
STUDENT

LIFE

2021 GO TEAMS

WELCOME

Dear Students & Parents,

We believe one of the greatest calls God has given us is to serve others. Student Life is committed to challenging and equipping students to serve and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ locally and globally. GO Teams provide an opportunity for students and adults to step out in faith by giving one week of their summer to serve those in need and to share God's love. These week-long discipleship and mission trips will take students out of their comfort zone by immersing them in cross-cultural and urban experiences that will challenge them and grow them in their faith.

There is nothing better than making a difference for Christ that will last forever! Please pray and consider this opportunity. We would love for you to be a part of what God is going to accomplish for His glory.

If you have any questions about the application process, the trip, or anything else please contact one of our Student Life team members. We would love to be an asset to your family as you consider participating in a Go Team trip.

In His service

The Student Life Team

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Tri-Village and West Chicago Campuses

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WHERE ARE WE GOING?

God has an exciting adventure for us this summer. We will be sending students on two trips to serve in different local communities.

Students who have completed 6th – 7th grade will be going to Harvey, IL.

Students who have completed 8th – 12th grade will be going to Memphis, TN.

Both groups will be partnering with Praying Pelican Missions for a servant leadership experience that will provide work projects, relational ministry opportunities, and leadership development. The teams will have the opportunity to serve and make a difference in the lives of others. We are confident that the Lord will work in the lives of our teams as well.

WHO ARE WE PARTNERING WITH?

PRAYING PELICAN

We are blessed to partner with Praying Pelican Mission this year as we serve. Praying Pelican is a mission organization that connects churches with ministries and local churches around the world to serve on life changing short-term mission trips. PPM is committed to empowering the local church for sustainable and impactful ministry.



WHO IS PRAYING PELICAN?

Praying Pelican Missions exists to inspire unity within the global Church. As an interdenominational ministry, we seek to celebrate the variety of the Church while leveraging what binds us together. There is no more powerful example of God's love to a community than when two churches come together to serve and advance the Gospel, all in the name of Jesus.

Each year, they set up and lead mission trips for churches, small groups, families, and individuals, continually expanding and strengthening a network of pastors and communities both abroad and in the United States. Our trips are built around three main pillars for healthy short-term missions: genuine partnerships, long-term relationships, and sustainable ministry.

Through Praying Pelican Missions, more than 50,000 short-term missionaries have served in over 450 different communities throughout our locations. As lives are touched and hearts are transformed, there is an increasing number of pastors, churches, and communities inviting mission teams to serve alongside them through Praying Pelican Missions. We are continually amazed to witness and be part of God's movement in the world, from Chicago to Costa Rica to South Africa and everywhere in between.

WHAT'S WITH THE NAME?

Pelicans are common in Central America and the Caribbean where PPM's ministry began, so the founders decided to incorporate pelicans into the name of their new organization both to add an element of fun and to make a memorable logo to help spread the good news of Jesus Christ. As the pelican is an ancient symbol of Christian sacrifice, this turned out to be the perfect choice. Legend states that a mother pelican, in times when food was scarce, would sacrifice her life by pecking herself to feed her baby. In the same way, Jesus gave His life for us and that kind of selfless giving is what each Christ-follower is called to. This self-sacrifice is our mission everywhere we serve.

WHAT IS PPM'S ROLE ON THIS TRIP?

Praying Pelican's role has been vital to the planning of this year's trip. In partnership with the Student Life team, they are planning our team's housing site, service opportunities, food, schedule, cultural experiences, and more. During the trip we will also have 3 PPM staff members who will host us and work alongside of us, ensuring that we have a great experience all week.

JUNIOR HIGH GO TEAM TRIP SPECIFICS

DATE

The Junior High Go Team trip is from Monday, June 21 to Friday, June 25, 2021.

