

# MEXICO MISSION TRIP **ADVISOR PACKET**

## **Mexico mission statement**

*The purpose of the Mexico mission trip for **STUDENTS** is to have a unique encounter with Jesus Christ by serving the people of Mexico and working together as a team. The purpose of the Mexico mission trip for **ADVISORS** is slightly different from that of the students. While the students are focused on serving the indigenous people and building unity as a team, the advisor's role is to focus on the students.*

**Welcome to the Mexico mission trip!** What you have in your hand is the complete Mexico mission trip information packet. This is your personal guide to Mexico 2016 as a new advisor.

This advisor packet includes all the dates of Mexico events, some information about what we're looking for in an advisor, the advisor application and an Amor form. Also in this packet is the student packet so you can see what information we give the students. **You do not need to fill out these student forms; only the advisor application and Amor form need to be filled out.** Also included in here is the house-building manual provided by Amor. These packets will hopefully give you a broad overview of the trip.

Happy reading ☺

## **Some basics**

### **Why should I participate?**

The Mexico mission trip is a rewarding experience! Just ask the people who have been on this trip for many years, and they will be sure to tell you of the worthwhile work and team building that takes place. As an advisor you will facilitate an encounter with God that students may not have had before. You will have the opportunity to be a part of a team that has the chance to give something back and build homes for those who would not otherwise be able to have them. In this week, lives are changed, memories are made, and hearts are brought closer to Christ. It truly is an incredible week.

### **What's an advisor?**

All adults who come on the trip are considered advisors. Some may be cooks, some may be site leaders, some may be speakers, but all adults on the trip have equal duties as an advisor.

### **What does an advisor do?**

As advisors we are the leaders of the trip. You will be co-leading a small group, attending monthly advisor meetings to discuss the planning of the trip, and basically providing leadership to the kids. In Mexico, and before we go, you will also be asked to participate in **ALL** the activities. You will be expected to play games at Mandatory Mexico Meetings (MMMs), learn the students' names, and be at group gatherings at the campsite, meals, small group, and content times. Advisors are needed at these times to model good listening and participation as well as to keep tabs on the students. They will look to advisors as examples, and we need you to model respectful behavior.

### **What kind of advisors are we looking for?**

An advisor is an adult who loves the Lord, enjoys interaction with teenagers, can set firm boundaries, and knows how to be a friend. Teens need adults who will mentor them, teach them, befriend them, and walk beside them. We don't need bossy, controlling, or judgmental people as advisors. I call an advisor a "friendly parent."

### **Christian role modeling**

In order to help develop the lives of students, advisors are charged to develop their own relationships with Christ through personal prayer and Bible study, as well as regular attendance at Sunday morning worship. In addition, advisors are expected to do their best in exhibiting Christian conduct, whenever possible. This includes refraining from cussing, slander, and disrespectful behavior towards youth or other advisors. No use of alcohol or drugs by adults is permitted on this trip.

### **Team players**

It takes a great deal of planning and advisors to make this trip a success. We need adults who will work together to support the mission trip and who are able to follow direction of the group's leader. If you have a problem or disagreement, bring it up at an advisor meeting or talk to a Mexico Leadership Team Member directly about it. It is inappropriate to discuss any disagreements you may have about the trip with the kids or in front of them. We also need people who are interested in facilitating this experience for the *youth*. **While we get lots out of this trip, the trip is primarily for the students.** We need to be on the same page about providing a good experience for them.

### **Safety**

On this trip we will be in another country working with unskilled laborers around dangerous materials. Parents are expecting their kids to come back whole, mentally and physically. We need to make sure that all people are careful on the work site, especially when it gets late and we are tired. Drivers should not drive recklessly, and should always stay within the group caravan. We want all people to feel safe on this trip.

It is important for adult advisors to remember their roles as facilitators of positive experiences, and to refrain from contact with youth that might be considered aggressive, overly competitive, sexual, or not in the best interest of the youth. This includes romantic involvement. Don't become romantically involved with a student during the trip or date them after we return.

## Challenges

You will be challenged physically as well as emotionally and spiritually. This trip is only one week, but those seven days are filled with long days of driving and labor accompanied with short nights. This trip is no picnic. In addition, we go for a week without many of our luxuries. We stay in a campground with no running water or electricity. If you are a cook you may have access to a special sleeping arrangement and a “shower” with water heated over a stove, but this is still a week of roughing it. These conditions are the breeding grounds for stress and thin nerves, but we are still a large family living and working together. That comes with all the benefits and challenges.

## So how do I sign up?

### Time commitment

This trip involves more than the week we are actually working. There are many dates ahead of time that require your presence for team building, planning and support. Before turning in this application please prayerfully consider this commitment, and check your calendar to ensure your availability on **ALL** these dates.

