

SHORT-TERM MISSIONS APPLICATION

BETHEL (BAPTIST) CHURCH

Name of STM Trip or Sending Organization: _____
Dates of Trip _____ Going to: _____

Email completed application to: bethelfairbanks@gmail.com
OR mail to Bethel Church, P.O. Box 83889, Fairbanks, AK 99708; Attn: Missions Board

Please type or print

Under 18 years old: **Y N**

1. Full Name _____ Sex _____
Preferred Name _____ Age _____ Date of Birth _____
2. Home Address _____
Telephone _____ Email _____
3. Marital status: _____ Single _____ Engaged _____ Married _____ Other (Explain) _____
4. Describe your spouse's (if married) or family's (if under 18) attitude toward your potential involvement in this short-term ministry. _____
5. How do you rate your present health? _____ Excellent _____ Good _____ Fair _____ Poor
Any known health problems? _____ (If so, explain on separate sheet of paper)
List any medications you now use and dosage: _____

List all Allergies to Food: _____
Medication: _____
Describe any special diet you are on: _____
6. In Case of Emergency - Home contact:
Name: _____ Relationship to you: _____
Home Phone () _____ Work Phone () _____
7. Occupation: _____
8. Where do you work or attend school? _____
9. Level of education completed _____ Major _____
10. What language(s) do you speak other than English? _____
Degree of conversational proficiency: _____ Fluent _____ Moderate _____ Beginner
11. What skills, training, experience, talents or gifts for the work on this trip do you have? _____

12. What previous Christian Service have you done? _____

13. What ministries are you presently involved in? _____

14. Describe your personal relationship with Jesus Christ and when and how that began.

15. Why are you applying for this trip and how do you sense God's leading for this missionary service?

16. What will be your tasks and responsibilities on this trip? _____

17. How do you deal with stress? _____

18. How do you relate to authority and to others in general? _____

19. If this trip includes overseas travel, describe any experience you have in that area. _____

20. What are your total financial needs for this trip/ministry? _____
What are your remaining needs? _____

21. How would this ministry help accomplish your life goals for God's calling in your life? _____

22. References: Please list three people you have asked, have sent the reference form to, and who will serve as your references by completing the form and sending it to the Missions Board. They need to be non-relatives who know you well; one reference must be a pastor or a ministry supervisor; other references could be a work supervisor, roommate, teacher, co-worker, friend, etc.

Name _____	Email: _____
Name _____	Email: _____
Name _____	Email: _____

23. I affirm the following:

- The information provided in this application and in any attachments is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge
- I will be available to participate fully in team training, preparation, fund raising activities
- I will be fully engaged in the short-term mission trip
- I am willing to submit to the authority of the short-term ministry team leadership
- I will seek to be spiritually prepared for this short-term mission trip
- I have read and agree to the **“What We Believe”** doctrinal statement (attached)

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

24. For Parent/Guardian of any Applicant under 18 years old: MEDICAL RELEASE: In addition to the above, I understand that in case of an emergency on this trip, every effort will be made to contact me the parent/guardian, of the applicant. If I cannot be reached, I hereby give permission to the Team Leader, or Co-Leader to hospitalize, secure proper treatment for, and order injection, anesthesia, or surgery for my child/dependent as signed above.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

WHAT WE BELIEVE

Bethel Church

I. GOD

There is one God who is the Creator and Ruler of all creation who has eternally existed in three co-eternal, co-equal persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Each is distinct in person and function, but one in essence.

II. GOD THE FATHER

We believe in God the Father: one in essence with the Son and the Spirit. He is an infinite, personal Spirit, perfect in all His attributes. He is the Creator, Sustainer, and sovereign Ruler of all things through His Son Jesus Christ.

III. JESUS CHRIST

Jesus Christ is both the Son of God, equal with the Father, and the virgin-born Son of Man. He led a sinless life and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for our sins by dying upon a cross. He rose three days later to demonstrate His power over sin and death and as a declaration that He truly was the Son of God. He ascended to heaven's glory and will return again someday to Earth to establish His earthly kingdom and reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

IV. THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is God, equal to the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit is present in the world to make us aware of our need for Jesus Christ. He comes to live within those who have placed their trust in Jesus the moment they believe and seals their eternal destiny. He provides the Christian with power for daily living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. He also gifts every believer for service within the Church. As Christians we seek to live under His control daily.