HARVEY, IL AT A GLANCE

Harvey is a south suburb of Chicago. The city suffers from high levels of unemployment (22%) and poverty (33.2%). Harvey was founded in 1891 by Turlington W. Harvey, a close associate of Dwight Moody, the founder of the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago. Harvey was originally intended as a model town for Christian values and was a Temperance Towns.



The city had its greatest growth in the prosperous postwar years, but it suffered job and population loss through restructuring of steel and similar industries in the late 20th century. The last several decades have not been easy for the town, as they have struggled to replace these jobs and develop new economic opportunities for businesses. In February 2018, Harvey became the first city in Illinois to have its revenue garnished by the State in order to fund the city's pension liabilities.

As we seek to serve Harvey best, we have found that we need to seek to understand both the beautiful and painful parts of Harvey's history and current events. We love the beautiful, fun, unique, and diverse parts of the city, but we also love understanding our neighbors as we learn more about the things they are currently experiencing and how the city's history has brought

them to this place. We would like to invite you to come and prayerfully learn alongside of us as we seek to serve our neighbors and further the work that God is already doing in Harvey!

ACCOMMODATIONS

We are blessed this year to be housing close to our service site, at New City Church in Dolton, IL. These locations are a short 10-minute drive from each other, which will help us maximize our time as a team and our time serving. All housing and ministry locations are clean, safe and secure throughout the week.

HOUSING SITE –

NEW COMMUNITY CHURCH – 14801 LINCOLN AVE, DOLTON, IL

During the trip we will be housing at New Community Church in Dolton, IL. New Community Church is a multiracial church in Dolton, IL. From the beginning, as Lorimer Memorial Baptist Church, God has been changing lives, growing believers, equipping workers at every turn. New Community Church is affiliated with Converge Worldwide and locally with Converge Mid-America (formerly the Baptist General Conference).

While staying at the NCC, we will sleep in secure classrooms separated between boys and girls. We will be sleeping on the floor, so you should bring a sleeping bag and a camping pad or air mattress along with a sleeping bag. While staying at New Community Church, we will schedule time to shower with the local community center. Praying Pelican Staff will have keys to the building and keep the building locked when not in use by NCC. No one outside of our team will have access to our sleeping rooms or the belongings in them.

SERVICE PARTNERSHIP –

RESTORATION MINISTRIES | SUMMER DAY CAMP - 253 E. 159TH, HARVEY, IL

Restoring Lives, Rebuilding Communities

Restoration Ministries is a Christian non-profit organization that provides hope and life-changing opportunities to recovering addicts, at-risk youth, and families and seniors struggling in poverty.



Our team will have the opportunity to serve at the Restoration Ministries by helping Restoration Ministries run a weeklong day-camp for elementary age children, assist in their thrift store and food pantry, and work in the neighborhood garden.

HIGH SCHOOL GO TEAM TRIP SPECIFICS

DATE

The High School Go Team trip is from Saturday, July 24 to Friday, July 30, 2021.

MEMPHIS, TN AT A GLANCE

Memphis is a city in the southwestern corner of Tennessee near the confluence of the Wolf and Mississippi rivers. With a metro population of 1.3 million people, Memphis is the largest city in Tennessee (2nd largest metro), the largest city on the Mississippi River, and the 18th largest city in the United States.



Founded in 1819 as a planned city by a group of wealthy Americans including judge John Overton and future president Andrew Jackson, Memphis has been a historically important city. Home to some of the greatest rock and blues artists, including B.B. King and Elvis Presley, tourists flock to the famous Beale St. to take in the sights and sounds. In the 1960's, Memphis was at the epicenter of the Civil Rights movement, something that still shapes the city to this day.

Memphis has been working hard in recent years to build its economy fueled by several fortune 500 companies, most notably of which is FedEx. Due to a rich history and picturesque landscape, Memphis has remained a hot spot for entertainment and has been featured in a variety of major motion pictures in the last couple decades.

