

# Mexico Mission Trip

## April 4-10, 2024



Trinity Presbyterian Church  
1106 Alameda de las Pulgas  
San Carlos, CA 94070  
[www.trinity-pres.org](http://www.trinity-pres.org)

Hello Fellow Mexico Adventurers,

We want to welcome you to this awesome life-changing experience. Whether you've been on the trip before or this is your first year, you are in for a unique encounter with Jesus Christ through your fellow mission trip participants and the people of Mexico we'll be serving. Get ready for an awe-inspiring mission trip 😊

This trip is not just about doing the construction, but also building fellowship and exploring faith for all participants. Thus, we have several Mandatory Mexico Meetings (MMMs) in the weeks leading up to the trip to get to know each other, have content time and small group discussions, and have fun!

We also have our Trinity Garage Sale that helps fund about half the costs of the trip. This is a required commitment for all participants (family and friends are welcome too!). You'll find that it is a ton of fun and a community-building experience in itself!

Please read over all the material in this packet which includes information, dates, and requirements about the trip. There are some details that are still to be determined based on the number of participants that go, but we are providing the most complete information we have at this time.

There are **two big changes this year**, so please carefully read about these in the packet:

- Instead of our usual Sat-Fri schedule, we are switching to Thu-Wed to accommodate spring breaks of different school districts.
- Most of our registration process is online.

Details and requirements about the trip may change due to health situations that may arise. You can check the latest Amor Ministries requirements directly at <https://amor.org/safety/>.

If you have questions or need further information, Drew or Grace would be more than happy to help.

Yours in service and love of Christ,

Mexico Leadership Team

Drew Schulz ([drew@schulzer.com](mailto:drew@schulzer.com), 650-274-7008)

Grace Schulz ([grace@schulzer.com](mailto:grace@schulzer.com), 650-346-5242)

Mark Gerhardt

# Registration & Important Information

***Complete registration includes the following items turned into the Church Office or Drew/Grace Schulz by Sunday, February 4.***

## Registration Checklist:

1. **Student Online Registration:** <https://forms.gle/5o5UwgSmpYSKhMjt6>
  - Advisors have a separate registration form, see Advisor packet.
  - Parents/guardians can help with student registration, such as sections on general info and medical info.
  - Students **MUST** complete the student questionnaire and covenant sections in the online registration.
  - To help us plan logistics, there is a question in the online form to indicate if you A) plan to attend the entire trip (**strongly encouraged**), B) arrive late (fly to San Diego airport) or C) leave early (fly home from San Diego airport). You can only choose one of these options.
2. **Parent/Guardian Signatures** – **Print** and sign the last page of this packet and bring it to church.
3. **Payment** – Bring in a check made out to Trinity Presbyterian Church. Financial assistance is available, see the Online Registration form.
4. **Amor Ministries Registration** – Every participant must complete this Amor participation form: <https://amor.org/participation-form/>
  - Search for our group's name *Trinity Presbyterian Church, San Carlos*.
  - Then select our name and trip dates, *Andrew 'Drew' Schulz, 4/5/2024-4/9/2024*.
  - ***\*Minors and their legal guardian must sign at the same time so they should be present together when signing. To help mitigate confusion, please see the [instructions found here](#).***
5. **Immigration (border crossing) form** – This will be provided to you prior to our departure.

The student fee for Mexico 2024 is **\$750**.

*If you need financial assistance, let us know via the Online Registration form.*

## ***Passports are required.***

No exceptions. No copies. If you don't have one already, or if yours is expired/expiring soon, **START the application process NOW! They can take several weeks or even months to get.**

**NOTE: If your passport expires less than 6 months after the trip dates, we highly recommend renewing your passport.**

We will have you bring in your passports and an immigration form when we get closer to the trip. We will provide instructions for you on how to complete the immigration form.

# Important Dates

***\*\*Mark your calendars\*\****

MMM = Mandatory Mexico Meeting

## January

**21 (Sun)** **Info Night** 7-8 PM – A night for students & parents. Bring your completed registration papers if they're ready!

## February

**4 (Sun)** **Registration packets and payments due** 6-7:30 PM – Drop off your paperwork and join us for some pizza!

**11 (Sun)** **MMM** 7:30-9 PM (after Superbowl)

**25 (Sun)** **MMM** 7-9 PM

## March

**3 (Sun)** **MMM** 7-9 PM

**9-15** **Garage sale prep** all week through Friday

**16-17** **Garage Sale** Saturday and Sunday (after worship)

**24 (Sun)** **MMM and Parent Meeting** 7-9 PM

**31 (Sun)** **Commissioning Service (Easter)** 10 AM in Worship

## April

**3 (Wed)** **Pick up Mexico vans (advisors/parents)**

**4 (Thu)** **Depart for Mexico**; stay overnight in San Diego

**5 (Fri)** **Arrive in Mexico**

**10 (Wed)** **Return from Mexico** around 3 PM

**20 (Sat)** **Post-trip reunion** 6-9 PM – We will gather for fellowship and food. Location TBD.

**21 (Sun)** **Sharing Service** – 10 AM in Worship. Whether you are speaking in the service or not, please plan to come so we can support one another and share our experience with the church.

