

Baja Mission Trip Overview

High School Baja Mission Trip | July 22 – July 29, 2023



ARRIVAL AND PREPARATION | Saturday, July 22

- Arrive at MDW by 4 am | fly direct from Chicago [MDW] 6:10 am to San Diego [SAN] 8:10 am | SW #2558
- Bags, rental vans, pre-brief in Coronado and In N Out for lunch
- Travel to El Rancho | orientation of El Rancho and the build sites

THE PROJECT | BUILD team | Sunday, July 23 – Friday, July 28

- Morning | breakfast, pack lunches/house materials and drive to sites
- 2 Teams in close proximity building 12'x24' homes:
 - Sunday | clear/level site, set forms for concrete slab
 - Monday | pour, float, and finish concrete slab, mixing "volcano" style
 - Tuesday | frame walls, paint siding, plan "special end of project gift"
 - Wednesday | raise walls, install siding, center roofing beam and rafters
 - Thursday | paint/install trim, windows and door
 - Friday | finish roofing & hand over the keys!!!
- Return to El Rancho in late afternoon for showers, dinner, worship & small groups

THE PROJECT | KIDS CAMP team | Monday, July 24 – Friday, July 28

- Morning | breakfast, pack lunches & prep for kids to arrive at El Rancho
- Leading kids camp in the afternoon for about 45 kids from Unidos de Siempre:
 - Soccer
 - Obstacle courses
 - Crafts
 - Spanish worship songs
- Dismiss Unidos de Siempre in late afternoon for showers, dinner, worship & small groups

FINAL DEBRIEF | Friday, July 28

- Morning spent wrapping up homes, cleaning El Rancho, showering and packing
- Cross the border late afternoon and drive to Solana Beach Presbyterian Church
- Beach time, dinner, worship & small groups

TEXT UPDATES | Arrival and departure updates, final details, prayer requests and photos

- Join the Remind App group, "Baja Mission Trip 2023." You can join by sending a text to the number 81010 and by texting the message "@baja2023."

RETURN | Saturday, July 29

- Breakfast, packing and cleaning at Solana Beach Presbyterian Church
- Drive to the airport and fly direct from San Diego [SAN] 1:55 pm to Chicago [MDW] 8:00 pm | SW #1768
- Land at 8:00pm | students get picked up at the MDW baggage claim

Baja Project

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BUDGET

Airfare	\$500
Our travel agent has secured our tickets for the best group rate available	
El Rancho	\$100
We will stay at a retreat center near our build sites.	
Meals and Bottled Water	\$185
Covers all meals, snacks, and bottled water	
Ground Transportation	\$100
We will rent trucks and vans in San Diego, driven by our adult leaders	
Individual Project Site Building Materials and Supplies	\$600
Covers everything needed to build 2 homes	
International Travel Insurance	\$15
International Travel Insurance for each Project Participant	
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Total Cost Per Student	\$1,500

Refund Policy: Please be aware that Christ Church will extend full refunds for cancellations for summer trips up until March 1. If you cancel after March 1, your deposit will not be refunded. If you cancel within 7 days of departure, we are unfortunately unable to give any refund, as we will have already paid for food, lodging and buses. The final payment for summer trips are due 3 weeks prior to departure.

Support Partners

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The church has been sending Jesus-Followers into the neighborhood and world since the very beginning. As a participant in our Baja Mission Trip, you too are being “sent” on a journey where you will represent Jesus as well as Christ Church. No one is sent to serve alone, and this means you will need to develop a network of sending partners – people who have your back and will support you both in prayer and in the financial part of this project.

The funding to “send you” for the financial part of this project will come from two sources:

Personal Funds (\$500):

This is your deposit (\$100) you submitted with your application and (\$400).

Support Raised Funds (\$1000):

These funds will come from the network of partners that you develop as well as any fundraising initiatives that you embark upon. There is also a network of partners that already exists at Christ Church who will lend some resources to this trip. A couple individual fundraising ideas include: babysitting or pet sitting, garage sale, yard work, house cleaning, lawn mowing and more!

