

## Salem Lutheran Church Short-Term Missionary Support

*Established by Salem's Mission Board to Benefit Short-Term Mission Work*

*...whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be servant of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve... Mark 10:43-45*

It is the desire of Salem's Mission Board and Salem Lutheran Church to offer financial assistance to people seeking to be part of short-term (less than one year in length) mission work and who have financial need.

Since the Mission's budget is limited and the needs around the world are so great, the Board encourages short-term mission participants to fund their individual mission by raising support from friends, family, and through personal means. The Board will consider giving financial assistance to short-term missionaries based on the following general guidelines; all applicants will be considered:

1. The short-term missionary must be an active member of Salem Lutheran Church.
2. The Board will contribute up to \$500.00 per mission trip.
3. Short-term missionaries seeking support must complete the Short-Term Missionary Support Application.
4. A short-term missionary receiving support will be asked to report to the congregation of Salem Lutheran Church upon concluding his or her short-term mission work.
5. In the event the short-term missionary does not participate in the funded trip, it will be the responsibility of the short-term missionary to return the funding to Salem Lutheran Church.

**Salem Lutheran Church  
Short-Term Missionary Support Application**

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_ My Contact email: \_\_\_\_\_

My Name: \_\_\_\_\_ My Grade (if a student): \_\_\_\_\_

My Destination: \_\_\_\_\_ When: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Organized By: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost of Trip: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Amt Req: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

1. Describe your involvement at Salem Lutheran Church.

2. In what other ways, aside from asking for Salem's support, have you worked to fund the cost of your mission trip?

3. What is the nature of your mission trip? What will you be doing?

4. What do you believe is your personal purpose on this mission trip? What inspired you to participate? What do you hope to take away from the experience?

5. How are you willing to report back to the Salem congregation about your mission trip once it is completed? Check all that apply:

- Written Testimony (required)
- Video Testimony
- Live During Church Service

6. Do you give Salem permission to use excerpts from your Application as well as your social media posts regarding your trip to print in the Church Bulletin if accepted?

Social Media: \_\_\_\_\_ Initial Here

Parent/Guardian Signature if Applicant under 18 years old

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Office Use Only:**

Missions Approved Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

cc: Accounting, Church Sunday Bulletin, Missions to Calendar for return Testimony

# Sharing your Testimony

Testimonies are a great way to communicate what God has done through you while you are on your mission trip. Following is some helpful advice for your testimony:

## **Prepare:**

Write out your testimony. This is an important factor to giving a clear, concise, and impactful testimony. Writing out your testimony helps prevent forgetting what you want to say.

## **Content:**

Begin your testimony with thanksgiving and praise, thanking God, for being able to serve Him and for your relationship with Him.

Give a comparison of how you used to be and what has changed since your Mission Trip. Present a single spiritual truth rather than a rambling story of your life. Include something about the Power of God and His love, mercy and grace.

## **Presentation:**

Be definite, specific, and contemporary. Be careful of your terminology. Don't use generalizations, slang or vague terms. Keep your testimony to the point.

This is a testimony of how Christ has influenced you. This should show in your voice, actions and facial expressions.

## **Practice:**

Practice what you will say beforehand until you are comfortable with your thoughts, words and difficult vocabulary.

## **Sample:**

*I am grateful to God for blessing me with more than I need. I am grateful to God that I am able to continue Mission work with the support of my Church.*

*As a child, I would bring home every stray, lost and injured animal I could find. One time, I even brought home a wandering pony! Although I may not have known it at the time, Christ was developing a compassion in me for the unwanted and helpless.*

*As a teenager, my family travelled extensively in Mexico and we always had clothes and toys for the the children in each isolated village we visited. Again, Christ was at work expanding my compassion to include children.*

*As an adult, I am grateful to Christ to be able to serve Him through mission work. I am thankful that my Church is able to support my mission work so that I am able to continue serving Christ through caring for the unwanted and helpless people (and animals) in need.*

*Mission work is a constant reminder that He provides for us. It is a reminder that our wants are very different than our needs. God has given us everything we need.*

*"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?" Matthew 6:25*

