



Honduras Vision Mission Trip – Winter 2019

January 5th – 12th – Trinity Lutheran, Bloomington, IL

Thank you for considering God's call to join us. The following is important information meant to answer the most common questions regarding the Honduras Vision mission trips.

Why do we go?

The Great Commission of Jesus in Matthew 28:19-20 Jesus commands us “Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you.”

Together we will...

Conduct an eyeglass mission in Honduras. We will care for people in their physical need. We will share Jesus and the message of his salvation with every person who visits the clinic. Each team of 10 will assist about 1,000 people over the 4 day of the clinic. There is no experience necessary.

Where we're going...

Puerto Cortés is a city on the Caribbean coast of Honduras. Located about an hour from San Pedro Sula. Puerto Cortes had a population of 200,000.

How will I be impacted?

Many who go on the mission trips have life changing experiences, they no longer view the world the same way. Some become more involved in local missions. Some desire to return on another mission trip. Some become more active in their local church and communities.

Reflections from prior teams

Witnessing people put on a new pair of glasses and the expression on their face when they realize they can see is amazing.

It's an awesome experience to provide the gift of sight. To allow people to see again or read their Bible blesses you as much as it does them. To hear someone say, now I can see my wife or grandchild, brings tears to your eyes. Or to witness a teenager purposely walk up to Pastor and give him a hug because they can see, wow God is awesome!!

I'd tell anyone and everyone to go on a vision trip. The greatest thing is just being able to go and serve. For those days of the clinic you have a singular purpose—help people the best you can. It is so refreshing to be in a group that shares this purpose and gives their best. It is simple and yet so powerful. It is loving people by word and action.

I was again struck by the simple truth that God the Father sent His Son for ALL people. In Honduras I was surrounded by people that had a different language, a different look, different customs, a different culture, different money system, different foods, and different rules—but oh how powerful to know these people truly are my brothers and sisters through God our Father. He loves them with the same fervent love that he loves me with.

I loved being able to serve people physically as well as serving them by sharing the love of an ever-faith Savior.

Cost

The cost for each participant is \$1,800 (includes airfare, in-country costs such as ground transportation, most meals, lodging, etc.). The sooner we book the airline tickets the cheaper the airfare will be. Trinity will contribute additional funds to help offset the costs of the eyeglass equipment and re-supply.

Application and Registration Fee Deadlines

October 14, 2018 – Minimum \$250 non-refundable deposit is due.

Enclose **TWO COLOR COPIES of your Passport** and your completed Application, Information, and Code of Conduct Forms.

December 2, 2018 – Balance is due.

Make all checks payable to **Trinity Lutheran Church**

No refunds are possible after airline tickets are purchased by our travel coordinator

Passport and Visa Required

Every participant **must have a Passport that is valid for at least 6 months after the entry date into Honduras**. The process of obtaining or renewing a Passport can take as long as 4-6 weeks.

Training Date - November 10th 9:00 AM - 12:00

Immunizations?

There are no required immunizations for Honduras. **CONTACT YOUR PERSONAL PHYSICIAN OR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AGENT FOR RECOMMENDATIONS!** Worth strong consideration are the following: Tetanus, Hepatitis A and B. **MALARIA** is very common in Honduras. Contact your physician for a prescription of a preferred oral anti-malaria drug for HONDURAS. Persons with hypertension should consult their physician for precautions against malaria. Be sure to **bring mosquito repellent** that has at least **90% deet** (check the label).

In our experience, the Peoria City/County Health Department is the most financially reasonable place to receive immunizations. Appointments are necessary. When making appointment, be sure to ask about mode of payment. Location and contact information follows:

Peoria City/County Health
2116 N. Sheridan Rd
Peoria, IL 61604
Phone: (309) 679-6000

Another Resource: Advocate Medical Group
3024 E. Empire
Bloomington, IL 16704
(309) 454-4411 (KC Schearer)
(Insurance may cover here)

What about airline tickets?

The Hearts Ablaze mission coordinator will arrange travel and ticketing from Bloomington to Honduras and back for the entire mission team.

Training and Orientation

Everyone is expected to attend the training and orientation sessions held at Trinity. It is scheduled for **Saturday November 10th from 9:00AM until 1:00PM**. This is for all participants, including those who have been a part of previous missions

Schedule/Itinerary

Saturday: Drive from Bloomington to Chicago to stay overnight

Sunday: Flight from Chicago to Honduras

Monday & Tuesday: Clinic Days / Fellowship in the evening

Wednesday: Day Off for site seeing and souvenir shopping and/or relaxing.