# Tools & Supplies

Details on what to bring will be also be reviewed at our Parent Meeting in March. We highly recommend clearly marking your name on all your belongings!

## Tools:

- ☐ **Work gloves**
- ☐ **Nail pouch**
- ☐ **Protective eyewear**

## Other Stuff:

- ☐ **Work clothes** (two pairs of jeans, t-shirts, sturdy socks, etc.)
- ☐ **Pillow**
- ☐ **Sleeping bag**
- ☐ **Flashlight**
- ☐ **Rain gear**
- ☐ **Water bottle**
- ☐ **Hat & sunglasses**
- ☐ **Bug spray (optional)**
- ☐ **Sunscreen**
- ☐ **Handy wipes**
- ☐ **Towel**
- ☐ **Solar shower**
- ☐ **Swimsuit and beach sandals for the “splash” showers**
- ☐ **Personal toiletries**
- ☐ **Two pairs of sturdy shoes** (no open-toed shoes on the worksite)
- ☐ **Warm sweater and/or jacket for cold evenings**
- ☐ **Bible**
- ☐ **Money** (one breakfast, three lunches, souvenirs)

We suggest that you not bring valuables such as multiple electronic devices. Smartphones are acceptable, but we ask that you minimize use. This is our week to get away from material stuff, and it will also be your responsibility to prevent items from getting lost or stolen. **Portable speakers are strictly prohibited for any part of the trip (except as provided by the advisors)!**

## COVID-19/Health Supplies: (Trinity will also have a range of supplies)

- ☐ **Face masks** (*may be required at the worksite*)
- ☐ **Hand sanitizer**

**HOW TO PACK:** Since space is an issue and you may need to hand-carry all your belongings across the border, please make sure that everything fits into **ONE bag** and one daypack (for the bus ride and bringing to the worksite). Your pillow and sleeping bag can be separate.

# Itinerary

This exact schedule is subject to change.

## ***Thursday, April 4***

6:00 AM - Depart from Trinity

4:00 PM - Arrive in San Diego (Oceanside Presbyterian Church)

Evening - Advisors pick up any students flying to San Diego

## ***Friday, April 5***

8:00 AM - Depart for Mexico

## ***Workdays – Sat, Sun, Mon***

6:00 AM - Rise and shine

6:30 AM - Breakfast and lunch packing

7:30 AM - Leave for work sites to build houses!

4:30 PM - Arrive at campground

6:00 PM - Dinner

7:00 PM - Evening Program

10:00 PM - Good Night

## ***Tuesday, April 9***

7:30 AM - Pack up and move out

11:00 AM - Lunch in San Diego

Lunchtime - Advisors take any students to San Diego airport who are flying home

2:00 PM - Leave for LA

5:00 PM - Arrive at overnight site (Drayson Center, Loma Linda)

7:00 PM - Evening program

11:00 PM - Good Night

## ***Wednesday, April 10***

7:00 AM - Rise, shine, pack up and leave for home

3:00 PM - Arrive at Trinity



# Frequently Asked Questions

## **What safety measures are being taken for COVID-19?**

- We will follow San Mateo County health protocols.
- We recommend that everyone be up to date with current vaccines.
- We will follow all Amor safety protocols (<https://amor.org/safety/>).

## **Are the Mandatory Mexico Meetings (MMMs) really mandatory? Why?**

- Yes, the meetings are mandatory. The MMMs are the way we bond as a team, provide necessary training, and communicate important info about the trip.

## **What do we do at the meetings?**

- We spend time playing “get-to-know-you” games, singing, hearing a message, talking in small groups, and getting important trip updates. That’s a lot to cover in 2 hours, so please BE ON TIME.

## **Is the Garage Sale fundraiser mandatory? What’s my part?**

- The Garage Sale is mandatory. However, if you have something very important that day that you cannot get out of, let Drew know as soon as possible BY EMAIL. You will get more information about the sale at the MMM before the event.
- The Garage Sale and student fees pay for trip expenses which include transportation, food, and Amor fees (e.g., registration, construction supplies for the house).

## **Who assigns the groups (small groups and worksite)?**

- Mexico leadership team assigns the small groups and all the other assignments.

