Texas: Southwestern Assemblies of God University, 2000 (audio tapes).

Introduction to Biblical Greek I. Waxahachie, Texas: Southwestern Assemblies of God University, 1999 (audio tapes).

Additional Information COURSES TAUGHT

Doctoral courses – Civic Spirituality (Social Ethics); Research and Design.

Graduate courses – Christian Ethics; Church and Society (Social Ethics); Issues in Contemporary Theology; Studies in Contemporary Pentecostalism; Jesus Christ, Holy Spirit, and the Church; God, Creation and Humanity; Introduction to Greek Translation I; Introduction to Greek Translation II; Studies in the Pauline Epistles; Studies in the General Epistles; New Testament Theology; Old Testament Theology; Biblical Backgrounds; Studies in the Prophets.

Undergraduate courses - Scripture and Ethics; Introduction to Theology; Introduction to Biblical Greek I; Introduction to Biblical Greek II; New Testament Survey; Old Testament Survey; Bible Study Methodology; Hebrews and General Epistles; Pentecostal Doctrine and History; Church Doctrine I (Systematic Theology I); Church Doctrine II (Systematic Theology II); Pre-exilic Prophets.

Distance Education courses - Issues in Contemporary Theology; Studies in the Prophets; Studies in the Pauline Epistles; New Testament Theology; Introduction to Biblical Greek I; Introduction to Biblical Greek II; Biblical Greek Translation I; Biblical Greek Translation II; Introduction to Theology.

STUDENT EVALUATIONS OF MY TEACHING

2006-2007

Individual Development and Educational Assessment (IDEA) Diagnostic Form Report (5-point scale)

Progress on Relevant Objectives – 4.95
Excellent Teacher – 5.0
Excellent Course – 4.8
Summary Evaluation – 4.95

My teaching is rated in the “Much Higher” category – the highest 10% of all classes evaluated – when compared to all classes in the IDEA National Database, my specific discipline (Religion & Theological Studies), and my institution.

1998-2005

Students in all my classes rated my teaching above 90% each semester.

SELECTED PLACEMENTS OF STUDENTS I HAVE MENTORED

Happy Alexander, Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University (M.Div.)

Lionel Bailey, Brite Divinity School, Texas Christian University (M.Div.)
Canaan Bellinghausen, Yale Divinity School (M.A.R.)

Christine Evans, Portland State University (M.A.)

Dallas Gingles, Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University (M.T.S.)

Randall Jones, Boston University (M.T.S.)

Jordan May, Princeton University (M.Div., Th.M.)

David McCabe, University of St. Andrews (Ph.D.)

Denise McCormack, Southern Methodist University, Dedman School of Law (J.D.)

Josh Peters, Southern Methodist University, Dedman School of Law (J.D.)

Jon Reeves, Brite Divinity School, Texas Christian University (M.Div.)

Christa Savely, Texas Woman’s University (Ph.D.)

Joy Tull, Baylor University (J.D.)

DOCTORAL PROJECTS MENTORED

Stephen Fitch, “Why Holistic Christianity Provides an Answer to the Global Deforestation Crisis.” D.Min. Project, Azusa Pacific University (in progress).

Robert Proctor, “Community Service Chaplaincy: Doing God’s Work in God’s World.” D.Min. Project, Azusa Pacific University, 2007.

Amy Bubbico, “Praxis for Loss Counseling From a Wesleyan Perspective: Spiritual Formation Through Loss and Grief.” D.Min. Project, Azusa Pacific University, 2008.

LANGUAGES

Reading and translation competence in Greek and German.

Working toward fluency in Spanish.

MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religion
Every Church a Peace Church, Speakers Bureau
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
Pentecostals and Charismatics for Peace and Justice
Religion Newswriters Association
Society for Pentecostal Studies
The Ekklesia Project
The Society of Christian Ethics

ADMINISTRATIVE AND EDITORIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Current

Director, Doctor of Ministry Program (2006-present)
Haggard Graduate School of Theology
Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, California

Series Editor, *Pentecostals, Peacemaking, and Social Justice* (2008-present)
Wipf & Stock Publishers
Eugene, Oregon

Originating Petitioner and Coordinator (2007-present)
Christian Ethics Interest Group
Society for Pentecostal Studies

Doctoral Studies Council (2006-present)
Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, California

