

Support Letter Writing Instructions

One way to raise funds and gain support for your spring break mission is through letter writing. In order to do that, we often must push aside our pride and let others in to help us- remembering that they will become a part of your trip through supporting you.

Make a list of family members, friends, and co-workers who may be interested in supporting you. Think about people who know you well and who love to support you.

Write a letter including:

- What your trip entails
- Explain the purpose of your trip
- Give details of how God has led you to this trip
- Explain why you chose to participate
- Tell the reader of planned activities
- Explain the need of the people we are serving
- Ask the reader for specific actions based on the need (prayer, giving support)

You may also wish to personalize the letter by sharing a brief update on your life (school, sports, graduations, etc.)

If you have served at this mission location before you will want to mention some highlights of your previous experiences. If this is your first time to the location, but you have served in other missions, that would be good to mention. If this is your first mission trip, that would be important to share. Remember to include how God called you to serve on this trip. If you are unsure, please talk with a Mt. Bethel student ministry staff member.

People give to short-term missions when they feel informed, when they believe their gift will change lives, when they feel like they are an important part of the trip and when they sense your enthusiasm about it.

GIVING INSTRUCTIONS:

Please include your personal contact info so that they will be able to reach out with questions.

You can either include a pre-addressed stamped envelope or you can direct supporters to online. Mt Bethel has an online giving site. Direct them to go to <https://mtbethel.org/ministries/students/>. Choose the Mission trip you are interested in contributing to and click the "register and contribute" button. Once the student is registered his or her name will be able to be selected to receive donations.

In order to see status of funds, please contact Kristen Funderburk (Kristen.funderburk@mtbethel.org).

You will want to make sure that you send thank you notes following the end of the mission, so please keep a record.

Any funding over the cost required will be used to assist in scholarships for those who are in need.

Sample Fundraising Letter

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Smith,

It is amazing how fast time can pass and how easy it is to lose communication when we get into the busyness of life. My life has changed in the last few months, as I have entered my junior year at Walton High School. In the midst of studying, God has placed a call on my heart travel to Puerto Rico. Our church has been partnering with a church in Puerto Rico for many years, but we haven't been able to go since 2019. We are looking forward to reconnecting with the mission to share the message and love of Jesus with the church in Puerto Rico.

On April 2, 2022 I will leave with a team of 20 other members to continue the mission that our church has partnered with for many years. We will be doing light construction, food distribution, and other services to support the local church.

I am writing to ask you to join me on this mission to Puerto Rico. I would truly love to pack you in my suitcase and take you with me, but airplanes have regulations against things like that! There are two more practical ways you could help me: prayer support and financial assistance.

God is truly at work during the organizing of this mission trip and in the ministry that will happen. Your prayers are so vital to this mission. Please pray:

- 1) That the Lord is glorified through our work before, during, and after this mission.
- 2) That we, as a team, will be faithful to Christ in presenting the truth clearly to all we encounter.
- 3) For team formation before and during the trip.
- 4) For our travel to and from Puerto Rico.
- 5) For the people in Puerto Rico that will hear the Gospel through the crusade.
- 6) For the health of the people who are involved in our mission.

Another way that you can support this mission to Puerto Rico is through a financial gift. The cost of the trip is \$850 plus the cost of the plane ticket. I have been babysitting and working odd jobs in order to fund this trip. The church is also assisting with part of the cost. I am continually trusting that God will provide what I need.

If you would like to support me, you can go online to <https://mtbethel.org/ministries/students/>. Choose the Mission trip you are interested in contributing to and click the "register and contribute" button or you can send a donation to:
Mt Bethel UMC
4385 Lower Roswell Rd
Marietta, GA 30068

Please mark on your donation *Puerto Rico Mission Trip 2022 SARAH JOHNSON*.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. This opportunity to serve the Lord is very close to my heart. I know that amazing things will happen in the lives of the Puerto Ricans, in the lives of the team members, and in the lives of those who hear about the amazing things that are happening in Puerto Rico. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 770-123-4567, or email me at email@yahoo.com.

God Bless You!
Sarah Johnson