

NEXT STEPS for participating in Short Term Missions at PC3

If you believe God is leading you to participate in a short term mission, following are some **next steps** for you to take:

- **PRAY**, and ask your friends and family to pray for you. Ask them to help you seek God in discerning where and when he wants you to go.
- **Ask friends and family to be your senders.** Ask them to consider participating with you by financially contributing to the mission or helping send you in other ways. Learn more about sending and educate them – pick up our other handouts about how to become a sender.
- **GET YOUR PASSPORT** (if applicable). You must first have an “official” birth certificate in order to apply for a passport. Go to www.vitalcheck.com, then click your state of birth and go from there to get your birth certificate. You may need to expedite it. Visit www.travel.state.gov/passport or www.uncw.edu/ba/onecard/passports.htm (or call downtown Wilmington Post office- 910-350-2622 or the Passport Acceptance Agency at UNCW-910-962-2008) for all information regarding applying for a passport. Current cost is \$100 for 6-8 weeks processing; if you need to expedite your passport add \$60 per passport.
- **Obtain the immunizations and medications you need.** Review health and overall safety risks and precautions (food, water, insects, etc.), immunization requirements and recommendations, and prophylactic and preventative medications for the areas you’re interested in at wwwn.cdc.gov/travel. Seek advice from your physician or a travel clinic as to which immunizations/medications you need; these can be costly. Some should be obtained well in advance of your trip; it is wise to start this process early. Travel Clinics: Wilmington Health Associates-341-3426, New Hanover County Health Department- 798-6611, New Hanover Medical Group Dr. Noah Pierson-791-2626.

YOUR HEALTH AND WELL-BEING ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY!

- **Complete the required short term mission training modules.** See the reverse side of this document for an explanation regarding this training. Current training schedules will be posted and updated regularly.
- **Prepare for the financial commitment of your mission.** You are responsible for fulfilling this commitment within the specified timeframes. We encourage you to invite friends and family to participate with you in the mission by helping support you financially – we will provide you with support letter instructions and donor cards. We feel that you also should contribute to (or invest in) the mission. Do not wait until the last minute to prepare for the financial responsibilities of a mission.
- **Consider which geographical area(s) or people(s) for which/whom God has given you a passion.** Research the area you’re interested in – the land, people, history, culture, politics,... to learn as much as you can. Attempt to learn the local language as a means of showing your desire to connect with the people.
- **Learn more about missions in general.** Begin a Bible or book study on missions (e.g., ‘Missions, God’s Heart for the World’ and ‘A Mind for Missions’ both by Paul Borthwick).

Planning for a short term mission begins well in advance so that the necessary preparation can be completed and sufficient support can be raised. Look for details on upcoming missions in the PC3 weekly news e-mail, on the PC3 website, or on the schedule available at the missions desk. Applications and non-refundable deposits (up to \$500.00 depending on trip cost) can be due months prior to the mission. We will require that you submit a copy of a valid passport (or proof you have applied for a passport) with your application.

Lengths of short term missions vary depending on the focus of the mission and the distances that must be traveled. Costs of missions vary depending on airfare, ground transportation, food and lodging costs, and supplies to be used during the mission. Refer to the table below for approximate trip lengths and costs.

AREA	Approximate LENGTH	Approximate COST
Gulf Coast	1 week	\$300
Arizona	1 week	\$1100
Central America	7-10 days	\$1600
Europe	7-10 days	\$2200
Asia	12-18 days	\$2800
Kenya, Ethiopia, Guinea	10-14 days	\$2600
Congo, India, Sudan	10-14 days	\$3000