



Cabo Summer 2025

June 14-20th

Informational Packet

STUDENT CABO SUMMER MISSION TRIP COMMITMENT DATES

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| THURSDAY, JANUARY 30th | APPLICATION DEADLINE Get deposit checks to Beth Miller @ Keslinger Campus by 2/18/25 |
| TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18th | TEAM MEETING 7:00-8:30PM, Keslinger Campus Pick up trip packets, support letter supplies and SMA jobs DEPOSIT AND ALL PAPERWORK DUE |
| SUNDAY, MARCH 9th | STUDENT MISSIONS AUCTION , Keslinger Campus Students are required to attend the evening event, and need to be available to serve in their assigned role at a specific time between 12-8PM |
| TUESDAY, MARCH 18th | TEAM MEETING 7:00-8:30PM, Keslinger Campus COMPLETED SUPPORT LETTERS DUE |
| TUESDAY, APRIL 15th | TEAM MEETING 7:00-8:30 PM, Keslinger Campus |
| SATURDAY, MAY 3rd, 17th | TEAM SERVE DAYS Each student commits to one date. Times/locations/details TBD |
| THURSDAY, MAY 22nd | FINAL TRIP BALANCE DUE Remaining student balance will be communicated ahead of time |
| SAT/SUN EARLY JUNE, TBD | TEAM DEDICATION WEEKEND Students hand out prayer cards after each service |
| FRIDAY, JUNE 13th | PACKING NIGHT 5:00-6:00PM, Location TBD |
| SATURDAY, JUNE 14th | TEAM DEPARTURE! |
| FRIDAY, JUNE 20th | TEAM RETURNS! Parents pick-up students from O'Hare |

Mission Trip Involvement

Student Missions experiences are more than just a trip to serve others, but an integral piece of the Biblical community we strive to create within our student ministry program. For this reason, high school short-term mission trips are intentionally designed for students actively involved in Chapelstreet Students small group ministry (Axis for current 8th grade students, D-Group for current 9th-12th grade students). At Chapelstreet Church we believe the following regarding High School Short-Term Mission trips:

- **Small Group Involvement:** Active involvement in Axis/D-Group means students have gathered together regularly in community, have studied Scripture & been taught what the Bible says, and have been held accountable in their faith by peers and adult leaders. Though discipleship isn't always clear cut & simple, Chapelstreet Students believes students who have sought this type of discipleship are best prepared to enter the mission field and share the elementary truths of the Gospel with others.
- **Being Known:** We believe that in order to best shepherd & lead these mission trips, students participating must be *known*. With hundreds of students involved at Chapelstreet, the best way to know each student who joins a mission team is if they have been faithfully disciplined by a trained & devoted Chapelstreet Students small group leader. It's important to know who is being sent out to share the Gospel with our mission partners, and we will trust our volunteer small group leaders & their discretion to help decide if students are ready for a mission trip.
- **Other Involvement at Chapelstreet:** Students who are actively involved and/or serving at Chapelstreet Church, but not currently involved in Chapelstreet Students small group ministry may be considered for a missions team. For students who fall into this category, we ask that they provide a reference from a Chapelstreet Church staff member or volunteer who knows them and can speak to their readiness to participate in a mission trip. We would ask these students to intentionally get involved within Chapelstreet Students small group ministry.
- **International Trips:** In order to join an International mission team, students must have previously been on a Chapelstreet Students mission trip & be actively involved at Chapelstreet Church.
- **Not actively involved at Chapelstreet?** If you have any questions about your current level of involvement or how to get further involved in Chapelstreet Student ministry, please email Beth bmiller@chapelstreetchurch.com or Jay jsias@chapelstreetchurch.com.

Trip Logistics and Requirements

- **Application and Trip Cost**

\$1800 (Deposit of \$750 and support raised to help cover the balance)

Trip application link and all additional required forms are available at chapelstreet.church/cabo-summer.

Application deadline is Thursday, January 30th.

- **Scholarships**

Scholarships for student trips are always available! Do not let cost be a barrier that prevents your student from applying to join this team. The scholarship application can be found at

chapelstreet.church/cabo-summer.

- **Passport**

If you do not hold a current US Passport, you will need to apply for one **ASAP!!** Passport applications are available at a US Post Office, Kane County Government Center, or online at www.travel.state.gov.

- **Paperwork and Deposit**

All paperwork and the deposit **must** be turned in by the 1st Team Meeting. Required paperwork includes: Chapelstreet Student Participation Waiver, Chapelstreet Medication form (if applicable), 3 colored copies of your passport, and 1 copy of your insurance card.