V. THE BIBLE

We believe that God has spoken in the Scriptures, the 66 books of the Protestant Canon, through the words of human authors. As the verbally inspired Word of God, the Bible is without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavor should be judged. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises.

VI. PEOPLE

People are the supreme object of God's creation created in the image of God. We were created to enjoy fellowship with God and fulfill God's will on earth. By an act of rebellion against the express will of God, the original pair became "infected" by sin, which resulted in all mankind inheriting a fallen nature. This inward inclination toward sin which always leads to acts of rebellion has alienated us from God, resulting in divine condemnation, spiritual death, and physical decay.

VII. SALVATION

Salvation is the gift of God given to those who have placed their trust in Christ. Salvation is a gift because there is nothing we can do to earn it. No religious effort or good work ever qualifies us to receive salvation. Due to our inward inclination and actual acts of rebellion, we are deserving of God's judgment. But God the Father, because of his grace and mercy, sent God the Son to be the sacrifice for our sins by suffering and dying in our place. Those who trust in Christ are declared "not guilty" because their penalty for sin has been paid, and they become children of God.

VIII. THE CHURCH

Jesus Christ is the head of the Church, His body, which is composed of all people who have placed their trust in Christ. We believe that this body expresses itself in local assemblies in which believers are in a covenant relationship. The Scriptures tell us to come together for edification, fellowship, worship, and prayer. The purpose of the Church is to make disciples of all people, always bearing witness to the gospel in word and deed.

IX. THE FUTURE

Jesus will someday return bodily, personally, and visibly to earth to establish his rule and reign, the time known only to the Father. At the end of Christ's 1,000 year reign, all those who have ever existed will be judged. Those who have placed their trust in Christ will spend eternity in the presence of God. Those who have rejected Christ's offer of forgiveness will suffer eternal conscious punishment.

Appendix 11

LIABILITY RELEASE AGREEMENT

**for members of a Short Term Missions Team solely organized by
Bethel Baptist Church, Fairbanks, AK**

The undersigned wishes to participate in a short-term mission trip (herein the "Activity") with *Bethel Church, Fairbanks, Alaska* who is providing assistance in arranging this trip.

Bethel Baptist Church, Fairbanks, Alaska and the undersigned agree that the Activity poses risks including the following specific risks: sickness, crime, political instability, governmental opposition to missions activities, as well as similar and dissimilar risks (herein the "Risks").

For and in consideration of *Bethel Baptist Church, Fairbanks, Alaska* assisting the participant in the Activity, and other good and valuable consideration the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the undersigned for him self/herself and his/her personal representatives, assigns, heirs, distributees, guardians and next of kin (herein the "Releasors"), hereby irrevocably and unconditionally releases, waives, discharges and covenants not to sue *Bethel Baptist Church, Fairbanks, Alaska* and its affiliates, subsidiaries, divisions, members, directors, officers, employees and agents (herein the "Releasees"), for and from all claims of any nature now or hereafter existing whether known or unknown, including but not limited to, all liability to the Releasors, on account of injury to the undersigned or death to the undersigned or injury to the property of the undersigned, whether caused by the negligence of Releasees or otherwise, while the undersigned is participating in the Activity.

The undersigned is fully aware of the Risks and other hazards inherent in the Activity, and voluntarily assumes the Risks and all other risks of loss, damage, or injury that may be sustained by the undersigned while participating in the Activity.

The undersigned also agrees that he/she bears the sole responsibility for any and all medical expenses which he/she incurs while participating in the Activity, whether for injury or illness, and whether required as a result of the undersigned's participation in the Activity or not. The undersigned acknowledges Releasees are under no obligation to, and do not, provide medical insurance for the undersigned.

The undersigned further agrees that he/she bears the sole responsibility for any and all travel expense which he/she incurs in the event his/her team leader or other project leadership finds it necessary to send the participant home prior to the scheduled departure date, whether for health or physical limitations or inappropriate or immoral behavior, and whether required during the undersigned's participation in the Activity or not. The undersigned acknowledges Releasees are under no obligation to, and do not cover travel expenses for the undersigned.

Lastly, the undersigned agrees that he/she assumes responsibility for all loss and damage of his/her personal items during the Activity, and holds Bethel Baptist Church harmless for his/her injury or death, or for any hostage situation he/she is subject to, during the Activity.

