

Dear Parents and Attendees,

As you may have already heard, we are planning to go on a mission trip to the area of Juarez, Mexico.

Besides the registration fee charge you will also need money for up to 6 meals while traveling and \$10-15 for a stop on the way home.

Please note: We can use a lot more money for projects – All additional monies collected will stay with the ministries we will be serving even if we don't use it!

We will be staying at the New Beginnings Compound in Juarez. It is fairly safe within the compound areas but all travels and activities beyond the compounds are limited and planned by staff for safety.

During the Trip we will be reading and discussing the first four chapters of the book "When Helping Hurts". It is a great book to understand the deeper philosophy of missions and the harm they can bring to a community if done poorly (even with good intentions). We will also have times set aside for devotions, reflections and filling out personal journals. This will help each one see the hand of God in the ministry and what is taking place in their lives and the lives of others. There will be times of group sharing where each participant will be expected to share what they are learning. We will also hear from some of the local workers in the evenings as they are available.

Those attending can expect to get very dirty each day as many of the projects involve cleaning, building, etc.

We only have a few showers available for the whole team so 5-10 minute showers are the maximum time to expect for shower needs.

On the first Sunday we are there we sometimes visit the market to purchase a few souvenirs but we also try to purchase most of our souvenirs from the families that are part of Amigos en Cristo. We will be walking a lot and the group will be required to walk very close each way. We do go past a lot of people who are begging. They should not be given handouts as most of the individuals choose this as a lifestyle/job. If anything, we try to give food not money.

The Team leaders that will be going include Dennis Siler and Tim and Joy Hadley.

We have enclosed a lot of information, some of which is only tentative as we are open to serving as best needed by the ministry in the area.

If you have any other questions, please contact camp at 608-634-4373 or my cell at 608-606-0603. Please begin to pray now for this trip!

On behalf of the camp staff, Thank You.
Dennis Siler



Tentative Schedule of Events:

Thursday

- 4-7 p.m. Please try to arrive to help pack the trailer
- 7-9 p.m. Prep for Departure
 - Duct tape, label and load bins in the trailer
 - Load tools, food in trailer
 - Check in all paper work and passports
- Intro Meeting and Prayer on the bus Friday morning

Friday:

- 6:00 a.m. Meet at Siler's
- 6:30 a.m. Bus to Depart
 - **Don't forget your Passport or Pass card, and Permission Slips**
 - **You will not be able to go if you don't have these Forms and a Passport!**
 - **You will be responsible for your own meals while traveling**

Note: We will drive straight through the night and sleep on the bus

Saturday

- 7:00 am Stop for quick breakfast
- 2-9:00 pm Arrive in New Beginnings
 - Unpack, organize tools, supplies and work projects
 - Evening devotions and reflections

Sunday

- Attend a Spanish or bilingual service
- Go to the Mexico Market
- Don't forget your passport**
- Evening devotions/reflections

Monday -Friday

- Work projects
- Help in the ministry as needed
- Evening Devotions/reflections

Thursday

We **may** need to get a Covid test 24 hours prior to crossing the border

Friday

- Start travel back to Wisconsin
- We may visit a special place of creation on the way home ie ICR, the White Sands etc
 - This may cost an extra \$10-15 each
- Stay in a Hotel in the US (4/room)

Saturday

- 7:00 am Continental Breakfast
- Drive straight through

Sunday:

- 10:00am-8pm - Arrive back to Westby
- Unpack, organize tools and supplies

Notes on what to bring:

Name labeled on EVERYTHING

Pack in one 18 gallon Rubbermaid tub:

- All your clothes (for 10 days):
 - Bring clothes that can get dirty.
 - Gloves and ear plugs
 - All clothes must be modest – if in doubt don't bring it.
 - No clothes with rips or tears or cutoff sleeves
 - One pair of nice blue jeans, One pair of casual pants
 - Work/painting clothes
 - Your clothing cannot say anything not honoring Christ.
 - **You can leave any clothing that someone there might want**
- Tennis shoes
- Pajamas: need to be totally modest to be seen in public!
- Toiletries
- Jacket in case of cold or rain; temperatures could be in the 80's and get down to the 30's
- Towel and washcloth

One Garbage bag – Pack one for the way home as well!

- Your sleeping bag
- One pillow, or you can bring this on the bus to try and rest