In Memphis, we will seek to serve alongside local pastors in communities that are culturally and historically rich. The ministries we will be involved in are created and maintained by Praying Pelican's local partnership pastors and leaders who are pouring their lives into their communities daily. This trip will give our team an opportunity to serve and learn about one of the most religiously diverse cities in the United States and to share the love of Christ with others. We would like to invite you to come and prayerfully learn alongside of us as we seek to serve our neighbors and further the work that God is already doing in Memphis!

ACCOMMODATIONS

HOUSING SITE –

MONUMENT OF LOVE BAPTIST CHURCH – 2639 LAMAR AVE, MEMPHIS, TN

We are excited to partner with Monument of Love Baptist Church as our host in Memphis! Monument of Love Baptist Church is the church that loves to love with a mind for ministry and

missions. Founded in 1984, “The Monument” is a congregation of 150 members located in the Bethel Grove community of Memphis. They have established collaborative and meaningful partnerships within the city of Memphis created for high impact ministry to the physical and spiritual needs of the community. They are a national missions’ hub for dynamic community development agents and global provider of gospel and inspirational music experiences!



While staying at “The Monument”, we will sleep in secure classrooms separated between boys and girls. We will be sleeping on the floor, so you should bring a sleeping bag with a camping pad or air mattress with blankets. “The Monument” will also be our location for showers, meals, and nightly meetings. Praying Pelican Staff will have keys to the building and keep the building locked when not in use by “The Monument”. No one outside of our team will have access to our sleeping rooms or the belongings in them.

SERVICE PARTNERSHIP – TBD

Praying Pelican is still working to determine what specific service projects our team will be doing while in Memphis. These service projects will be a combination of partnerships through Monument of Love Baptist Church and also partnerships that Praying Pelican has established over the years.

Our service projects will most likely consist of light construction (painting, roofing, cement work, tiling), landscaping, volunteering at food pantries, serving with homeless ministries, or whatever projects our local partner identifies in the community. We will keep you updated on specific service projects as we are made aware of them.

SHOULD I GO ON A GO TEAM TRIP?

WHO CAN APPLY FOR STUDENT LIFE GO TEAMS?

Any student in completing grades 6 through 12 who believes in Jesus as their Lord and Savior and who is willing to make the commitment of time and energy can apply. Students should be actively involved in Student Life or Tribe to be considered for the GO Team. It is expected that every student is actively growing in their relationship with Jesus, and they must attend all training meetings. During each Go Team trip, we will have at least a one to five leader to student ratio. These leaders are trusted volunteers that have completed our Child Protection Screening Process.

WHY SHOULD I CONSIDER GOING?

The bottom line is this: Go Teams can give you an opportunity to make an eternal difference in this world and in the lives of others. Think about that . . . the ETERNAL difference that GOD can make through YOU! Consider going in order to bring glory to God this summer! In addition, when we serve together, we grow together. You will have a chance to build community with fellow believers as you serve alongside your peers and leaders.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR GO TEAMS?

Carefully and completely follow the directions on the online application. Please take your time and answer honestly. Applying for the trip does not ensure acceptance. All applications are due April 11. **Please apply online at www.wheatonbible.org/students**

WILL I HAVE TO BE PART OF ANY TRAINING FOR THE TRIP?

YES! Training and preparation for the GO Team is critical to the success of our trip. All training meetings are mandatory for all students. We understand there may be unavoidable conflicts and ask that we be notified of these ahead of time. A list of training dates is provided in this packet.

TRIP LOGISTICS

DATES

The Junior High Go Team trip is from Monday, June 21 to Friday, June 25, 2021.

The High School Go Team trip is from Saturday, July 24 to Friday, July 30, 2021

TRAVEL

For both trips, we will be driving 12 passenger vans to our ministry sites. During the week we will be using these vans to get to and from our serving sites each day. We will follow the COVID safety guidelines recommended by the CDC at the time of the trip as they pertain to social distancing and masks. Each van will only be driven by a screened, trusted adult leader from our team. The teams will serve with their GO Team Serve Teams throughout the week. Each group will stay together for the entirety of the service projects; no students will be serving alone.

