Resonate has facilitated many interactions between North American and Central American Christians, and in the midst of changing contexts, Resonate needs to draw on the voices of these varied stakeholders. Joel Aguilar, a Guatemalan Christian leader who knows both Resonate and many Central American organizations, surveyed many of these North American and Central American Resonate connections about the context of the region, the Church, and Resonate’s role for the future.

Joel was encouraged by his conversations as he was able to talk openly with many of the interviewees.

Joel praised the intergenerational aspect of the Resonate staff team and that we are willing to engage in difficult conversations. However, he observed that there is a lack of clarity about staff roles in the region and their relationships with partners. Nonetheless, partners in both North and Central America value the relational connections that Resonate helps them make and the guidance of an intermediary.

We hope that as a team, we can foster relationships into friendships that lead to transformative change. We especially see the opportunity for North American churches to learn from the contexts and realities that Central American churches have been living with for years and can use to guide North American churches in uncharted territory.

We are thankful for Joel’s work, for partner organizations who shared with him, and for God’s faithfulness to Resonate through ups and downs.
Rethinking the Church in the 21st Century

Centro Esdras, a Resonate partner in Guatemala, held a virtual conference for the region in July, entitled “Rethinking the Church in the 21st Century.” Plenary speakers addressed hope, community, and love, while breakout sessions included a variety of practical tropics related to gender, migration, creation care, and holistic mission. Centro Esdras shared, “We thank the Lord for the testimonies that show the impact of the Word of God in their lives and perspective of the mission,” like Nicolás, who said, “We can hardly influence or transform the world if we conform to the standards of this world.” We are thankful to God for this impactful event.

Contracorriente: “Against the Flow”

When COVID disrupted regularly scheduled programs in Honduras, Pastor Adonis was excited to offer CETI’s new course “Contracorriente” focused on Matthew 5’s Beatitudes and applied to four key areas of people’s lives: family, church, work, society. “The themes of each beatitude inspire us to do something for others,” he explained, “and the merciful motivated us to create the ‘Happy Breakfast’ project to show mercy.” The project provides food for 30 malnourished children, with youth from the community providing childcare and women who have taken the course preparing the food. Adonis hopes to start this course with 6 new groups soon, expectant of what the Spirit will do.

Meet Our Partner

What began as a family home for the Padilla DeBorsts has evolved into a mixed-family residence, intentional community, and non-profit organization called Casa Adobe in Costa Rica. Complex and organic, Casa Adobe has many facets and ways to be involved. The five families who live there permanently value being able to share each other’s burdens and live in community—not to mention only having to cook once a week!

Many at Casa Adobe feel called to disciple young people, and there are often many volunteers and students connected to the community. Furthermore, they reach out to their surrounding neighborhoods with coffee times, composting lessons, and language or art classes. “Casa Adobe is a place that provokes thought,” commented Luis, a member of the community. “It shows people that things can be different in how we live, how much we need, how to use the space that we have.” Casa Adobe has also been a place of refuge for asylum-seekers and others who need a place to stay for a while.

Please pray for Casa Adobe as they go through a time of discernment and self-evaluation. We are grateful for the example Casa Adobe shows us about hospitality and interconnectedness, and for their challenge to live out the Gospel in all of life.

Photo of the Happy Breakfast feeding program.