Backpack

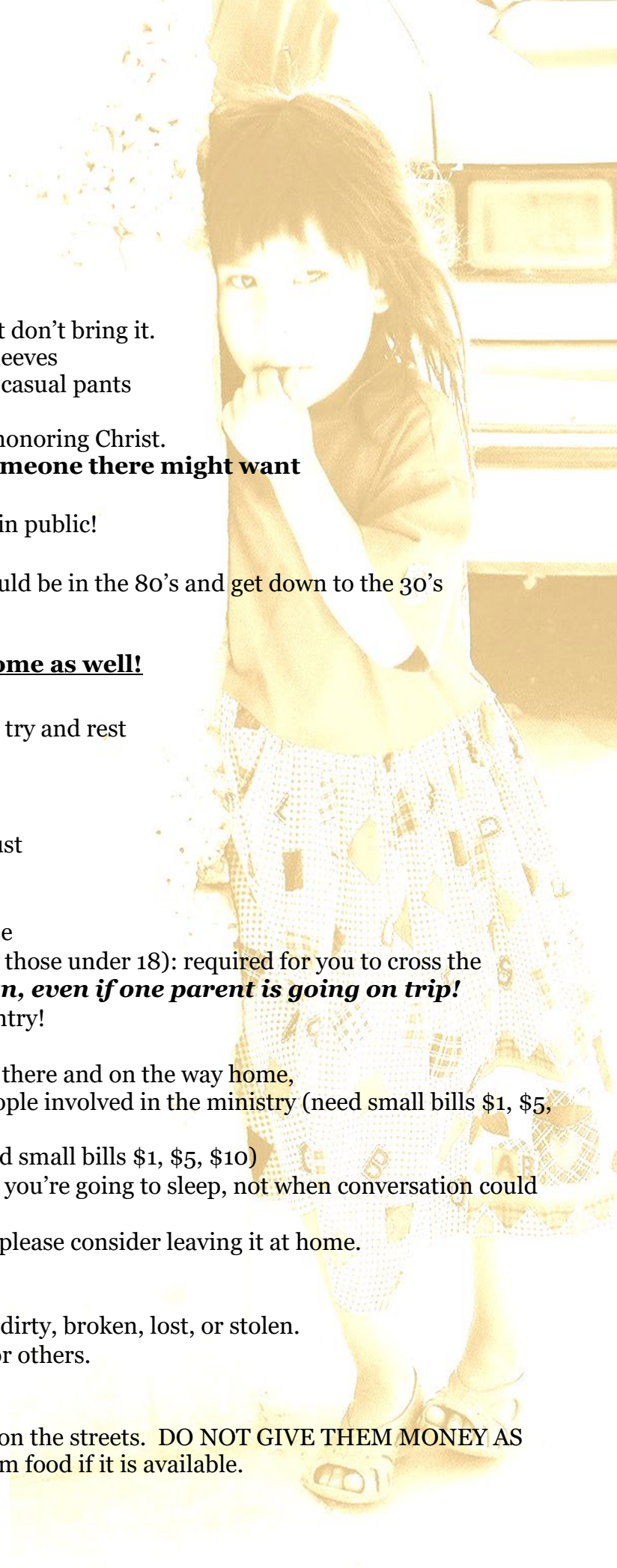
- Your Bible – you will use it!
- Journal book and two pens – this is a daily must
- Water bottle
- Deodorant and toothbrush
- Current passport/Pass card and driver's license
- Mexico permission slip from your parents (for those under 18): required for you to cross the border into Mexico. **Both parents must sign, even if one parent is going on trip!**
- Any other documentation if from another country!
- Money:
 - Money for up to 6 meals on the way there and on the way home,
 - Cash to purchase items from the people involved in the ministry (need small bills \$1, \$5, \$10)
 - Cash for the market on Sunday (need small bills \$1, \$5, \$10)
- Music players with Christian music only when you're going to sleep, not when conversation could be happening).
- Minimize what you bring if it's not on this list please consider leaving it at home.

What NOT to bring:

- Anything valuable that will upset you if it gets dirty, broken, lost, or stolen.
- Anything else that might cause a distraction for others.

BRING A HEART TO SERVE!

Remember: You will encounter people begging on the streets. **DO NOT GIVE THEM MONEY AS THEY DO THIS FOR A LIVING.** We will give them food if it is available.



Mission Trip

SAFETY RULES

Personal

1. Follow directions.
2. Stay with your assigned group.
3. Always be with at least one other person.
4. Pedestrians do not have the right of way.
5. Carry your own water.

Travel

1. No leaving the vehicle without permission.
2. NO switching vehicles.
3. No shopping or bathroom breaks at gas stations unless told. (We will stop at large rest areas to accommodate everyone quickly.)
4. Please use the restrooms at scheduled breaks. We will only pull over to the side of the road for needs between the scheduled breaks.

Health & Sanitation

1. Wash hands frequently; always before eating and after using the bathroom.
2. Don't share hairbrushes, combs, hats or pillows.
3. See designated health provider if you have a health concern. (We will have over-the-counter meds.)
4. Don't drink any water out of a faucet once in Mexico! You will get very sick!

Work Safety

1. Bring a pair of work shoes or boots (helps on uneven terrain)
2. Bring a pair of good work gloves (saves on blister and sharp objects)
3. Bring a couple of pair of ear plugs (helps when around noisy equipment)

Possessions

1. Don't wear expensive clothing, jewelry, watches or cameras.
2. Don't leave valuables sitting around or in vans unattended.
3. Expensive cameras can get very dusty, broken or stolen
4. Lock vehicle doors.
5. Don't leave keys in the vehicles, EVER!
6. Don't make it obvious how much money you are carrying.
7. Don't fight someone who is trying to steal from you.

