



Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church Short Term Missions Guidelines

The purpose of these guidelines is to help those who answer the call to go to the nations with the gospel to know how BSLC will support them and encourage them to represent Christ in all they do.

We Encourage You to:

1. Pray and Study - You are encouraged to be in prayer prior to your trip to pray for safe travel, to pray for God to prepare your own heart for your mission's trip, and to be prepared to grow in your faith on your trip. Pray for yourself and with other team members if applicable. Pray for the country and the people and the project you will be visiting. Each person going on a trip is encouraged to seek out at least two people not going to be your prayer partner before, during and on your way home. You are encouraged to be in God's Word throughout your time as an ambassador so that you are equipped, surrendered and filled with the Spirit. If you are with a group that you will also be involved and contribute to the daily study of God's Word.

2. Be Commissioned - For each Beautiful Savior sponsored mission trip there will be a public commissioning during a Sunday morning Worship Service. Each member is strongly encouraged to participate in this event. This can be a moving and important event not only for you, but for your team if traveling in a group, and the congregation as we publicly recognize the mission you will be doing on behalf of Beautiful Savior. We desire a list of prayer requests so that we may uphold you in prayer as you go.

3. Share Your Story - Missions does not end with unpacking your bag when you get home. The trip can be looked upon as the beginning and not the end of your journey. Sharing what you saw and experienced, and relating that to what God has planned for you in the future, is a great tool to use in connecting all of us together. We encourage you to be an active participant in the life of our congregation upon your return. This may include sharing a "His Story" on an agreed Sunday, presenting your trip through pictures and information in the mission display, and the blessing of sharing more deeply with the Sending Committee.

Applying for a short-term mission

Applications for short term mission trips are available in the Church office. Please submit your application as soon as possible and, preferably, three months prior to the trip departure date.

1. Funding for a short-term mission

Priority financial support is provided first for active Beautiful Savior members in good standing who have submitted the application forms. While non-BSLC members are welcome to submit an application for a mission trip so that we may pray for them, it will up to the discretion of the Sending Committee whether funding will be provided. Non-members are encouraged to discuss funding possibilities with their home congregation.

2. Support for BSLC sponsored trips

Funding priority is given members participating in short term trips that are sponsored, organized, and approved by Beautiful Savior. Active church members may be sponsored at up to 50% of the ministry related trip costs generally not to exceed \$1000.00 per person. Any unused funding given on behalf of a specific person will be transferred to the BSLC Mission's undesignated funds account. In addition to the support given through personal money, funds from relatives and friends, and the Sending Committee, additional fundraising may help offset trip costs. Fundraising efforts within the church must be approved by the BSLC staff to be in agreement with BSLC by-laws. All trips must be paid in full prior to the trip and no refunds are given for money raised after the start of the trip. Funds received after that will go into the Beautiful Savior Missions undesignated fund account.