Thursday & Friday: Clinic Days / Fellowship in the evening

Saturday: Travel back to Bloomington

NOTE: Participants are NOT to leave the airport during any “layover” regardless of length.

Food – Water, Etc.

As part of the accommodations in Honduras, breakfast and the evening meals are provided. Some of the meals may be very similar to American style; others will vary in preparation and type. Every effort is made to ensure that the food is nutritious and safe. Lunch is the responsibility of each individual. The Honduran culture is to break for lunch, so that workers and volunteers can eat their lunch. If the clinic is extremely busy, the clinic may proceed during lunch, with team members normally taking individual short breaks to snack for lunch. You may bring small snack from the U.S. but remember that your luggage space is limited. We will stop at a local grocery store in Honduras, so you will be able purchase items once we arrive. The “don’t drink the water” advice for foreign travel applies to Honduras also. Safe, bottled water is readily available at reasonable prices and you are expected to purchase your own supply of drinking water. DO NOT drink any water or brush your teeth with water from a faucet, shower, or water tap. Antiseptic hand lotion is available in Honduras. It is advisable to use it frequently when working in Honduras.

Clothing – Luggage

Clothing needed for the mission must be chosen carefully. The Honduras climate is tropical, with temperature ranging from 60 to 80 degrees. A light jacket or sweater may be desired in the mornings or evenings. Medical scrub tops are worn by most team members at the clinics. Long pants are recommended. Capris and shorts are permitted, as long as they reach your knees. Longer skirts or dresses are permitted. A light rain “poncho” plus an extra pair of shoes are suggested. If rubber boots are advised for your clinic, they can be purchased while shopping for personal food, sanitation, and water supplies in Honduras.

You must pack lightly. On the aircraft each team member will be allowed only one regulation size carry-on bag plus one other SMALL personal bag (large purse, briefcase, etc.) **YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CHECK A SUITCASE OR LARGE BAG.** The checked-bag allowance for each ticket will be utilized by the teams to check footlockers and other supplies. There will, however, be a large designated checked-bag for you to place a single gallon-sized zip-locked bag containing “sharps” and other personal items that are not allowed to be carried onto the plane.

Money

You are advised to bring at least \$200 of your own, in new \$10, \$20 or \$100-dollar bills. These bills should be crisp, unworn, without creases or marks and dated 2006 or newer. Many banks do not have a supply of “perfect” \$100 bills on hand. It is best to convert the U.S. dollars to Honduran lempira at the airport. Team leaders can advise you of the better exchange booths to be used. Visa and MasterCard are accepted in many places in Honduras and the large cities. **Advise your Bank/Credit Card Company that you will be traveling abroad.** There are ATM outlets in Honduras.

Safety – Security – Accommodations

The local pastors and congregations are our hosts. They live in the areas that we will be visiting and will make every effort to ensure that the group is safe at all times. There are guidelines that everyone is expected to follow. The accommodations will be different from American hotel standards but are safe and clean. Meals will be taken either in our lodgings or at restaurants known by our hosts.

Miscellaneous

You are advised to bring a camera, but discretion is crucial when taking photos of strangers. A daily journal is recommended. English is widely spoken, but knowing a few native words or phrases is appreciated by the people.

How can I raise support money?

If you wish to solicit support to pay for the trip or the mission, a packet is available that includes:

1. A sample form letter on our letterhead explaining the trip and requesting donations
2. Photos of a previous mission

If you need help with fundraising or have any other questions, please talk with any member of the Hearts Ablaze Team or contact Pastor Terry Strom (309) 533-6687 PastorTerry@trinluth.org

Trinity Lutheran Church – 801 S. Madison St – Bloomington, IL 61701

HONDURAS VISION – MISSION TEAM APPLICATION
IMPORTANT – PLEASE PRINT

All applicable blanks must be filled out – incomplete form cannot be processed

Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Sex _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

Zip _____

Home Phone _____ E-mail _____

Cell Phone _____ Fax _____

Travel Insurance Beneficiary: _____ Relationship: _____

My _____, _____ will be traveling with me.
(relationship) (name)

PASSPORT INFORMATION

_____ I have a passport _____ I am in the process of applying for a passport

Country issuing passport (if other than the United States) _____

Name exactly as it appears (will appear) on passport:

Passport # _____ Expiration date _____

Expiration date MUST be a least 6 months beyond trip date

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Medical Insurance _____ *Policy/Grp. No.* _____

Pre-certification Phone # _____

Emergency Contacts:

Name _____ **Relationship** _____

24 hr. Phone _____

Address _____ **City** _____ **ST** _____

Additional Phone _____

Name _____ **Relationship** _____

24 hr. Phone _____

Address _____ **City** _____ **ST** _____

Additional Phone _____

Physical Limitations _____
(including limitations with standing, walking, or climbing stairs)

