

Summer Mission Trip Application

Why a summer mission trip?

The youth ministry program at JAARS exists for two main purposes. First- to provide a nurturing/caring environment for MKs to appropriately assimilate into American culture. Second- to prepare the next generation of missionaries. Short term missions is a key component to supporting this second purpose.

Giving students the opportunity to experience first hand what it is like to be a missionary often has life-long ramifications. For some, it will help them clarify their calling to serve as missionaries. For others, it will give them a real sense of what missionaries face, and thus they will become strong advocates and senders of missionaries.

For MKs in particular it gives them the opportunity to come out of their parents' shadows and become a missionary themselves. It will often help them distinguish if missions is just something that they enjoy, or is something they are actually called to do. Short term mission trips also give MKs a deeper appreciation of what their parents do. This usually results in MKs who are more supportive and understanding of their parents' choices in following God.

Regardless of who you are and where you've come from, there are two goals for the students who participate in a summer mission trip. First- students will better understand their individual spiritual gifts & calling and begin to implement it into their life. Second- students will grow in their personal ownership of the Great Commission and become passionate about evangelism in the US and abroad.

Why a summer mission trip? Basically to prepare the next generation of missionaries.

The attached expectations, requirements, and application are a tool to help students and parents discern if this summer mission trip is appropriate for them.

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Youth Pastor, JAARS

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Note to Parents. . .

There will be a mission trip informational meeting for you on Thursday, Feb. 16, from 6:00 to 7:00pm at the Olive Branch. Please come if you would like to learn more about the trip and what your student will need to do to prepare for the experience.

Summer Mission Trip- 2012

Destination: Bulgaria

Dates: June 11 – July 2*

Costs: \$3000* plus passport if necessary

Mission Trip Itinerary*:

- June 11-14 Training At JAARS
- June 15-16 Travel to Sofia
- June 17-19 Orientation/ ministry in Sofia
- June 20-28 Drive to Vidin- Kids/orphan ministry, sports or language camp, stay with Bulgarians & language learning, help w/ church plant
- June 29-July 1 Drive to Thessaloniki, Greece; tour & debrief
- July 2 Fly home



Requirements

- A commitment to Christ- developing a *dynamic* relationship with Him
- A commitment to evangelism- passionate about seeing others make a commitment to Christ and growing spiritually
- A commitment to the team- Attend meetings on time, faithfully complete assigned tasks, edify team members
- A commitment to grow- Willingness to be stretched emotionally and spiritually

Additional Requirements:

- Completely and thoroughly fill out this application and return it to Mike Burtnett
- Participate in a minimum of two missions oriented activities either with the JAARS youth group, your church, or on your own
- Memorize approximately 15 assigned passages of Scripture
- Complete all assigned reading (1-2 books)
- Demonstrate the ability to “lead someone to Christ”
- Write out a one-page testimony
- Send out partnership letters before the trip and then a follow up letter within 3 weeks of the completion of the trip
- Secure 15 prayer partners
- Meet with a mission committee to share your plan to go on this summer’s mission trip
- Secure a current passport
- Take all required vaccinations

***subject to change as details are finalized**

Medical Background

Do you have any allergies (to food, medicine or other) ? If so, please describe.

Do you have any physical limitations that might need special accommodation or consideration? If so, please describe.

Do you have any current emotional/psychological issues that you are receiving treatment/counseling for?

Personal References- List at least three (preferably non-family members)

Make sure to notify them that they will be contacted

(note- you need only to provide a phone number or an email)

Name: _____ Relationship: _____
Phone Number: (____)____-_____ Email _____
Name: _____ Relationship: _____
Phone Number: (____)____-_____ Email _____
Name: _____ Relationship: _____
Phone Number: (____)____-_____ Email _____

Spiritual Growth

Please take some time thoroughly answering the following questions and use additional paper if necessary. Remember... only Jesus was perfect. There are not any answers that are "right."

