

HIGH SCHOOL MISSION TRIP

GUATEMALA APRIL 2-8, 2023



MISSION TRIP DESTINATION AND TRAVEL DETAILS

Our destination is Guatemala City, Guatemala. We will fly out of Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport on Sunday morning (**April 2**) and return to Atlanta Saturday evening (**April 8**). We will fly on Delta to La Aurora International Airport in Guatemala City. All the flight details (flight numbers and exact times will be given out later once the team has been formed). We will be staying at Seteca Seminary in Guatemala City.

MINISTRY DESCRIPTION

Through this trip, our team will have the incredible privilege of sharing the gospel and demonstrating the love of Christ in practical ways with people in Guatemala. Lakewood has had a strong partnership with a church and school in Guatemala City for many years now. Our team will serve with the children in this local school through singing songs, making crafts, and teaching Bible stories during school hours. We will also serve with one of our church partners in the city landfill by hosting VBS, serving meals, and working on several construction projects. Beyond the school and church, we plan to partner with several other local ministries including a special needs ministry.

TRIP COST AND DEADLINES

- The total cost of this trip is **\$2000/person**. This cost covers: plane fare, lodging, meals in Guatemala, travel insurance, t-shirt, and supplies/materials for the trip.
- Additional costs include: passport fee (if you don't already have a current passport), checked bag for the flight, food at the airport, snacks/souvenirs.
- **A deposit of \$200 is due by November 27, 2022.** Another \$600 payment is due in January, February, and March (see dates and deadlines on the last page).
- All payments are non-refundable and non-transferrable to other students or events at Lakewood. Students will be given instructions on raising funds through a financial/prayer support team, but students/parents are ultimately responsible for making payments on time (see more detail about this under the Mission Support Development section on the following pages).

ELIGIBILITY

1. All students currently involved in the high school ministry (9-12th grade) of Lakewood Baptist Church are eligible to apply and interview for this trip.
2. Students should be growing in a personal relationship with Christ and willing to serve in big and small ways. While we'll have lots of fun, this is not a tourist trip!
3. Students should have the full support of parents in order to serve on this international mission trip. This trip is designed for older students with a strong level of emotional/spiritual maturity who are highly committed to the mission of the church and our team expectations.
4. There are a limited number of spots available for this mission trip. Team members will be selected based on the following factors: application, date application/deposit are received, interview, spiritual/emotional maturity, age/grade, and involvement in student ministry at Lakewood. Be sure to carefully read through the team member expectations, application process and important deadlines.

TEAM MEMBER EXPECTATIONS

1. Submit all forms and deposits on time.
2. Be actively involved in the student ministry of Lakewood Baptist (this means a minimum of 75% attendance at either Fusion on Wednesday nights OR Fusion Groups on Sunday mornings). While we will only be tracking attendance for you on Sundays OR Wednesdays, we would like for you to attend both as much as possible. This will help you to spiritually prepare for our trip and unify our team.
3. Actively participate in **ALL team trainings** (dates are listed on the last page). If you know of an unavoidable conflict for 1 of these meetings (such as an out of town trip you already have scheduled) please talk with one of our staff members about setting up an additional training meeting. We are asking for a high commitment level in order to prepare well for this mission trip. Preparation for this international mission trip should take priority over commitments such as jobs, sports, and other clubs/activities. These training meetings are not just to give out information but rather to build a team and prepare for a gospel-centered mission trip, so your attendance is essential. If you miss more than one training, you may be asked to step down from serving on the team.
4. Be a good team-player and pursue unity with others on the team.
5. Continue growing in your relationship with the Lord through spending daily time with God and being involved in God's mission before, during and after this trip.
6. Recruit a support team for both prayer and financial support.

ADULT LEADERS

The current list of adults serving with students on this mission trip team include: Christian Wilson, Jamie Willis, MaryBeth Jackson, Joy Willis, Josh Everett and Bethany O'Bryant. We do not need any additional adult leaders at this time, but we may add other leaders later depending on the size of our team and needs for this trip.