Doctor of Ministry Committee (2006-present)
Haggard Graduate School of Theology
Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, California

Program Review Committee (2006-present)
Doctoral Studies Council
Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, California

Standards and Policies Committee (2006-present)
Doctoral Studies Council
Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, California

Assessment and Curriculum Committee (2007-present)
Haggard Graduate School of Theology
Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, California

Founder and Leadership Team (2001-present)
Pentecostals and Charismatics for Peace and Justice

Membership Committee (2006-2008)

Society for Pentecostal Studies

Editor (2005-present)

Pax Pneuma: The Journal of Pentecostals and Charismatics for Peace and Justice

Past

Steering Committee

Christian Peace Witness for Iraq (2006-2007)

Bible and Theology Core Exam Administrator

College of Bible & Church Ministries

Southwestern Assemblies of God University (2000-2006)

Practicum Supervisor, Biblical Studies Specialization

Southwestern Assemblies of God University (1999-2006)

Coordinator

Biblical Studies Specialization

Southwestern Assemblies of God University (2005-2006)

Chair, Committee to Develop Master of Divinity Program

Southwestern Assemblies of God University (2004-2005)

Chair, Intercollegiate Athletics Committee for SACS Self-Study

Southwestern Assemblies of God University (2000-2002)

Member, Ad Hoc Committee to Study Student Evaluations

Southwestern Assemblies of God University (2004-2005)

Student Conduct Committee

Southwestern Assemblies of God University (2002-2005)

Founding Sponsor, Multi Ethnic Student Association

Southwestern Assemblies of God University (1999-2004)

Board of Directors

Daniel's Den Homeless Shelter, Waxahachie, Texas (2003-2004)

Steering Committee, Ellis County United in Christ

Ecumenical and Ethnic Reconciliation Organization (2000-2003)

Assistant Director, School of Distance Education

Southwestern Assemblies of God University (1995-1996)

President, Southwestern Missions Association

Southwestern Assemblies of God University (1992-1993)

President, Student Congress

Southwestern Assemblies of God University (1991-1992)

ARTICLES REFERENCING ME

Sandra McIntosh, "A Mission of Peace: SAGU Professor Leads Mission to Middle

East." *Waxahachie Magazine*, Vol. 2 No. 7 (Summer 2005): 12-17.

June Krehbiel, "Focus on Jesus: Pentecostal Peacemaker to Speak for Joint Worship at San Jose Mennonite Convention." *The Mennonite Magazine*, Vol. 10 No. 10 (15 May 2007): 14-15.

Robert Rhodes, "Pentecostal pastor: 'I thank God for you.'" *Mennonite Weekly Review*, 11 July 2007.

Gordon Houser, "Called by the Spirit." *The Mennonite Magazine*, (24 July 2007).

Martin Mittelstadt, "Pentecostal Charismatic Peace Fellowship." *Encyclopedia of Religion and Social Justice*. Stanley M. Burgess and Michael Palmer, eds. Great Barrington, MA: Routledge, 2008.

SELECTED PARTICIPATION IN NONVIOLENT DIRECT ACTION

Arrested and jailed for thirteen hours as result of a nonviolent direct action in support of hotel employees seeking unionization near Los Angeles International Airport, September 28, 2006, in Los Angeles, California.

Participated in nonviolent direct action with Palestinians, Israelis, Christians, Jews, and Muslims that opposed the construction of the separation barrier through the village of Marda, June 4, 2005, in the West Bank.

SELECTED MINISTRY EXPERIENCE

Guest speaker, teacher, and preacher at churches, seminars, universities, conventions, and leadership retreats (1990-present)
Assemblies of God minister (1992-present)

Sunday school teacher, Pasadena Mennonite Church, Pasadena, California (2007-present)

Sunday school teacher, Community of Grace, Midlothian, Texas (2000-2006)

Delegation member, Christian Peacemaker Teams to Palestine/Israel/West Bank (May 24-June 5, 2005)

Deacon, Community of Grace, Midlothian, Texas (2002-2005) – Led the rewriting of the bylaws to enable divorced/remarried persons and women to serve on the deacon board.

Leader, Royal Rangers (Christian camping organization), Faith Assembly of God, Ennis, Texas (1990-1993)

Youth Pastor, Faith Assembly of God, Ennis, Texas (1990-1993)

Church mission trips to Venezuela, Guatemala, Mexico (1987-1992)