MEALS

Your registration fee will cover all meals listed on the schedule. Breakfast will be onsite and consist of cold cereal, fruit, bagels, etc. Each day we will pack a sack lunch to take to our service projects, which include things like sandwiches, fruit, chips, granola bars/cookies. You are welcome to bring snacks and water/drinks. Our evening meals are either prepared by our team or catered in from different local restaurants. This is a great opportunity to experience the culture of the community during the week. If any team members have specific dietary restrictions or needs, we will structure our menu to accommodate those needs. If your student has a specific dietary concern, make sure to list that on their health form. It is a good idea to send some extra snacks with your student.

CAN MY STUDENT BRING THEIR PHONE?

Students are not allowed to use their cell phones on GO Team trips. We understand that cell phones are a vital way to communicate as well as capture great moments in life, but unfortunately, cell phones also pose a significant risk. In order to prevent distractions that could lead to injuries, getting lost, or distancing from the group, we ask that all cell phones and other personal electronic devices stay at home. We desire our students to be engaged in what God is doing on this trip and we desire our students to be free from as many distractions that a message or notification can bring. All our leaders will have their phones on them should there be an emergency. There will also be a trip journal available on the Praying Pelican website that everyone can follow back home. In addition, parents will be provided contact information for their trip leader in case of an emergency.

SAMPLE SCHEDULE

WORK/MINISTRY DAY

Morning	Wake Up/Get Ready Devo/Quiet Time Breakfast Morning Ministry
Afternoon	Lunch Afternoon Ministry
Evening	Dinner Team Meeting Showers/Flex Time Lights Out

ACTIVITY DAY (1 DAY PER TRIP)

Morning	Wake Up/Get Ready Devo/Quiet Time Breakfast Morning Ministry
Afternoon	Group Activity
Evening	Drive back to WBC or return to housing site

THIS SOUNDS FUN! DO YOU NEED PARENTS TO GO THIS TRIP?

Yes! We would love to have you join us. If you are interested in serving as a leader on one of the Student Life GO Teams, we would love to talk with you. Please approach one of the Student Life staff and so that we can give you more details.

SAFETY CONCERNS

WILL MY STUDENT BE SAFE?

Safety is a top priority on GO Teams. We take safety very seriously every step of the way. Below are several factors which give us confidence in the level of safety for our trips this year.

- Our team has partnered each step of the planning process with Praying Pelican. PPM has done a phenomenal job of understanding our team and our desired goal for the trip. They have tailored the trip to suit our needs.

- Our team will be making a pre-trip visit to meet the PPM team and the other ministry partners we will be working with. This trip will allow us to better partner with the teams and see the area where we will stay and serve.
- PPM has a wealth of knowledge and experience running meaningful short-term mission trips, hosting more than 50,000 short-term missionaries in over 450 different communities around the world to date.
- During our trip and at each service site, we will be accompanied by PPM staff along with volunteers from WBC.

WHAT ABOUT MY STUDENT WHO HAS MEDS TO TAKE?

Once accepted to the GO Team, each team member will fill out a medication form provided in your Welcome Packet. On the trip we will have a designated leader that will help administer meds and care for students with medical needs.

WHAT IF THERE IS AN EMERGENCY?

In the case of a true medical emergency, one of the leaders on the GO Team will call 9-1-1 and will use your student's forms to inform first responders to the situation. Once the proper steps have been taken to ensure the immediate care of a student, we will call the emergency contact listed on that student's form and let them know about the situation.

WHAT IS THE COVID-19 PROTOCOL WHILE SERVING ON A GO TEAM?