The deadline to get everything turned in is Tuesday, February 18th.

- **Support Letters**

We require that each student and leader send 30 support letters to help raise their trip cost balance.

Those who choose to pay for the whole trip without raising support will need to send 20 prayer support letters. Supplies will be handed out at the 1st meeting, and completed letters need to be turned in by

the 2nd meeting. **Letters are due by Tuesday, March 18th and will be mailed from church.**

- **Student Missions Auction**

Each student will have a job at the Student Missions Auction in order for the event to be a success.

Roles will be handed out at the 1st Team Meeting.

- **Attend All Team Commitments**

There will be 3 Team Meetings, 1 Team Serve Day, Student Missions Auction and a Team Dedication Day leading up to our trip. Each of these commitments provide the training and team building opportunities that are essential for our group to work together as a team on our trip. We ask that you commit to participating in each one of these commitments. If, for some reason you are unable to attend one of the dates, it's required that you notify Beth bmiller@chapelstreetchurch.com beforehand. Students are not allowed to miss more than 2 of these commitments as part of this team.

Support Letters

Each team member is asked to create a support team of 30 people to whom they will send a support letter. The purpose of the support letter is to invite people to be a part of your experience through excitement, prayer, and financial support when possible.

What should I include in my support letters?

- The name/location of the trip and the dates. (Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, June 14-20)
- Purpose of the trip and a brief description of the service opportunities while there (light construction projects and community outreach)
- Reason you have chosen to go and the ways you are praying for God to move throughout the trip.
- Invitation for them to join your support team through prayer and a financial donation if possible (You can specify the amount you need to raise, and any financial support beyond that will be applied to the team.)
- Gratitude for their interest, support, and prayer.

Who should you send letters to?

- Family members
- Teachers, school counselors, coaches
- Community organizations (especially any that your parents may belong to)
- Organization leaders at school (Key Club, etc.)

What if my family chooses to pay the remaining trip balance on our own?

If you have already paid for your trip in full, we ask that you send out 20 prayer letters (rather than 30 support letters). Your letter can look similar in nature - but your focus should be an emphasis on asking them to support you in prayer. So, the support letter process will look the same, but you can adjust the wording to reflect your request - and you won't need to include a return envelope for them.

When are my support letters due?

We will have the envelopes and labels for your letters available for you to pick up at the 1st Team Meeting on February 18th. Letters will be mailed from church and we ask that all letters be turned in to Beth **NO LATER than Tuesday, March 18th** so we have as much as time as possible to receive funding for the trip.

Sample Support Letter

Use this as a guide, but make it personal!

Dear Friends and Family,

I am writing to tell you about an exciting opportunity that I have to join other highschoolers from my church on a mission trip to Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, this summer. Our church has a long-standing relationship with our mission partners in Cabo San Lucas and we'll go serve alongside them in their communities!

We will be serving in Cabo from June 14-20th, and will be doing different kinds of work, varying from general construction/improvement projects for our ministry partners to interacting with the local families and children.

I am excited to be a part of this team because I know that God loves people and wants us to reach out beyond our normal comfort zone to extend His love to those in need. I also believe that as much as I have to offer the people of Cabo, I have much more to learn from the experience of serving them. I am looking forward to serving God and learning by experience at the same time!

I would like to invite you to be a part of my support team leading up to and during our time in Cabo. Would you be willing to pray for me, for our team, and for the people we are going to be serving? Please pray that God would prepare hearts and cover all of the details going into this trip, and that his love would be seen through our service. I also need to raise the remaining \$1050 for this trip, and if you are able to give a financial contribution I would be very grateful. You can donate online by using my URL link at the bottom of this letter. This is the easiest way to donate. However, if you would like to mail a check, please use the enclosed donation slip with my URL link.

Thank you for your prayers as I prepare for this trip. I look forward to sharing my experiences with you when I return!