### *December*

**6**     **Registration & Info Night** – A night for parents & packets

### *January*

**10**    **MMM (Mandatory Mexico Meeting)** 7:00-9:15 pm. *Student Reg. Packets due. Get acquainted and games*

**24**    **MMM (Mandatory Mexico Meeting)** 7:00-9:15 pm

**25**    **Advisor meeting** 7:00 pm. *Advisor Registration Packets due*

### *February*

**5-6**    **Garage Sale**

**21**    **MMM** 7:00-9:15 pm

**22**    **Advisor meeting** 7:00 pm

**28**    **Fiesta Auction**

### **March**

**6**     **MMM** 7:00-9:15 pm

**7**     **Advisor meeting** 7:00 pm

**13**    **MMM – Deacon Dinner/Prayer partners before meeting | Parent Meeting**

6:00-9:15 pm (parents invited to attend 8:15-9:15 pm)

**27**    **Commissioning Service** 10:00 am in Worship

**MMM** 7:00-9:15 pm

**28**    **Advisor meeting** 7:00 pm

**31**    *Luggage drop off 3-5 pm. Bring all your stuff (duffel bag, pillow, sleeping bag, shovel and hoe) to the church. Also bring your assigned snacks, frozen water, ice chests and camping equipment.*

## April

- 1 **Friday night sleepover** 8:30 pm (Students are strongly encouraged to sleep over Friday night.)
- 2 **Depart for Mexico** – Buses depart from Trinity on Saturday at 4:00 am sharp!
- 8 **Return from Mexico** around 5 pm
- 9 **24-Hour reunion** – We will gather for fellowship, food, and pictures. Begins at 7 pm and ends approximately at 9 pm. Location TBD.
- 16 **Cleaning tools and Putting away tools** – Around noon we'll gather at the church and clean all the tools. This is a great time to claim lost items!
- 17 **Sharing Service** – Whether you are speaking in the service or not, please plan to be here at the 10 am service so we can support one another and share our experience with the church.
- ??? **Bless the Family Night** 7:00 pm. Slideshow from the trip and assembling packages for Mexican families. Parents are welcome.

You obviously need to be available for the dates of the trip. Beyond that you are required to attend all the advisor meetings, which are important for training, planning, and clarifying questions. These meetings will be at Trinity at 7:00 pm. The MMMs (Mandatory Mexico Meetings) are necessary for you to learn the students' names, find out a bit about who they are, and meet your small group. These meetings are at Trinity from 7-9:15 pm. The fundraisers are a big part of what makes it possible for us to go on this trip. As an advisor you are asked only to cover your food costs, and it is necessary for you to be a part of the fundraising to show support for the students and lend a hand in the work. Plan on being at the garage sale all day. The church sends us off with the Commissioning service the week before we leave and we report back to them at the Sharing service a week after we return. These services are important in the life of the church because we are taking them with us in our hearts and they want to be a part of the experience. The church congregation also heavily supports all of the Mexico activities.

### **Fill out the application**

Please read each question carefully and answer each one honestly. The only people who will be reading your answers are the Mexico Leadership Team, so please be honest. After you have checked your calendar and filled out the application, please turn it in to Bob Fouts or the church office by **Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup>**. Applications will not be considered after the due date. The Mexico Leadership Team will meet to review the applications and notify you of your participation.

### **Participation**

We can guarantee a fulfilling experience if you can come with us to Mexico. In order to get the most out of this trip please mark your calendars now so you can involve yourself in all the pre-trip events. The saying is true that "you get out of it what you put into it."

This is an amazingly rewarding trip. Please prayerfully consider your involvement in this endeavor after reading through this packet carefully. Where else can you sit by the

campfire, look at the stars, sing songs, bond with some incredible people, build relationships that last a lifetime, impact the life of youth, grow closer to God, and experience the joy of helping someone all at the same time? Being an advisor on the Mexico mission trip is an excellent way to put your faith into action, and disciple the next generation. Praise God for you and your willingness to be used for His service!

Blessings,  
The Mexico Leadership Team



# Mexico Mission Trip :: Advisor Application

Advisor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/St/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Ph#: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

DoB: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Wk Ph#: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Hm Ph#: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Emergency Contact** Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Ph#: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Work Ph#: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Cell ph#: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Carrier: \_\_\_\_\_

Policy Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Last tetanus shot date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ (within last 5 years) (MANDATORY)

Last hepatitis A shot date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ (takes 3-4 months) (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED)

Last hepatitis B shot date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ (takes 3-4 months) (MANDATORY)

Allergies or special needs

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Photo Release:** I grant permission for Trinity Presbyterian Church to use pictures and/or videos taken of the ministry participant named above while engaging in church activities for promotional purposes.

**Release of Liability:** I hereby absolve and hold harmless the Trinity Presbyterian Church, their respective employees, and volunteers from all injuries, claims, or liabilities that may result from my participation in church & trip activities. I am aware the activity may involve risk of injury and I assume all risks for injuries received. I also understand that health and accident insurance protection is my responsibility.