Along with PPM, we will reevaluate and anticipate gradually decreasing COVID precautions throughout 2021 and into 2022. Below are the current precautions all participants and PPM staff will adhere to:

- A Trip Risk Agreement Form is required for every participant on the trip. This is part of the forms required by Praying Pelican.
- Every participant will be required to keep a 10-Day Health Log leading up to the trip.
- Participants are asked to limit outside exposure (other than school, work, and immediate family) during the 5-day period leading up to their trip.
- Negative COVID-19 test within 5 days of departure for trip (Requested and recommended for all domestic participants.)
- Masks will be required to be worn at all times except when eating, drinking, sleeping, showering, or outside while maintaining 6 feet of distance. This includes while traveling, doing ministry, nightly meetings, etc.
- While on the trip, Praying Pelican requires that we fill out a Daily Symptom Survey which includes using a non-contact thermometer to do temperature screening twice daily on each participant.
- Lodging, transportation, and ministry sites will be sanitized throughout the trip.
- Food Service/Non-Latex gloves will be required in any food service ministry and team meal prep.
- Beds will be placed 6 feet apart.

- Hand washing stations will be available at all ministry sites.
- Hand sanitizer will be available at all times, supplied by both PPM and team.
- Social distancing will be required with any community member.

WHAT IS OUR QUARANTINE CONTINGENCY PLAN?

In case someone exhibits COVID symptoms or needs to quarantine, we have the following contingency plan in place:

- We will designate a team (2-3 people) from WBC that will not be on the trip to serve as emergency contacts. This team will contact family members immediately if their student exhibits COVID symptoms, needs to quarantine, or in the case of an emergency.
- Both a male and female adult leader will be designated as caretaker in the event of a quarantine of an individual/individuals.
- If a participant is isolated as a result of answering ‘yes’ to a question on the Daily Symptom Survey, a medical professional will be consulted as the participant is monitored.
- In the event that a consulted medical professional advises further medical diagnoses, PPM would work in conjunction with local medical authorities to follow their guidance.
- If a quarantine is necessary, our team will coordinate with PPM to provide food, shelter and medical care to all participants.
- If a parent desires to pick up their student, they may do that at any time.

GETTING READY FOR THE TRIP

GO TEAM MEETINGS

We believe that the GO Team trips do not start when we leave. They actually start today. Each step of the process leading up to the trips, during the trips, and after the trips is key in creating an experience in which students will grow and be a better missionary.

A big part of this is our GO Team Meetings, which are designed with these big goals in mind:

- Basic training for serving on the mission field.
- Team Unity
- Leadership Development
- Spiritual Formation and Discipleship

GO Team meetings are a way for us to get to know each other before the trip and learn about what it means to be missional. We will be learning and having some fun experiences together.

For this reason, it is important and necessary to be present at *all* GO Team pre-trip meetings. These are not optional and are required to go on the trip. If you have any concerns about this, please speak with one of the Student Life staff.

IMPORTANT DATES

March 28	Applications Open: Apply online at wheatonbible.org/students
April 11	Applications Due @ 11:59pm
April 14	GO Team Announced via email
May 2	Deposit Due (\$80 for Junior High Trip / \$100 for High School Trip) Support letters must be sent by this date Send in a copy of your support letter recipient list (We will cover this in our support raising section)
June 2	Junior High Team Training #1 (7-9 pm in the Warehouse) High School Team Training #1 (7-9 pm in the Warehouse) Bring in support-raising cash or checks
June 9	Junior High Team Training #2 (7-9 pm in the Warehouse) High School Team Training #2 (7-9 pm in the Warehouse) Bring in support-raising cash or checks
June 16	Junior High Team Training #3 (7-9 pm in the Warehouse) All Funds Due
June 21-25	Junior High GO Team Trip to Harvey, IL
June 27	Junior High GO Team CELEBRATION (Time TBD)
July 14	High School Team Training #3 (7-9 pm in the Warehouse) Bring in support-raising cash or checks
July 21	High School Team Training #4 (7-9 pm in the Warehouse) All Funds Due
July 24-30	High School GO Team Trip to Memphis, TN
August 1	High School GO Team CELEBRATION (Time TBD)

GO TEAMS SUPPORT RAISING

HOW MUCH WILL THE TRIP COST?