The undersigned warrants that he or she has fully read and understands this Liability Release Agreement and voluntarily signs the same, and that no oral representations, statements or inducements apart from the foregoing written agreement have been made to the undersigned.

CAUTION: READ BEFORE SIGNING

(Date)

(Please Print Name of Participant)

(Signature of Participant)

(Date)

(Please Print Name of Witness)

(Signature of Witness)

Bethel Church

Guidelines for Short Term Mission Teams

Acts 1:8 “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

STM trips should be strategic in mission, with well-prepared people who have a commitment to serving others

Objectives

For Bethel Church:

- Promote STM trips that will meet the needs of the target people and effectively utilize the gifts of each team member
- Increase interaction with missionaries
- Grow individually and corporately in commitment, understanding, and participation in missions

For the Team Members:

- Deepen relationship with God by preparing and serving as a short term missionary
- Experience who God is and how He works through us to spread the gospel
- Participate in a team training program to unify the team
- Learn to share with others what God is doing in your life before, during, and after the STM trip
- Assist full time missionaries and church workers
- Further the witness of the gospel to the target culture
- Observe first hand missionary life
- Experience working in a different culture and language

For the Mission Board:

- Promote STM opportunities for the people of Bethel Church by providing information and organizing teams
- Provide guidance and encouragement
- Provide financial assistance
- Assist in coordinating training
- Provide prayer support

Approval Criteria for Team Members

- Show evidence of a relationship with Christ, a Godly lifestyle, and a heart for missions
- Must consistently attend Bethel Church or another evangelical church
- Agree with the doctrinal statement of Bethel Church as presented in the “What We Believe” (attachment A)

- Be approved by the Mission Board through an application which includes references and a personal interview with the Mission Board and the team leader

Team Member Responsibilities

- Spend time in God's Word and prayer on a consistent basis
- Demonstrate the ability to share the gospel and give a personal testimony
- Share about the trip during a Church service, Sunday school, cell group, or AWANA
- Gather prayer partners
- Learning some basics of the target culture
- Raise financial support
- Attend all training meetings and fund-raisers unless excused by the team leader

Team Leader Responsibilities

Preliminary Trip Plan

6 months before the trip the Team Leader should submit a preliminary trip plan to the Missions Board. The trip plan should include the following elements:

- Destination
- Host Contact or Organizing Mission Agency
- Goals, Objectives, and Expectations
- Trip length and expected dates
- Potential team leaders and others responsible
- Proposed team members if known

Required Team Orientation

- Team member roles and duties
- Expectations of the Host Agency
- Goals for the trip
- Living conditions and what to expect
- How to be safe in-country
- Emergency medical and evacuation procedures
- Travel tips

Required Training

- Biblical basis for the Mission
- Biblical servanthood
- Spiritual preparation, spiritual gifts
- Interpersonal team relationships
- Cultural sensitivity and appropriate conduct and dress
- Training specific to the ministry
 - i.e.: puppets, song leading, teaching, 5 day club

Financial Plan

Develop budget and financial plan to fund the trip and submit to the Missions Board at least 5 months before leaving. Include information on:

- Cost per person
- How the money will be raised
- Fund-raising ideas

Suggested Timeline

Before the Trip	First	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pray and seek God's direction for the trip
	6 months before	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present preliminary trip plan to the Missions Board for approval
	5 months before	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team Members submit applications and references • Team Members sign Liability and Release Agreements • Missions Board interviews team members • Team Members receive feedback/approval from Missions Board • Begin team building and training • Submit financial plan to Missions Board
	4 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply for passport if necessary • Obtain any needed vaccinations and/or travel medications (ex: malaria medication)
	3 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop or obtain Emergency Medical Plan and Evacuation Plan and submit to Missions Board • Obtain travel and medical insurance if necessary
	2 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolve any issues or errors with passport as needed • Apply for visa if necessary (or on recommended country timeline)
	1 month or less	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Print daily schedule • Print list of emergency contacts • Print airplane schedules • Print copies of Medical Information • Give photocopy of passport to each leader and co-leader • Congregational send off
	During The Trip	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep track of the ways you have seen God work. • Have team time together to pray and discuss
Returning	2 weeks after (or earlier)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debrief with the team • Debrief with the Missions Board
	4 months after (or earlier)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare a written Trip Report or present to the congregation