

# UGANDA 2015

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | MIDLAND, TX

**June 18-30, 2015**

## **Application Checklist**

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- Pray for God to help you decide if this is the right time and place for you to serve.
- Read cover letter carefully.
- Fill out application completely.
- Turn these things in by February 8, 2015:
  - Completed application
  - Color copy of passport picture page
  - Turn in at the church's reception desk or mail to:
    - First Presbyterian Church  
c/o Walter Thompson  
800 W. Texas Ave.  
Midland, TX 79701
- Then, Pastor Walter or one of the trip leaders will contact you.



January 20, 2015

Dear 2015 Uganda Mission Trip Applicant,

I am really excited that you have decided to apply for our 2015 Uganda trip! This will be FPC's twelfth church planting mission trip to East Africa. God continues to do amazing things through this mission trip and our relationship with our brothers and sisters in Uganda and East Africa. My hope is that this cover letter will give you a good idea of what the trip is about and what will be expected of those on the team.

### **What the trip is all about**

We partner with the Presbytery of Eastern Uganda as they plant churches throughout eastern Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania. This year, we are planning to go to a village in Uganda to work with a new fellowship of believers. We will join our brothers and sisters there in sharing the gospel through individual evangelism, afternoon crusades, providing medical care, playing with children and passing out mosquito nets. We will also have the opportunity to share about Jesus at prisons and schools.

### **What is expected of team members**

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#### **Team meetings**

Team members will be expected to participate fully in all team meetings. These meetings will be used for team building and training activities as well as planning time for the many different facets of ministry we'll be doing in Uganda. We are planning to do a good portion of our team meetings at a Uganda Team Retreat sometime during the spring. Because of the extent of training and team building that will happen at the retreat, please talk with Pastor Walter before applying if you are unable to attend the retreat. Specific dates and times are listed below. Provisions can usually be made for video conferencing if you are unable to attend a regular meeting in person.

Team members are also expected to participate in the post-trip meetings and activities. We will have debriefing times that are very important and helpful as we re-enter our home culture. We also will have some opportunities to share about all that God has done on the trip. These reporting opportunities are an essential part of the ministry of a short-term mission trip and all team members need to participate in them.

#### **Raising Support**

Each team member will be expected to send out letters asking people for both prayer and financial support for the trip. We will talk about this in our first meeting and will have example letters for you to follow. If a team member wishes to fund the trip on their own, then he or she will still need to send out letters asking people to pray for our trip. The total cost per person for the trip will be about \$5,000.

#### **On the trip**

Team members will be expected to participate fully in every aspect of the trip. Each team member will prepare their testimony to share in one of several locations: Sunday school, crusade, men's/women's/children's ministry, prisons, schools, etc. Both men and women on the team will have opportunities to teach Sunday school classes and other ministry opportunities. In addition, each man on the trip will prepare a sermon to be shared at one of the ministry sites or at the crusade. The team will also likely have other ministry opportunities including but not limited to: medical clinic, women's seminar, work with orphans, and personal evangelism opportunities. We will have daily morning devotionals and evening debriefing meetings as well.

As you can see, the trip is very demanding. Physically, team members will be on their feet several hours a day. There is a good deal of walking as we go from house to house sharing the gospel. We usually have some time to rest in the evenings, but overall the trip is quite physically demanding. Please talk to Pastor Walter or someone else who has been on the trip if you have questions about your own physical suitability to make the trip.

\*\*\*We have a great opportunity to meet Pastor Morris and his wife, Aidah, on Monday, February 2. If you're considering going to Africa this year or in the future, please make plans to see them. We'll have an informal dinner with them at Bill and Cynthia Howard's house that evening at 6:30pm. \*\*\*

### **Passport and Immunization Requirements**

If you have a passport, the expiration date needs to be at least six months after we return from the trip (no earlier than December 31, 2015). If you do not yet have a passport, please talk to Pastor Walter as soon as possible about getting one. Several different immunizations and medications are recommended for the trip. We will cover this information in our first few team meetings. Each team member will be responsible for getting their own immunizations and shots.