Medications _____

Allergies _____

Diet Restrictions _____

Should we advise the Airlines? ___ YES ___ NO

- A color copy of my passport is attached.
- Passport copy will be forwarded when available
- A color copy of my current passport was previously submitted for a prior mission trip.
- I have read and completed the Waiver of Liability
- I have received and read the *Vision for Honduras* SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION pages.
- I have read and agree to abide by the *Vision for Honduras* CODE OF CONDUCT

SIGNATURE _____ **DATE** _____

HOME CHURCH _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____

Waiver of Liability

Warning: Please read this document carefully before you sign it!

By its terms, you surrender the right to seek compensation by lawsuit or otherwise for any injury or loss associated with the mission trip to Honduras!

1. This agreement is made by and on behalf of _____ (the "Undersigned"), and Honduras Mission, to permit the Undersigned to take part in the mission trip to Honduras.
2. The Undersigned represents and warrants to Honduras Mission that he or she has the full and complete authority to enter into this agreement and acknowledges that absent this agreement, he or she would not be permitted to participate.
3. The Undersigned further acknowledges and understands that during the trip to and from Honduras, and while in that country, he or she may be afflicted with illness or disease, be severely injured, be killed, be kidnapped, be held hostage, be the victim of a crime or crimes, be the victim of an act or acts of terrorism and/or otherwise suffer loss, injury, harm or damage.
4. The Undersigned further acknowledges and understands that in the event he or she falls victim to one or more of these things, it may be due to an error, omission or oversight (including, but not limited to, acts and omissions involving or constituting GROSS or SIMPLE NEGLIGENCE) on the part of an employee, representative and/or member of Honduras Mission, Trinity Lutheran Church and School of Bloomington, Illinois (these persons and entities are collectively referred to as the "RELEASED PARTIES").
5. In full light of these acknowledgements and understandings, the Undersigned acknowledges and agrees that he or she is willing to bear these risks and, as a consequence, promises never to attempt to obtain compensation or redress from one or more of the RELEASED PARTIES for any loss, illness and/or injury suffered while on, or as a consequence of having gone on, the mission trip. The Undersigned further warrants that this covenant extends to and includes all losses or injuries of whatever kind or character, even if they are caused by, or result from, the sole or concurrent SIMPLE or GROSS NEGLIGENCE of one or more of the RELEASED PARTIES (collectively, "Trip Losses").
6. The Undersigned likewise agrees forever to defend, indemnify and hold harmless each and every of the RELEASED PARTIES of and from each and every claim, demand and/or cause of action brought, asserted and/or made against one or more of the RELEASED PARTIES that arises, in whole or in part, from one or more Trip Losses suffered or experienced by the Undersigned.
7. The Undersigned covenants that this agreement will be binding upon his or her heirs, representatives, descendants, successors and assigns, and that it will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, Illinois law.

(PRINTED NAME)

(SIGNATURE)

(DATE)

(WITNESSED BY: PRINTED NAME)

(SIGNATURE)

CODE OF CONDUCT
HONDURAS MISSION
(retain for your records)

As I am about to embark on a mission trip with the Honduras Vision Mission Team. I realize that I will not only represent Jesus Christ himself, but also my country and the church members who make the trip possible. My ultimate purpose in joining this mission is to accomplish the Great Commission and the Great Commandment of Jesus Christ:

- “Go into all the world, teaching them to observe all I have commanded you...”
- “Love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength” and “love your neighbor as yourself.”

I recognize that I must use discipline, discernment, and self-control during this mission, and refrain from any behavior that might reflect negatively on those I represent. Specifically, I will conduct myself with honor in the following ways:

- *Devotions* - I understand that the spiritual component of this mission is the core value of this team, and I will fully participate in all devotional activities.
- *Team Safety* - I will stay with the group at all times. I will not allow myself to be put into a situation or setting which would compromise the integrity and safety of this mission.
- *Free Time* - I will use my free time to relax and enjoy the mission, and I will conduct myself in a way that brings honor to Jesus Christ and the mission team.
- *General* - I will respect local customs so as not to offend our hosts, and I will constantly monitor my own behavior by asking, “Does my conduct bring honor to the cause of Jesus Christ?”
- *Accountability* - I will be accountable to the Trinity Leadership, the Mission Team Leader and my peers on the Team.
- *My Commitment* - With God’s help “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”
Philippians 4:13
- *My spiritual life* - I will return home with a renewed sense of commitment in my spiritual walk.