The cost for the trip to Harvey, IL is **\$500 per student**.

The cost for the trip to Memphis, TN is **\$775 per student**.

We are asking each family to make a deposit which is your contribution towards the cost of the trip. This amount is your deposit for the trip. **The deposit amount for the Junior High trip is \$80 and \$100 for the High School trip.** Please don't let the cost be a determining factor in your decision to go on the trip. Support raising is part of the faith journey of every missionary. This is part of the trip! All of the money that is raised will go towards each trip's grand total. We recognize that every student might not be able to raise the same amount. One student may only be able to raise \$450 while another student may raise \$850, but we ask that each student *try* to

raise the required amount. **With God's help, and some hard work we believe everyone willing to step out in faith will raise what they need!**

WHAT IF I HAVE STUDENTS GOING ON BOTH THE STUDENT LIFE TEAMS?

Your family will be asked to pay the highest of the deposits in full, 100% for the first student and 50% of each deposit thereafter. You will also be asked to send out 30 letters plus ten for each additional family member going on a student ministry trip. (2 kids=40 letters, 3 kids=50 letters).

WHY WE SEND SUPPORT LETTERS

Each student is given the very important responsibility of sending out support letters and raising funds for our trip. Our ability to do ministry with our partners depends 100% on students raising support. If a household follows the support raising guidelines and schedule, and receives less than the trip amount, the first step would be for us to assist you in locating others who would be willing to receive a support letter from you. After that step and other efforts have been exhausted, whatever amount you received will be accepted as your support raising portion.

We trust that God will provide to meet our needs as a team. Support letters are NOT just a way to collect money. They are also a great way to enlist prayer. It is a privilege for others to join you in prayer and financial support. Many people love to give money to charities and missions.

WHO TO SEND A SUPPORT LETTER TO?

- Family (siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins)
- Neighbors (current neighbors, former neighbors)
- Friends (parents' friends, your school friends, church friends)
- Co-workers (your parents')
- Anyone else who might love supporting you through prayer or finances.

WHEN WE SEND SUPPORT LETTERS

You must mail, hand-deliver, or email your 30 support letters by May 2, 2021. Make sure to offer the "online giving" option. Supporters can give electronically to support you online at www.wheatonbible.org/students.

HOW TO WRITE SUPPORT LETTERS

USE THE SAMPLE LETTER AS A GUIDE (see page 18)

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS IN YOUR LETTER:

- Paragraph #1: A personal greeting and update on your life.
- Paragraph #2: Details about the trip you'll take this summer.
 - Where you're going.
 - When you're going.
 - What you'll be doing there.
- Paragraph #3: Hopes for your trip and ask for prayer.
 - What you personally hope to learn.
 - What you personally hope to contribute.

- What you're most excited about or challenged by.
- ASK FOR PRAYER (be specific with requests!)
- Paragraph #4: Ask for financial support.
 - USE THE SAMPLE LETTER WORDING EXACTLY.
 - Be specific about what you're asking
 - EX: I need to raise \$\$\$ by June 2, 2021
 - EX: Any amount you give would help.
 - Remember that YOU collect all money first and then turn it into us at WBC.
 - Request that funds be donated by June 2, 2021.
 - Remember to mention the ONLINE GIVING OPTION.
 - Close with a big "Thank you!"

Use excellent grammar and write well!

- Be sure to have your parents proofread your letters before sending them out.

Each letter must include a self-addressed envelope.

- People will use the envelope to mail their donations back to YOU.
- You are encouraged to put a stamp on the return envelope as a convenience for those who donate to your trip.

SUPPORT RAISING GUIDELINES

All trip deposits are due by May 2, 2021.

Checks should be made payable to Wheaton Bible Church.

Families with two or more students participating on a student ministry trip are asked to pay 100% of the deposit for the first student and 50% of each student thereafter. (Please note, you are still responsible to raise the other half of the deposit in your support. Trip price does not change. You just do not have to pay that half up front.)

