



GUATEMALA

MISSION TRIP '11



July 25 – August 6, 2011

Dear Third Place Students, Recent Third Place Grads, and Parents,

Imagine this: for two straight weeks, it's just you and a people totally different than you. You speak broken Spanish. They speak broken English. But you are communicating something to them and they to you that perhaps no language could ever express. Love, need, hope, joy, and desperation are not the words you'd use to describe this feeling. It's something more. Here you are, for two weeks, without everything that used to define you. No Facebook, no cell phone, nothing "American" except your now-changing perspective of the rest of the world. You're out of your element, and you love it. It's God working through you. Welcome to the Guatemala Mission Trip 2011.

This year Third Place high school students and recent Third Place graduates will be partnering with Students International (www.stint.com) to minister to the poor and needy of Guatemala. We only have this kind of opportunity once every few years, so you won't want to miss your chance to experience what God is doing on the international scene.

What will we be doing on this trip?

Students will choose to work at one of several ministry sites (agriculture, appropriate technology, art, education, health care, media, microfinance, or social work) to reach Guatemalans with the love and hope of Jesus Christ. A typical day will also give students the opportunity to spend devotional time with God, experience Guatemala's various cultural activities, and end the evening with worship, bible study and ministry reflection.

Why Guatemala?

Guatemala's spiritual and economic state varies quite greatly from area to area. There certainly are those who are well off economically and have little need of help. However, the vast majority of Guatemalans live in poorer rural areas without access to clean water or good education. The average annual income is \$290 per person. Students International works primarily in these rural areas focusing on the poor and underprivileged. Spiritually, Guatemala has a mixed religious background. It is culturally Catholic in most areas, but often the faith is nominal or mixed with ancient Animistic or Mayan religious beliefs.

Give me the details...

Trip Dates:

July 25 – August 6, 2011

Cost:

\$1495 (includes everything but passport fees (\$100), travel cash (\$25), immunizations, and spending cash (\$100))

Registration Deadline:

December 12, 2010 (\$100 non-refundable deposit) (*Note: If money is a concern, please speak with Nathan directly. Don't let a lack of funds limit what God wants to do. Pray, and then act in faith.*)

Late Registrations:

After December 12, a student may register according to availability and at Nathan's discretion (\$150 non-refundable deposit required)

Final Payment:

July 1, 2011 (all outstanding balances will be due at this time)

How do I sign up?

- **Get your passport now!** If you are even remotely interested in going, apply for your passport now. If you have a current passport, it must be valid until Feb. 6 2012. New/Renewed passports take 6-8 weeks for processing. More info at: http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html
- **Come to the Informational Meeting – Sunday, November 14, 12 PM.** Attend this helpful informational meeting to be held at TCC.
- **Apply!** Simply fill out the enclosed Application and mail it along with your \$100 deposit by December 12 to Trinity Community Church, 1190 W. Winchester Rd., Libertyville, IL 60048. Make checks payable to "TCC".

How will we raise the money?

Our best estimate is that the money will come from these sources:

1. Fundraiser Dinner: ~\$100 per student
2. Servant Auction: \$100 - \$200 per student, depending on student's personal initiative
3. Student's Personal Funds: \$200
4. Parent Matching of Student's Funds: \$200
5. Support Letters*: \$900 per student – from family, friends and church members
6. Scholarships: for students in special need who have worked hard to raise money in other ways

**Note: Extra money raised can be used to pay passport, immunization fees or be credited to the student up to \$100 for spending cash. The rest will go toward helping other students raise money.*

Remember: "Where God guides, he always provides!"

Immunizations Required

- Current on Tetanus, Measles
- Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B
- Typhoid

Is Guatemala safe?

Guatemala, like all Central American countries, is plagued by varying degrees of crime. Depending on location and circumstance, tourists can be targeted for robbery and assault. However, teams partnering with Students International are at a very low risk for these types of crimes. Teams minister in communities with SI missionaries who are respected and welcomed in their communities. Team members enjoy building relationships with nationals in a non-threatening environment. Personally, I (Nathan Wagner) spent a summer ministering with SI in 2000 and never once sensed that my safety or the safety of any of the team members was jeopardized.

I still have questions...

Call or email me anytime! 847-409-7243 or nathan.wagner@trinitycomchurch.org

It is my joy to team with students in serving the Lord, making an eternal impact in the lives of those who do not yet know him. I hope you can be a part of Guatemala 2011!

Together in the mission,



Nathan

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