Sincerely,
(Sign your name, then type it underneath for legibility)

**** IF RAISING SUPPORT, TYPE THE ENTIRE URL FROM YOUR DONATION SLIPS. CHECK FOR ACCURACY SO DONATIONS AREN'T DELAYED! ****

Cabo Packing List

Carry-On Bag: Backpack recommended! (maximum weight = 25lbs)

- Passport
- Clothing and basic toiletries for 2 days (in case your luggage does not arrive)
- Prescription medication (plus additional 2 wks in case of quarantine)
**must be in the original bottles with dosage*
- Bible, journal, pen
- Money (for spending in airports, souvenirs, etc. - most students bring around \$125 US)
- Items of value (*They are safer in your carry-on than checked luggage.*)

Suitcase: (maximum weight = 50 pounds, maximum size = 62in)

- Underwear: one per day— no access to laundry facilities
- Socks: one per day
- Sneakers/Tennis shoes: 1
- Work/construction shoes (closed toed, may get ruined): 1
- Clothes for travel and non-work days (shirt & pants): 1-3 days worth
- Painting/Construction clothes (shirt & pants): 4-5 days worth **Ideally not with large holes*
- Modest (knee-length) shorts: 1-2 **Not suggested for construction, see jungle note below*
- Long-sleeved shirt/sweatshirt/light jacket: 1-2
- Swimsuit (one piece and shorts for girls, no speedos for guys): 1
- Reusable water bottle: 1
- Hat: 1 – 2
- Hand sanitizer, sunscreen, bug spray
- Work gloves/rubber gloves (for painting, cement work, etc.)
- Sunglasses
- Church clothes (Girls: knee-length skirt, nice pants, modest shirt, no tank tops, Guys: dress pants, khakis, nice jeans and a nice shirt, polo, button-up, etc.): 1
- Clothes for a nice dinner: 1

Toiletries (*Put liquids in ziploc bags to prevent leaking during flight*):

- Toothbrush/toothpaste
- Soap, Shampoo & Conditioner
- Deodorant
- Chapstick or lip balm
- Sunscreen (essential #30+)
- Shaving cream & razor
- Tissues
- Other meds (Advil, Pepto Bismol, Claritin).

Frequently Asked Questions

Why Short-Term Missions?

We believe that Jesus has shown us how to love others through his life and teaching; Jesus himself did not come to be served, but to serve. The heart of missions is an expression of this kind of life that Jesus calls his followers to live. Whether we serve our local community or travel abroad to serve those in foreign lands, we are becoming the hands and feet of Jesus to those in need. As we step outside of our comfort zone and serve in new cultures, we learn more about ourselves, more about God's people, and more about God's heart. When we serve on short-term trips, we get to experience the incredible ways God works IN us as he works THROUGH us!

Why do we serve in Cabo San Lucas?

When we serve in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, we team up with longstanding ministry partners, Ramon and Venecia Noriega and the Cabo Ministry Center. Each day we work on various construction projects that range from cosmetic improvements to concrete and building projects on their ministry properties and their surrounding communities. We also run a VBS program for the local children surrounding the various work sites. The interaction with these local children is always a highlight for our students.

Where will we stay?

Students will stay at the home of our friends/ministry partners in a neighborhood of the Cabo Ministry Center. Time in downtown Cabo will be very limited and very controlled, as it is a busy tourist time during Spring Break.

Are the worksites safe?

We work alongside local ministries in areas where Ramon and Venecia have relationships with the community. Our students will always have our adult leaders and/or local ministry leaders with them at their worksites.

How are medical emergencies handled?

Our leaders will use every precaution with any illness/injury that occurs. There is an American hospital nearby that accepts American insurance. We seek guidance from our mission partners' experiences & relationships in their community in situations like these.

What if my student needs to take medications while on the trip?

Our staff team will have a copy of the allergy, medication, and medical needs based on the trip application and medication form completed by parents. Medications will be under the supervision of adult leaders and accessible to students as needed.

Can students use their cell phones?

While students will be allowed to use their cell phones during travel days and for picture taking, we ask for students to not add an international plan to their cell phones. Several leaders will have their cell phones with them at all times & we will regularly post updates on our trip social media page. Students who need phones for medical reasons will be allowed to keep them strictly for that purpose.

What is the policy on drugs, alcohol and smoking?

We have a zero-tolerance policy and students who abuse this will be sent home at the family's expense.

Can you accommodate dietary restrictions?

We will do our best to accommodate any special dietary needs. Please make this information available to Beth Miller bmiller@chapelstreetchurch.com ASAP in order to make accommodations.

Do students need to bring money?

Spending money will be needed if the student wants to purchase souvenirs, snacks, etc. during free time activities. In that case, \$100-125 is reasonable, and best in small bills.

Will students need to exchange their currency?

The Mexican unit of currency is the peso. In Cabo you can pay with either US dollars or pesos, but if you pay with US dollars, you will probably get pesos as change.

How can my student apply?

Team applications are done through Managed Missions. That application link, the scholarship link and all of the paperwork links are found at chapelstreet.church/cabo-summer.