### **Application process**

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Once you have turned in your completed application, Pastor Walter or one of our trip leaders will contact you to follow up with any questions you might have regarding the trip. We want to make sure you understand what is expected of you as a team member and also work with you as you discern whether God is calling you to go on the trip this year.

**The deadline for applications is Sunday, February 8, 2015.**

### **Dates**

**Meet Morris and Aidah:** February 2 (6:30pm at Bill and Cynthia Howard's, 2600 Inwood Ct.)

**Application Deadline:** February 8, 2015

**Retreat:** Friday, March 20 – Sunday, March 22

**Team Meetings:** Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30pm (April 8 – June 3)

**Packing Night:** Tuesday, June 16, 6:00pm

**Trip:** June 18-30, 2015 (dates may flex slightly depending on flight schedules)

There will certainly be other important dates, but these are essential for you to have in order to make the time commitment we are asking.

Again, we are very excited about what God has planned. If you have any questions at all, please feel free to call or email me. I would love to talk with you about it. May God bless you as you discern whether this will be the year you go to Africa!

With the Peace of Christ,



Walter Thompson  
cell: 432.312.8295  
[walter@fpcmid.org](mailto:walter@fpcmid.org)



## Uganda Mission Trip 2015 Application

General Contact Information			
Full Name <sup>1</sup>			
Street Address <sup>2</sup>			
City, ST, ZIP Code			
Home Phone		Work Phone	
Cell Phone		E-Mail Address	
Male or Female		Birth Date	
Marital Status		Occupation	
Church of Membership			

Passport Information			
Passport Number		Issued by (Nation)	
Date of Issue		Date of Expiration <sup>3</sup>	
Country of Birth		Citizenship (Nation)	

Person to Notify in Case of Emergency	
Name	
Street Address	
City, ST, ZIP Code	
Phone	
Alternate Phone	
E-Mail Address	

<sup>1</sup> Your full name as it appears on your passport (if you have one)

<sup>2</sup> Address where you will receive mail during our preparation process

<sup>3</sup> Expiration date needs to be at least 6 months after we return from the trip.

## Health Information

Please describe any health problems you may have, including chronic diseases and allergies.

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Please list any long-term medication you use and the reason.

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Do you experience claustrophobia or motion sickness?

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If you believe you have a chronic condition or allergy that might make participation in this mission trip inadvisable, please consult your physician and talk with Pastor Walter.

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## Personal Self-Analysis

Describe your relationship with God.

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Explain why you would like to go on the mission trip to Uganda this year.

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## Your Gifts and Abilities

In what areas has God given you special gifts, abilities or experience?

In what ways are you currently involved in the ministry of FPC and/or other churches?

Do you have experience in personal evangelism? Please explain.

Do you have experience in preaching or teaching? Please explain.

What do you consider your strength(s) in working on a team?

What do you consider your weakness(es) in working on a team?

## Your Experience

Have you been on FPC's Africa Mission trip before? If yes, what years?

Have you been a part of other short-term mission teams? If yes, briefly describe one of the highlights of your experience.

Describe any other significant cross-cultural experiences you have had.

## Expectations

As an applicant for the 2015 Uganda Mission Team, I understand and agree to the following expectations:<sup>4</sup>

- **Retreat**
  - I will be expected to attend the Uganda Team Retreat (talk with Pastor Walter before applying if this is a problem for you).
- **Team Meetings**
  - I will be expected to attend all team meetings possible before, during and after the trip.
- **Support Raising**
  - I understand that I will be expected to send out support letters asking for prayers and financial support. If I cover the expenses myself, I understand that I will still need to send out prayer support letters.
- **Physical demands**
  - I understand that I will be expected to be on my feet for several hours each day. I will be expected to walk up to four hours a day as we visit people's homes.
  - I understand that though we have time to rest in the evenings, this is a physically demanding trip.

Understanding and agreeing to the above expectations, I commit my time, talents, energy and prayers to the Lord to make a success of the Uganda 2015 Mission Trip.

Name (printed)	
Signature	
Date	

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<sup>4</sup> See Cover Letter for more detailed information regarding expectations.