Total Mission Trip Participant Cost: \$1500

Your Letters:

Each project participant will draft a personal letter. Please use the template attached in this packet but be sure to include (word for word) the paragraph that helps your financial partners keep track of this donation for their tax purposes.



Sample Support Letter

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SUPPORT

[Date]

Dear [name],

Greetings from _____, Illinois! I'm writing to let you know about an amazing opportunity that opened up for me through my local church.

Our high school ministry at Christ Church will be participating in a mission trip to Tijuana, Mexico. We will spend the week of July 22-29, 2023, just over the US/Mexico Border. Our team of roughly fifty people will be serving alongside DOXA Ministries to we build two homes, from the ground up, for families currently without housing. We will be living @Rancho Don Fermin and engaging in a five-day construction project that will change the lives of two families. My prayer is that it will change my life, too! Our team will spend the next few months building relationships with one another, learning how to build these homes, and discovering more about the culture and neighborhoods in which we will be serving.

I would like to invite you to partner with me on this project in two possible ways. First, please pray for the team, the overall mission trip, and myself. Pray that God teaches us how to love, learn, listen, and grow. Pray that we can serve others with God's love. Your support of prayer will do far greater than we will ever know. Second, I am asking if you would contribute financially to this project. Your contribution will help me, and our entire team make this mission trip possible.

If you would like to give to this mission trip financially, please visit our webpage at www.christchurch.us/highschool and click the "Support Baja Mission Project" button. OR, please use the accompanying donation envelope, designed for the Short Term Missions Program of Christ Church. On the inside flap, fill out your name and address information and then please indicate for which person or team project you are designating your gift. Make your check payable to Christ Church of Oak Brook (CCOB) - Short Term Missions. Please remember to write the amount you enclosed so that we can verify the contents upon receipt. (If you are a member at Christ Church, it would be helpful for you to write in your envelope number on the space allotted; this donation is above and beyond any monies already promised to the missions' budget.) You may mail in your envelope or drop it in the Sunday offering plates at Christ Church.

I would also like to provide you with our church's policy regarding these funds. All monies raised become the non-refundable property of the church. Funds raised for the trip beyond the expended amount will be allocated to the general Mission Fund, but designated for short-term mission projects. Contributors will be provided with a receipt for their tax-deductible gifts by the church's business office. In the event of a cancellation for the trip or me, monies raised are non-refundable. If the cancelled trip is deferred for not more than 12 months, the funds raised will be held in reserve for the defined trip.

Before you decide, please reflect a bit on your role in this mission trip. I believe that having your support, either prayerfully or financially, will benefit not only myself, but the entire team as well. I will reach out to connect with you personally in a few weeks. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please ask. Thanks again.

[REQUIRED here is a personalized and handwritten note to the family or friends. It can be a sentence or two addressing the person you are sending this letter to.]

In faith,

[your name]

Save The Dates

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<p>Project Training Session #1 training</p> <p>All Support Letters Sent Fundraising Project Initiated Begin team building and conversations about building houses and camp</p>	<p>Sunday, April 2 7:00-8:45 pm</p>
<p>Project Training Session #2 lunch & training</p> <p>Check- in on fundraising Continue training in small groups</p>	<p>Sunday, June 25 12:00-2:00 pm</p>
<p>First Half of Financial Support Due</p>	<p>Sunday, April 23</p>
<p>Passport Deadline</p>	<p>Sunday, April 30</p>
<p>Support Due Date (No Meeting) All money (personal + support raising due)</p>	<p>Saturday, July 1</p>
<p>Final Pre-Project Team Meeting</p> <p>Final details for the trip w/ Team, Parents, & Staff</p>	<p>Sunday, July 16 12:00-2:00 pm</p>
<p><u>Group Fundraisers:</u></p>	
<p>Fundraising plans in place</p>	<p>Sunday, March 19</p>
<p>Car wash (tentative date)</p>	<p>Sat, May 20</p>
<p>Art sale</p>	<p>TBD</p>
<p>Parent's night out</p>	<p>TBD</p>
<p>Spring cleaning</p>	<p>TBD</p>
<p>Partner w/local restaurant</p>	<p>TBD</p>