## **How much money should I bring on the trip? What’s it for?**

- You’ll need spending money for food and shopping at the extended stop we take on our way back and money for a few fast food meals on the trip (3 lunches and 1 breakfast). Please don’t bring an excessive amount of money, \$50-\$60 is enough.
- AMOR also has a store that sells snacks, t-shirts and blankets.

## **Who picks who gets the houses that we build? What’s Amor’s involvement?**

- AMOR (the organization that organizes our trip) works with local Mexican churches and their pastors. The pastors recommend families that need assistance. We bring the work and love, while AMOR provides overall administration and local support.

## **How do I contact the mission team while you’re away?**

- Prior to departure we’ll provide information about emergency phone numbers, including the AMOR number. Your cell phones will typically work in Mexico.

## **What if somebody gets sick or injured? What kinds of safety precautions do you take?**

- We have at least one advisor that has first aid and CPR training, and they will take any serious injuries to a hospital in the U.S. We also minimize the possibility of injury or sickness by training the students on safety precautions and providing food and water through a contract food service in Mexico.

## **What’s security like at the campsite?**

- AMOR works with local authorities to provide a secure campground. They also have round-the-clock supervision provided. We are very safe!

## **Who are the advisors?**

- The advisor team is a group of adults from the church and community who volunteer to be part of this trip and facilitate the life-changing experience of Trinity’s Mexico mission trip for the youth. We are committed to at least a 3 to 1 student/adult ratio (e.g., often 2 to 1).

# Fundraiser Participation Commitment

The Mexico Mission Trip is a large success each year thanks to support from both students and parents. These past years have been a testimony to the hard work that our entire community has put forth in making this incredible event happen.

**The Trinity Garage Sale is the primary fundraiser for the mission trip and offsets a large portion of what the per-student cost would be without it. Your help is MANDATORY in making it a success!**

**Parents will be provided with a Sign-Up link to volunteer.  
Students will sign up for shifts during one of our MMMs.**

Prep for the sale will take place Saturday, March 9 through Friday, March 15. The sale itself will be **Saturday, March 16, 8 AM to 3 PM and Sunday, March 17, 11 AM to 3 PM**. The types of jobs available include:

- Set up: Saturday of the week before the sale
- Sorting and organizing from Sunday through Friday
- Helping at the sale Saturday and Sunday
- Cleaning up Sunday after the sale (typically until ~6 PM). **WE NEED AS MUCH HELP AS POSSIBLE for clean-up!**

For Garage Sale questions, contact Annette Caves, 650-740-1265 [tahoeannie@gmail.com](mailto:tahoeannie@gmail.com) or Alicia Ledwith [choppie03@gmail.com](mailto:choppie03@gmail.com).



## Parent/Guardian Permissions

Sign and return this sheet along with your payment at our drop-off time on FEBRUARY 4 or to the Trinity church office before then. (*Checks made payable to Trinity Presbyterian Church*)

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Photo Release:** I grant permission for Trinity Presbyterian Church to use pictures and/or videos taken of the ministry participant named above while engaging in church activities for promotional purposes.

**Authorization:** I hereby authorize the participant named above to participate in the Mexico Mission Trip with church-organized advisors from April 4-10, 2024. I hereby certify that I am the legal guardian or parent of said minor. I further recognize that volunteers, who are not acting as agents of the church, and staff for Trinity Presbyterian Church, are furnishing transportation.

**Release of Liability:** I hereby absolve and hold harmless Trinity Presbyterian Church, their respective employees, and volunteers from all injuries, claims, or liabilities that may result from my participation or my minor child's participation in church activities. If the participant is a minor, I give my consent to his/her participation. I am aware the activity may involve risk of injury and I assume all risks for injuries received. I also understand that health and accident insurance protection is my responsibility.

**Medical Permission:** No medication is given without your permission. Be sure you have completed all your medical information and instructions on the Online Registration.

**Consent for Emergency Medical Treatment:** In the event I cannot be reached in an emergency during the trip dates noted on this form, I hereby give permission to the physician or dentist selected by Trinity Presbyterian Church staff to hospitalize, to secure proper treatment and/or to order an injection, anesthesia, or surgery for my child as deemed necessary. I further agree to be responsible for any and all costs not covered by my medical insurance carrier. In addition, my child also has my permission to receive non-prescription medication and first aid treatment (i.e., Tylenol, Sudafed, Advil or Band-Aids) from a Mexico Mission Trip advisor if necessary as submitted in my Online Registration form.

(We) the parent(s) or guardian of the above named shall defend, save harmless and indemnify the adults leading the trip to Mexico from all liabilities and claims for damages, sickness or injury to person or property, including without limitation all consequential damages arising from or connected with the dispensing of said medication as indicated on our Online Registration form.

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_