Please note that deposits are tax deductible donations to Wheaton Bible Church and are not able to be reimbursed.

Important note: Every family is responsible for paying the deposit out of pocket, no matter how much money you raise in support. We view the deposit as your family's financial commitment to the trip, prior to the support raising process. Support raising cannot reimburse you for the deposit, which is your family's responsibility. If this is a challenge for your family, please let us know so we can work something out.

Each student is responsible to send out 30 support letters by May 2, 2021.

Families with two or more students participating in a student ministry trip are asked to send out 30 support letters plus 10 for each additional child. (i.e., 2 children in a family send 40 letters total).

You may choose to personally finance your entire trip cost; however, you must still send out 30 letters asking for prayer support. We also ask that you consider noting that you are paying your full amount but give the option to donate for the team at large. We raise support as a team, so any excess money raised by an individual or family will go toward the rest of the team.

All funds must be collected first by students and then turned into WBC Student Life Ministry. (Money should not be directly mailed to Wheaton Bible Church!)

TURNING IN COLLECTED MONEY

Put all checks and cash that you receive in the lined manila envelopes you receive at the first team meeting.

Your name must be clearly written on the top of each envelope.

As you receive funds, write the names and contact information of those who gave on the manila envelope. Take a picture of the outside of the envelope before turning it in for your records.

Please turn in any collected money, in the provided envelopes, at each training meeting. *Do not turn in any money on Sunday mornings or Wednesday evenings.*

If people give CASH, you must be sure to list on the envelope how much cash each person gave and fill in their address. *(If you do not fill in their address, we cannot credit the amount to your account until the address is given to us.)*

You will be notified at each meeting if you have received any online donations. *Do not mark these donations on your support envelopes!* These donations are accounted for by our staff team, separate from your support envelopes, but still count towards your support total.

All checks should be made out to Wheaton Bible Church.

If someone makes out a check in your name, please write “pay to the order of Wheaton Bible Church” on the back of the check and then sign your name. Please double check each check for this before turning it in! *(The amount donated cannot be credited to your account until this is done.)*

Keep a list of everyone who has donated to you. We will keep a list based on the information on the envelopes you turn in, but we want you to keep a list as well. This will ensure that you write thank-you notes to all who give you financial support.

Make sure to send thank you notes to everyone who supported you. The best time to send a thank you note is directly after you return home from your trip so you can share some of your experiences with your supporters. However, you will also want to thank each supporter verbally ASAP.

FUNDRAISING

This year we are allowing GO Team members to fundraise alongside sending out support letters. Fundraising is the process of seeking and gathering voluntary financial contributions by engaging

individuals, businesses, charitable foundations, or governmental agencies. This can be things like bake sales, garage sales, car washes, etc. Not everyone has the same networks that make it possible to raise support through support letter writing alone.

If you wish to fundraise you must follow these guidelines:

- We ask that you still send out the required support letters.
- Fundraising needs to be approved by Student Life Staff.
- Wheaton Bible Church, Tri-Village, and/or Iglesia del Pueblo name must not be used in fundraising materials.
- You are not allowed to fundraise at church.

Most importantly we are here to help you in this process. Please let us know how we can be of assistance. We have much experience and know that God can do amazing things as we put our trust in Him.

SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER

Dear _____,

I am writing to inform you of an exciting opportunity that I want to be a part of. As you know, I am involved with Student Life (the youth group) at my church. This summer, I will be teaming up with some of my friends and adult leaders from my church and heading to [Harvey, Illinois / Memphis, TN] for our GO Team mission trip. These GO Teams are designed to help me understand how God is moving in different parts of the world and how God wants to use me to be a part of His story of redemption. They are week-long experiences where I learn about missions, grow in my faith and learn what it means to be a disciple in a world that desperately needs Jesus.

During the week, I will be serving at local organizations and working with lots of different people who really need help. We will serve them by taking care of their needs as best we can, but most importantly, I will be telling them about how much Jesus has changed my life. I am excited about this mission opportunity because I know it will challenge me in my own faith. I'm up for the challenge! I am excited to go outside of my comfort zone and experience what God has prepared for me!