- 1. Describe how you came to know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior.**
- 2. Name an event or two that has had a significant impact on your spiritual life.**
- 3. What are you currently doing to deepen your relationship with Jesus Christ?**
- 4. What are some of your perceived spiritual gifts and abilities that could be used on this summer's mission trip?**
- 5. Describe how you would share the gospel with someone.**
- 6. What church(s) are you involved with and to what degree?**
- 7. Why do you want to participate in this year's summer mission trip? What do you hope to get out of it?**
- 8. What types of cross-cultural experiences have you had? Were they positive or negative?**

9. What is your parents' opinion of your participation on this summer mission trip?

A requirement for participating in this year's summer mission trip is demonstrating a heart for evangelism and missions. Indicate which "missions-oriented" activities you have participated in (or are planning to participate). If you have done other activities with other youth groups or on your own, please use the blank to describe them.

- Mini Missions trip
- Operation Christmas Child
- Girls volunteering at the Crisis Pregnancy center
- Guys volunteering at Saturday morning service projects
- 30-Hour Famine
- Hands and Feet Week
- Other: _____

Initial after each statement to indicate your agreement with it.

It is my responsibility to raise the necessary funds to participate in this trip and failure to do so will mean not participating. _____

I will write and send out partnership letters before the trip and send a follow-up letter to actual partners upon completion of the trip. _____

I will memorize all the assigned verses. _____

I will make team meetings a priority and make every effort to not let homework, jobs, or other foreseeable activities prevent me from attending. _____

I will do my best to live a life that brings glory to Christ, not only on the mission trip, but even now as we prepare. _____

Willingness to be flexible and getting outside of your comfort zone are essential to building a strong and effective mission team. Below are some activities we may experience this summer. Keeping in mind that you will be trained/taught to do anything you are asked to do, rate how willing you would be to do the following tasks.

1- Eagerly 2- Willingly 3- Reluctantly 4- Would refuse

- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Learn some basic greetings in another language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Participate in a dramas, mimes and puppet shows |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Show the love of Christ to women/children who've been neglected and abused |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Spend two days/nights with a Bulgarian family learning language/culture (w. a teammate) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Set up and tear down audio/visual equipment at a moments' notice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ride 5 hours by car on rough roads |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Memorize 10-15 passages of Scripture and read 1-2 assigned books |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Write and send a letter requesting financial and prayer support |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Meet with a mission committee and tell them about your desire to go on a summer mission trip and solicit their partnership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go without a shower for 2-3 days |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Lead someone through an explanation of the gospel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Share your testimony or "sermon" in a church or street evangelism setting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Participate in team fundraisers like the Spud Supper and flower sale. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Hold, play with, and love handicapped children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Hard manual labor, digging, mixing cement, painting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Spend time with people with extreme body odor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Politely sit through a three-hour church service on wood benches in a language you don't understand |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Use outdoor or "long drop" style bathrooms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Eat ethnic meals politely, finishing food that you may not like. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Share openly and honestly with your teammates during team times |

Parent/Guardian: For applicants under age 18
I am aware of my child's intention to participate in this year's summer mission trip.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date: _____

Important dates

(Updated meeting dates and times can be found at www.JAARSyouth.org)

March 10	10:00 – 2:00	Optional JAARS Day fund raiser
March 17	10:00-3:00	Mandatory Training Day
April 21	10:00–3:00	Mandatory Training Day
April 30		½ Money Due
May 5	9:00 – 3:00ish	Flower Sale
May 19	5:00 – 9:00	Mandatory Training/ Cookout at Burnett's
May 25	5:00 – 9:00	Spud Supper
May 31		Full Amount Due
June 11-14	All day	Modified Total-It-Up and final ministry preparation
June 15	AM	Depart for Bulgaria
July 2	TBD	Arrive in Charlotte

Team members are expected to attend all meetings. Please be prompt.

Failure to make team meetings is grounds for the participant to be removed from the team.