**Consent for Emergency Medical Treatment:** In the event I cannot be reached in an emergency during the trip dates noted on this form, I hereby give permission to the physician or dentist selected by Trinity Presbyterian Church staff to hospitalize, to secure proper treatment and/or to order an injection, anesthesia, or surgery for me as deemed necessary. I further agree to be responsible for any and all costs not covered by my medical insurance carrier. In addition, I also grant my permission to receive non-prescription medication and first aid treatment (i.e. Tylenol, Sudafed, Advil or Band-Aids) from a Mexico Mission Trip advisor if necessary.

Advisor Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_





## **MEXICO ADVISOR QUESTIONNAIRE**

### **Personal Information**

Why do you want to be a part of the Mexico Mission Trip team in 2016?

Please describe your relationship with Jesus Christ and your spiritual journey.

How do you nourish yourself spiritually?

How do you handle conflict or confrontation?

Are there any special issues or concerns in your life right now that would have an impact in your commitment?

### **Lifestyle information**

What are your views on drug and alcohol usage?

YES, I understand the no tolerance rule for drugs and alcohol applies to advisors as well as students. I will not use drugs/illegal substances or consume alcohol directly prior to or during the trip and its preparatory and follow-up gatherings.

Please initial: \_\_\_\_\_

How would you define "Christian conduct" when it comes to students' physical displays of affection during the trip?

### **Mexico information**

Name any spiritual gifts you may have, and how would you like to use them on this trip?

How do you feel about co-leading a small group?

Are you willing to be fingerprinted for State Criminal Conviction Clearing?	Yes	No
Have you had construction experience?	Yes	No
Do you have camping experience?	Yes	No
Do you have experience cooking for large groups?	Yes	No
Are you opposed to driving for long periods of time?	Yes	No
Have you had any experience with leading small group?	Yes	No

I am aware that I am required by Amor Ministries to complete an Amor form separate from this application. Please initial: \_\_\_\_\_

The information contained in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I undersigned, give my authorization to Trinity Presbyterian Church or its representatives to release any and all information relating to working with minors. Trinity may contact appropriate government agencies as deemed necessary in order to verify my suitability as a youth worker. I understand that the personal information will be held confidential.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



# Individual Mission Trip Participation Form

1664 Precision Park Lane San Diego CA 92173  
Phone: 619.662.1200 Fax: 619.512.4360  
www.amor.org – missionservices@amor.org

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ M.I. \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Gender  M  F

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate your age (check one box):  1-10 years  11-17 years  Adult

Check the following that apply:

I am in High School and I will graduate in the year \_\_\_\_\_.

I am in College and I will graduate in the year \_\_\_\_\_.

College Name: \_\_\_\_\_

How many previous Amor mission trips have you participated in? \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact me about Volunteer or Intern opportunities (ages 18 and up).

Please email me Amor's prayer requests and ministry updates each month.

Please list all relatives that are on this trip (full name and relationship to you)

<b>T-SHIRT SIZE</b>
Please check: <input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/> SMALL
<input type="radio"/> MEDIUM
<input type="radio"/> LARGE
<input type="radio"/> X-LARGE
<input type="radio"/> XX-LARGE
<input type="radio"/> XXX-LARGE

## Release of Liability/Consent

I have volunteered to participate with **Trinity Presbyterian Church, San Carlos**

This is NOT a Medical Release

on a Mission Trip coordinated through Amor Ministries, 1664 Precision Park Lane, San Diego CA 92173 on 4/2/2016

I have recognized that participation on a trip of this nature may be hazardous or dangerous. Therefore, I am, for myself, my heirs, executor and/or administrator, remise and releasing and forever discharging Amor Ministries and all its officers, agents, servants and employees, acting officially or otherwise, from any and all reason of injury, damage (including property damage to any of my belongings), loss or death which may occur from any cause including, but not limited to any accident and/or occurrence while participating individually or with others while on this Mission Trip. I further understand that the release herein incorporates each and every provision of the "Statement of Commitment" signed by my group leader and/or the person(s) in charge of my group. In the event that said group leader and/or person(s) in charge does not readily have available a copy of said "Statement of Commitment", I further understand that I may obtain said copy by contacting any of the Amor representatives at 1664 Precision Park Lane, San Diego CA 92173, 619.662.1200 fax 619.512.4360. **Notwithstanding the preceding, this release does not apply to claims arising out of Amor Ministries' gross negligence or intentional misconduct.**

In consideration of my participation on this Mission Trip, I hereby irrevocably consent to and authorize the use, publication, transmission and reproduction of my name, likeness and image, and any information listed above in any and all media worldwide, by Amor Ministries, or anyone authorized by or acting on behalf of Amor Ministries, for promotional, fund-raising, advertising, marketing and/or public relations purposes. The information may be used by Amor Ministries in the regular course of business, but will not be disseminated to others except if required by law.

Participant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### Parental Consent

Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature Required for participants under age 18

MTID#: 160127