



June 13-27, 2013

Application Checklist

- Pray for God to help you decide if this is the right time and place for you to serve.
- Read cover letter carefully.
- Fill out application completely.
- Turn these things in by February 3:
 - Completed application
 - Color copy of passport picture page
 - Turn in at the church's reception desk or mail to:
 - First Presbyterian Church
c/o Walter Thompson
800 W. Texas Ave.
Midland, TX 79701
- Then, Pastor Walter will contact you for a personal interview.



January 14, 2013

Dear 2013 Uganda Mission Trip Applicant,

I am really excited that you have decided to apply for our 2013 Uganda trip! I know that God has big things planned for our team. This will be FPC's tenth church planting mission trip to East Africa. My hope is that this cover letter will give you a good idea of what the trip is about and what will be expected of those on the team.

What the trip is all about

We partner with the Presbytery of Eastern Uganda as they plant churches throughout eastern Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania. This year, we will either assist in a new church plant or do follow-up work at an existing church that has been struggling. Either way, our work once we arrive will be to share the gospel through individual evangelism, afternoon crusades, providing medical care, playing with children and passing out mosquito nets. We also have the opportunity to share about Jesus at prisons and schools.

What is expected of team members

Team meetings

Team members will be expected to participate fully in all team meetings. These meetings will be used for team building and training activities as well as planning time for the many different facets of ministry we'll be doing in Uganda. We understand that there can be potential conflicts, but we are asking team members to commit to being at a minimum of 70% of our preparation meetings. Any absence needs to be cleared ahead of time with Pastor Walter and the material missed will need to be made up. Provisions can be made for you to participate in our meetings through video by Skype (or Oovoo) if you are unable to be present for a particular meeting.

This year, we are planning to have a couple of half-day training sessions for team members who have not been on the trip before. This will allow us to have fewer full-team meetings. We will schedule these half-day trainings once the team is formed. Our regular team meetings will start after that.

Team members are also expected to participate in the post-trip meetings and activities. We will have debriefing times that are very important and helpful as we re-enter to our home culture. We also will have some opportunities to share about all that God has done on the trip. These reporting opportunities are an essential part of the ministry of a short-term mission trip and all team members need to participate in them.

Raising Support

Each team member will be expected to send out letters asking people for both prayer and financial support for the trip. We will talk about this extensively in our first few meetings and will have example letters for you to follow. If a team member wishes to fund the trip on their own, then he or she will still need to send out letters asking people to pray for our trip. The total cost per person for the trip will be about \$5,000.

On the trip

Team members will be expected to participate fully in every aspect of the trip. Each team member will prepare their testimony to share in one of several locations: Sunday school, crusade, men's/ women's/ children's ministry,

prisons, schools, etc. Both men and women on the team will have opportunities to teach Sunday school classes and other ministry opportunities. In addition, each man on the trip will prepare a sermon to be shared at one of the ministry sites or at the crusade. The team will also likely have other ministry opportunities including but not limited to: medical clinic, women's seminar, work with orphans and personal evangelism opportunities. As you can see, the trip is very demanding. Physically, team members will be on their feet several hours a day. There is a good deal of walking as we go from home to home sharing the gospel. We usually have some time to rest in the evenings, but overall the trip is quite physically demanding. Please talk to Pastor Walter or someone else who has been on the trip if you have questions about your own suitability to make the trip physically.

Passport and Immunization Requirements

If you have a passport, the expiration date needs to be at least six months after we return from the trip. If you do not yet have a passport, please talk to Walter as soon as possible about getting one. Several different immunizations and medications are recommended for the trip. We will cover this information in our first few team meetings. Each team member will be responsible for getting their own immunizations and shots.

Application process

Once you have turned in your completed application, Pastor Walter will contact you to set up a personal or phone interview. The purpose of the interview process is twofold: 1) to make sure the applicant understands what is expected of team members; 2) to seek the Lord together regarding the person's suitability and calling for this year's trip.

The deadline for applications is Sunday, February 3, 2013.

Dates

Application Deadline: February 3, 2013

Team Meetings: First-Time folks: 2 half-day sessions to be scheduled after team is formed

Everyone: Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30pm, starting March 20, 2013 thru early June

We will NOT meet: Holy Week, March 27

Trip: June 13-27, 2013 (dates may flex slightly depending on flight schedules)

There will certainly be other important dates, but these are essential for you to have in order to make the time commitment we are asking.

Again, we are very excited about what God has planned. If you have any questions at all, please feel free to call or email me. I would love to talk with you about it. May God bless you as you discern whether this will be the year you go to Africa!

With the Peace of Christ,



Walter Thompson
432.684.7821
wthompson@fpcmid.org



Uganda Mission Trip 2013 Application

General Contact Information			
Full Name ¹			
Street Address			
City, ST ZIP Code			
Home Phone		Work Phone	
Cell Phone		E-Mail Address	
Male or Female		Birth Date	
Marital Status		Occupation	
Church of Membership			

Passport Information			
Passport Number		Issued by (Nation)	
Date of Issue		Date of Expiration ²	
Place of Birth		Citizenship (Nation)	
Names of family members applying with you			

Person to Notify in Case of Emergency	
Name	
Street Address	
City ST ZIP Code	
Home Phone	
Work Phone	
E-Mail Address	

¹ Your full name as it appears on your passport (if you have one)

² Expiration date needs to be at least 6 months after we return from the trip.

Health Information

Please describe any health problems you may have, including chronic diseases and allergies.

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Please list any long-term medication you use and the reason.

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Do you experience claustrophobia or motion sickness?	
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If you believe you have a chronic condition or allergy that might make participation in this mission trip inadvisable, please consult your physician and talk with Pastor Walter.	
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Personal Self-Analysis

Explain why you would like to go on the mission trip to Uganda this year.

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What are your top two prayer requests concerning your involvement with this trip?

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Your Gifts and Abilities

In what areas has God given you gifts and abilities? (teaching, children's ministry, art, singing or playing music, puppets, crafts, photography, writing, etc.)

In what ways are you currently involved in the ministry of FPC and/or other churches?

Do you have experience in personal evangelism? Please explain.

Do you have experience in preaching or teaching? Please explain.

What do you consider your strength(s) in working on a team?

What do you consider your weakness(es) in working on a team?

Your Experience

Have you been on FPC's Africa Mission trip before? If yes, what years?

Have you been a part of other short-term mission teams? When and where?

Briefly describe one of the highlights of your mission trip experiences.

In what ways have you personally grown from your experiences in mission?

What things do you wish had been different?

Describe any other significant cross-cultural experiences you have had.

Expectations

As an applicant for the 2013 Uganda Mission Team, I understand and agree to the following expectations:³

- Team Meetings
 - I will be expected to attend all team meetings possible. This includes a **minimum of 70%** of our preparation meetings before the trip. I will make every effort to participate in all of our debriefing meetings following the trip as well as reporting opportunities.
- Fundraising
 - I understand that I will be expected to send out support letters asking for prayers and financial support. If I cover the expenses myself, I understand that I will still need to send out prayer support letters.
- Physical demands
 - I understand that I will be expected to be on my feet for several hours each day. I will be expected to walk up to four hours a day as we visit people's homes.
 - I understand that though we have time to rest in the evenings, this is a physically demanding trip.

Understanding and agreeing to the above expectations, I commit my time, talents, energy and prayers to the Lord to make a success of the Uganda 2013 Mission Trip.

Name (printed)	
Signature	
Date	

³ See Cover Letter for more detailed information regarding expectations.