PHASE 1: APPLICATION PROCESS (November)

1. Spend time in prayer about this trip to seek the Lord's direction about next steps.
2. Discuss this trip in detail with your parents or legal guardians and seek their guidance and permission before you apply.
3. Fill out the application and turn in a trip deposit of \$200.00 **as soon as possible but no later than the deadline of November 27, 2022**. This money will be refunded if you are not eligible to serve on the team or if we do not have space.
4. Meet with one of our staff leaders for a brief mission trip interview. We want to spend a few minutes talking with you about this trip, hearing about your desire to be part of this team and answering any questions you might have. You can contact one of our staff leaders or we will follow-up with you once we have received your application.
5. If you are approved to serve on the Mission Trip team, **you will need to submit the Student/Parent Financial Commitment form by December 4, 2022**. This agreement says that you are responsible for the airline ticket if you drop out of this trip for any reason once these tickets have been purchased. It also says that you will cover the remaining balance with your own money in the event support letters do not cover your costs by the time we leave for this trip.

PHASE 2: MISSION SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT (December – March)

Your Mission Support Team is made up of people who will support you through prayer and financial giving. You will be asked to develop a **prayer base of at least 5 people** (other than parents) committed as prayer partners for you on this trip. You are also asked to send letters/emails to **at least 10 financial supporters**. This will teach you

humility, the power of prayer, dependence on God and the body of Christ to accomplish His purposes. Here are some guidelines about sending support letters/emails:

1. Your mission support letters/emails may be sent to family members, personal friends, and others you know well in the community. NOTE: You can send these to close friends at Lakewood but not to any staff members.
2. You need to personally explore any avenues and opportunities you have to raise your own part of the support (i.e., small jobs, birthday money, garage sales, making something creative to sell, other means of fundraising, etc.).
3. Any money that comes in from your support letter above and beyond the required amount goes to support other team members and mission trip cost! We will not reimburse this money to you or your supporters and this cannot be applied to another Lakewood event. We will give you an updated list of your donors and amount donated at each meeting or you can e-mail aechols@lakewoodlife.org.
4. Students who still have funds remaining from the 2020 Guatemala/Scotland trip may apply those funds toward this trip (sibling funds may also be applied).
5. In the past, many of our mission team members have only paid initial deposit out of their own pocket. Many students are fully funded through their support team.

PHASE 3: TEAM TRAINING (December – March)

You will be expected to participate in the following areas of training, some of which will happen during our scheduled meeting times:

1. Personal Discipleship: including personal quiet times, prayer, and corporate worship.
2. Evangelism Training: We'll spend some time talking about how to share your faith, both in Guatemala and right here in Gainesville.
3. Written/Verbal Testimony: You must be able to describe in written form and verbally share your testimony of coming to faith in Christ.
4. Ministry Specific Training: We will spend time working together on different ministry teams to prepare for all the different ministries where we'll serve in Guatemala.
5. Cultural and Language Education: This training will help you understand the culture, background, and language of the people we will be serving in Guatemala.

PHASE 4: FINAL TRIP PREPARATIONS (March)

We will focus on travel logistics, daily schedule, packing instructions and final details.

PHASE 5: MISSION TRIP (April 2 – April 8)

PHASE 6: FOLLOW-UP (Share service on April 12 and donor thank-you letters)

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES:

- November 27 – Deadline for application, \$200 payment, and commitment forms
- December 4 – Team Training 1 (12:15-2:30 in The Lodge). Student/Parent Financial Commitment form due. Start sending support letters/emails.
- January 22 – Team Training 2 (12:15-2:30 in The Lodge) \$600 payment is due
- February 12 – Team Training 3 (12:15-2:30 in The Lodge)
- February 19 – \$600 payment is due
- March 19 – Team Training 4 (12:15-2:30 in The Lodge) and \$600 payment is due
- March 26 – Commissioning in Worship Services at 9:30 and 11:00
- March 29 – Final Team Meeting at 8:15 pm (following Fusion)
- April 2-April 8 – Mission Trip to Guatemala
- April 12 – Share Service at Fusion (parents invited!)

**SCAN THIS QR CODE TO SEE THE DIGITAL STUDENT APPLICATION
FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL MISSION TRIP TO GUATEMALA**

