



# CHRIST'S CHURCH OUTREACH MINISTRY

## Overview

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### Why Global Outreach?

It would be easy to focus on our church and our community because there is so much need around us. So why spend money to go travel somewhere that could take that money and use it more directly or keep that money here in our own backyard? Here's why:

#### Biblical Mandate

The very last thing that Jesus shared before He went back to Heaven was this command:

“Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you and surely I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

-Matthew 28:19-20

#### Life Change

We believe God knew that in going to other nations, we would experience life change. While on a global outreach trip, we often get so focused on what we are going to be doing, the projects. However, the most important part of the trip is not the projects we accomplish, but the relationships we make.

For many it will be the first time they will be away from their families and distractions of everyday life. We help create situations where we must depend on God for things to be accomplished. We are afforded the ability to truly focus on God, to see and hear Him because we can be still. Going on a global outreach trip isn't about what will be accomplished, but the incredible work that happens in and through those who go.

When we focus on people, our mission team, and those we are serving, we are building relationships for Christ. We are building disciples. These relationships will encourage spiritual growth for us and for those we meet. A bond is formed. Paul tells us in Romans 15:7, “Therefore, welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.”

### Bottom Line

We go on Global mission trips because Christ commanded us to go. When we do go, God multiplies our efforts to help take His message of hope and salvation to those we go to serve. God accomplishes incredible work in our lives when we are willing to obey Christ's command to go because we're able to leave behind our daily distractions and fully focus on hearing God's voice.

## Where is Christ's Church involved?

-  **U.S.** – Kentucky, Louisiana
-  **Caribbean**– Haiti, Dominican Republic
-  **Africa** – Ghana
-  **Europe**- Poland, Romania, Spain
-  **South/Central America**- Brazil, Costa Rica, Honduras
-  **Asia**- Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar

## How is the local community involved?

We strive to teach and equip local communities to become interdependent on each other to serve their own community as one, just as God has called them.

# SHORT TERM TRIPS (A Few Days-A Few Weeks)

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### *Frequently asked questions about the application process:*

#### **When are the trips?**

We offer trips throughout the year, but focus heavily on the summer to take advantage of school vacation periods.

#### **How long are the trips?**

The trips vary in length, but generally are from 1 to 2 weeks.

#### **Who can go?**

- × You do not have to be a member of Christ's Church or a regular attender.
- × Some trips may have age limitations; see below for age limits.

#### **How many people can go?**

We seek to send teams of a minimum of 10 people.

#### **Is there an age limit?**

- × "Family trips" – the minimum age to attend these trips is 8 years old.
- × "Middle School trips" - At Christ's Church middle school groups include 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- × "High School trips" – High school groups include 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade
- × "Adult trips" – the minimum age to attend these trips is 18 years old.

### **How do I get signed up for a trip?**

To begin the process of applying for a global outreach trip, visit [www.christs.church/missions](http://www.christs.church/missions) to see the trip descriptions. When you're ready to join a team, click "join a team." You will be rerouted to the Managed Missions page where you will complete the trip application and pay a nonrefundable \$100.00 application fee.

### **What will I need to apply?**

Please complete as much information as you can in the trip application with a minimum of your name and contact information. Additional information such as, emergency contacts, passport numbers, and dietary restrictions can be added as soon as this information is obtained.

### **How long will it take to complete the application?**

Please put aside 15 to 20 minutes to complete the full application.

### **When will I know if my application has been accepted?**

Most applications are processed within one week.

### **Who leads global outreach trips with Christ's Church?**

Trip leaders are either staff members or volunteers who have previous global outreach experience, have gone through an interview process, and have been trained to lead outreach trips.

### **How can I lead a short term global outreach trip with Christ's Church?**

Those interested in leading trips should contact the outreach director to set up an initial interview.

### **What if I feel called to take a trip that is not listed?**

If God is calling you to go, we encourage you to follow His call. We'd be happy to discuss your plans with you.

## *Frequently asked questions about preparation:*

### **What about insurance?**

Supplemental travel insurance is purchased for each team member for all international trips and is included in trip fees.

### **How can I be preparing now?**

- × **Pray** – The power of prayer is undeniable. Throughout scripture there are incredible stories of God answering prayers. Take Elijah, for example, who prayed fervently that God would hold the rain for three years, and God did. Then Elijah prayed again, asking for rain, and once again the Lord answered his prayer of faith. Elijah didn't have a special connection with God. He wasn't a prayer warrior. Elijah was a man just like us, but he had mountain-moving faith in what he prayed for and Who he prayed to. Take advantage of this time of preparation to begin to pray, like Elijah, that God's Kingdom would advance and pray for your heart to be in line with His will.
- × **Passports** – If you don't already have a passport, we recommend that you go ahead and start the process of getting one now because it can take 10-12 weeks. If you already have one, check the expiration date to make sure it doesn't expire within 6 months of your travel date, due to travel requirements.
- × **Immunizations** – We suggest you check with your doctor who knows your personal medical history and can inform you of any medical care needed for your area of travel.
- × **Research** – One way to better prepare yourself for a global outreach trip is through research. Becoming more acquainted with the culture, daily lifestyle, beliefs, needs, etc. of the people that God might call you to serve, will help you better relate to the people and ultimately better serve them.

### **What if the time of the training meetings or the trip timeline doesn't work for me?**

The training meetings are a great way to prepare for the trip and bond with other team members. Therefore, we require your commitment to attend all meetings. If the trip timeline conflicts with your personal schedule, we suggest joining a team with a later date.

### **What is expected of me?**

We are examples of Christ and the Church, therefore when we walk with others in country we must be aware of our language and behavior due to differences in culture. We are strictly visitors in their home, so we should show the utmost respect.

### *Frequently asked questions about logistics:*

#### **Will I be safe?**

We have worked very hard to ensure your safety on your trip, however we cannot guarantee 100 percent safety, because there will always be dangers during our time on Earth. We have tried to eliminate every risk we can, and we continue to monitor the current issues (i.e. social, personal, environmental, political factors) in country that might have a poor effect on your safety.

#### **What happens if there is an emergency?**

In the slight chance of an emergency, fellow team members and family will be notified, whether it is in the U.S. or abroad. If ending a trip early is the safest decision, our trip insurance allows us to make that decision.

### *Frequently asked questions about money:*

#### **How will I pay?**

We strongly encourage each team member to raise funds through the financial support of others. This may seem difficult at first, but it allows God to work in two important ways. The first is by using those around you to be a part of advancing the Kingdom by donating financially. Second, it allows God to strengthen our faith by watching Him work in marvelous ways to provide the required funds. Each team member will be assisted on how to raise support, commonly done through the online public profile.

#### **Can I get a scholarship?**

We have found that the Lord is faithful to provide, therefore if you are faithful to do your part and send out support letters in a timely manner, then the resources typically fall into place. When fundraising is complete and you find yourself still in need of extra support, you can complete the scholarship application for review and consideration.

#### **What if I raise more than I need?**

Each donor is given a receipt for their financial support to be used for tax purposes. We are not able to return money due to IRS regulations. Additional money raised will be used to supplement team member fund raising or overall trip costs. All money stays within the outreach budget. You can look at our [Global Outreach Financial Agreement.docx](#) for more specific details.

#### **What happens if I raise all the money, but then can no longer attend the trip?**

If the deadline for the airline fees has passed, you will still be responsible for the cost of the ticket, as that money is nonrefundable. Any funds raised for the mission partner are

nonrefundable and nontransferable to a future trip. If your plans change before these deadlines, fees can be transferred to a later trip in the calendar year.

