

# SunWest Youth Ministries

**Mexico Trip Info**

# What's the Trip About?

Every year, in partnership with Amor Ministries, we take van loads of grade 9-12 students across the border into Mexico to build homes to help people in need. This is a highlight of our Student Ministries. Each year we see houses built, community created, and lives transformed. We go to be a blessing, but leave blessed. This year will be the 21st year SunWest has partnered with Amor, and in that time we have built over 100 homes for people in need. Be part of the movement and join us this year on the trip.

# Who Can Come?

The Mexico Trip is open to any student from grade 9-12. All are welcome. It doesn't matter whether or not you attend our weekly gatherings, we want to give all students the opportunity to serve. Wherever you are on your faith journey, if you've been attending church your entire life or if this trip will be the first time you hear about Jesus, we go to help people in need and that's for everyone - so bring along your friends!

# What About Leaders?

Yes the trip is designed for students, but a trip like this wouldn't be possible without the help of adult leaders. There are many roles that are needed on this trip; drivers, builders, prayer leaders, etc. If you are interested in being a leader in any capacity please contact Trent Berstad or Colton Willms.

*"I've seen how serving people  
helps us to love people"*  
*Bianca (Mexico Trip 2015)*

# When Are we Going?

The trip takes place during the CBE spring break, **Friday, March 23rd through Monday, April 2nd**. Most students will only be required to miss two school days - the Friday we leave, and the Monday we return.

# What's The Cost?

Each individual is responsible for paying/fundraising **\$1,500** for the trip. There are multiple fundraising options available to help relieve costs - raising support is also encouraged! Students are also responsible for paying for their food and entertainment during our travel days. We will be stopping at inexpensive fast-food options to keep costs low. We recommend students bring \$150 USD. This money can not be fundraised as it is personal spending money.

*“My Favourite part of Mexico is the community of people serving together.”  
Rebecca (Mexico Trip 2015)*

## Border Crossing:

It is mandatory that all participants have a valid passport. There will be no exceptions. Please order your passport early. Passports will be kept together in an envelope at the front of your van. We must also have a copy of your passport as soon as possible. If you do not have one, you must apply for one right away.

# What About my Health Concerns?

**Vaccinations:** The staff at Amor Ministries in Tijuana has assured us that we do not require any special vaccinations in order to work there, and they themselves also do not receive any special vaccinations.

**Hot Sunny Days:** If it is very hot and sunny, it is important everyone wear sun block, a hat, and drink lots of water. While in Mexico, we will only allow students to drink and eat the food and water provided by Amor. If a situation required further medical treatment, we would take the short drive back into the USA for treatment (about 20- 60 minutes away). We will always, as a team, have a First Aid kit on hand.

**Health Insurance:** It is also very important that every member of the team has acquired out of country health insurance. Insurance can be obtained easily at any travel agency for approximately \$20 for the duration of our time away.

## Are we Safe?

The simple answer to that question is yes. We are in very good hands with Amor Ministries. They cross the border multiple times a day, know the community, are aware of all the concerns, and hold our safety in high regard. The camp where we stay is owned by Amor, and tightly guarded by security. No one goes in or out without them knowing about it.



# Dates and Deadlines

- Oct 22            **Parent/Student Info Meeting 1pm at Mckenzie Community Centre**  
General information about the trip and packages handed out.  
Ministry Centre will open at 3:00pm to collect registration.
- Dec 15            **Registration Fee and Forms Due \$300 (Early Bird Price)**  
The Ministry Centre will be open from 3pm-7pm to collect forms and fees. Early bird for registration for students is \$1400. To qualify for the early bird you must have your online registration, Amor form, liability form, copy of your passport, and your \$300 deposit completed and handed in. The regular cost of the trip is \$1500.
- Jan 21            **Student/Parent Meeting 1:00pm at McKenzie Community Centre**  
For student and parents of students going to Mexico  
**\*\*Second Instalment Money DUE \$600**  
McKenzie Community Centre will open at 12:30pm to collect money.  
**\*\*All release forms, conduct covenant, copies of passports and drivers licenses (for leaders) are due at this time.**
- Feb 25            **Leaders Meeting 1:00pm Ministry Centre**  
For all leaders going to Mexico. Lunch will be provided.
- Mar 11            **Leaders/Students/Parents Meeting 1:00pm McKenzie Community Centre**  
**\*\*ALL MONEY IS DUE AT THIS MEETING \$600 (Total\$1500)**  
McKenzie Community Centre will open at 12:30pm to collect money.
- TBA                **SunWest Church 'SEND OFF' for all Mexico participants(tentative date)**
- Mar 22            **CHECK IN LUGGAGE**  
Deliver all **Mexico Bound** luggage to the Ministry Centre from 6:30pm-8:30pm (see packing instructions for details)  
**\*\*Mandatory - ALL PASSPORTS TO BE HANDED IN!**
- Mar 23            **LEAVE FOR MEXICO!!**  
Meet at the Ministry Centre at **6:00am sharp!**
- Apr 2             **RETURN HOME!!!**  
ETA...8pm
- Apr 5             **DESSERT NIGHT 7pm**  
Join us at Mountain Park School to hear all the life changing stories.