I am writing to ask you if you would be willing to partner with me and support me. There are a couple things that I am going to need for this trip. First, I need your prayers. Please pray that God would prepare me for this trip, that I would stay healthy and safe. Pray that our group will support one another and grow closer together. Pray for the people that we will be ministering to and for those who will be impacted by our work projects. Second, I need to raise \$_____ in order to go on this trip.

If you are interested in supporting me financially, you can send me a check made out to Wheaton Bible Church or give online to support me at www.wheatonbible.org/students. All financial

support must be turned in by [June 16 for the Junior High trip and July 21, 2021 for the High School trip].

I'm writing you because you are an important person in my life. Thanks so much for considering supporting me. I am looking forward to sharing the stories of my experience when I return. If you have any questions, I would love to talk with you about them. You can contact me at _____.

Sincerely

[signature]

PACKING LIST

DRESS CODE

This is a missions trip, not a vacation. We will be working, hard. In order to be safe and not draw unnecessary attention to ourselves this dress code will be strictly enforced.

- SHIRTS – Shirts should be loose-fitting and unaltered that are long enough to raise your arms without exposing skin or underwear. Tank tops, spaghetti strap shirts, halter tops, tube tops, and sleeveless shirts are not permitted. Boys must always wear a shirt and may not wear tank tops.
- PANTS – Jeans are required on all project worksites. When back at our housing site, you may change to other pants. Hemlines on shorts must be mid-thigh in length minimum. Spanks, top-rolled soft shorts and yoga bottoms are not permitted.
- SHOES – Closed-toed shoes must be worn on the mission project worksite.
- SWIMWEAR – Women must wear a modest one-piece suit that covers the torso and midriff, no two-piece bathing suits. Men must put on a shirt when not swimming.
*Women, if you do not own a one-piece, please pack dark colored shorts and dark colored tank top to wear over your suit.
- Undergarments should not be visible, and clothing should be properly fastened.

WHAT TO BRING

Required items

- Personal toiletries (towels, soap, shower shoes, etc.)
- Bible, pen and journal
- Reusable water bottle
- Work clothes (see Dress Code)
- Work gloves
- One-piece bathing suit (if serving at a summer camp or is indicated on your schedule)
- Rain jacket or poncho

- Bedding (sleeping bag, pillow, etc.) Air mattress is suggested.

Optional items

- Backpack
- Extension cords and power strips
- Snacks for in-between meals
- Money for souvenirs

Come prepared for your sites. We will send you a document one month prior to your trip with more details about your service sites—read this thoroughly and plan accordingly.

WHAT NOT TO BRING

- Phone, iPads, electronic games, etc.
- Large sums of money or anything not replaceable or has significant value (jewelry, etc.)
- Drugs, alcohol or tobacco products

10 WAYS TO HAVE A LIFE-CHANGING TRIP

1. Remember that your culture may differ from the people you are serving. Do not make fun of the dress, actions, food or music of those with whom you come in contact.
2. Remember that serving others includes both labor-intensive and relational ministry. Be open to both types of service.
3. Be willing to try new foods, talk to different types of people and do things that you've never done before.
4. Set aside any group tension or conflict before you come so that these issues do not interfere with your ability to love others.
5. Come ready to learn from those who you are serving. They have so much to teach us about life and faith.
6. Be Flexible. Your schedule is a guide for your week, but sometimes things change, and adjustments need to be made. God is in control. We trust Him with details.
7. Bring a journal and record your experiences and feelings throughout the week so that you can take them home with you and share them with others.
8. Be willing to set aside all preconceptions about the city and see the community with new eyes throughout the week.
9. Pray. James 5:16 says "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." Dedicate the trip to God and pray for your group and those you will come in contact with.
10. Expect God to do amazing things in your life and in the lives of your fellow group members.