

Newsletter for Mission Nicaragua 2008

Volume #2 is in blue font.

Mission Statement: “That you May KNOW, LIVE, and SHARE the love of Christ”

Objectives of the Mission Trip

- Personally share our skills, talents, and life experiences with the people of Nicaragua
- Share the love of Christ in Christian education
- Home construction
- Medical outreach; optical & dental

The following people are signed up and are going on the mission trip:

Dave Naples, Construction	Jerry McGinnes, Construction
Kathy Naples, Librarian	Carolyn Stahl, RN (retired)
Raymond Covington, Construction	Becky Hartman, Construction
Carmen Covington, RN	Dr. Ellen Petrilla, OD
Bill Brooks, Developer (retired)	Brian Modica, Eye Tech
Sue Brooks, Airline Attendant (retired)	June Chesingto, Eye Tech
Dennis Fisher, Teacher (retired)	Matt Hydrusko, Student
Jane Fisher, Teacher	Morgan Steele, Student
Audra Fisher, Peace Corp worker	Erica Hastert, Teacher
Jeb Cardin, Plumber	Kelly Howard, Restaurant
Emily Cardin, RN & Pastor	Sue Perkins, Physical Therapist
Darrel McGinnes, Engineer (retired)	MJ Skelly, Construction

What a group!! It is very exciting time!! We are approximately 5 4 months away from departing.

Fund Rising activities:

- **Nicaragua Free Trade Coffee Sales**
 - Sales are ongoing
 - Can be purchased in two varieties (whole bean or ground)
 - You can take orders or purchase the coffee at the church
 - \$5.55 per bag goes to support the mission trip
- **Mystery Dinner**
 - March 29th at 5:30 pm at Lord of The Valley Church
 - An entertaining evening with family and friends
 - Food, fun, and fellowship
 - The “Mystery” in the four course Mystery Dinner is in the menu
 - The courses are selected from the Mystery Menu
 - Each course will be served separately
 - Flatware to eat the meal will also to be selected from the Mystery Menu
 - Reservation required for planning

- Cost of the meal is free
- Generous tips are expected for great service and a fun evening

Notes from the Planning meeting on 3/9/2008 at 11:00 at church (after church service)

- Your participation in the success of this fund raising event is very important. If you are not able to join the activity please e-mail Carmen as quickly as possible.
- We need volunteers to assist with the set up of the event; you will need to be at the church by 2 pm.
 - The following people have volunteered to assist with set up: Kelly, Darrel, Jeb, Kathy, Dave, Raymond, and Carmen.
 - Please let me know if you can assist with set up or take down or possible assist with both.
- Dress comfortably; please wear a white shirt or blouse.
- We will inform you on the afternoon of the 23rd of March the number of people we are preparing to serve.
- Food preparation:
 - Lasagna: Ellen, Brian & June
 - Chicken: Dave & Kathy & Darrel (Darrel, please e-mail me if you can assist Kathy & Dave)
 - Green Bean Casserole & Rolls/Bread: Bill & Sue Brooks
 - Mashed Potatoes: Erica & Sue Perkins
 - Cream of Mushroom Soup & Carrot Cake: MJ
 - Jell-O: Kelly (Kelly, can you assist MJ)
 - Caesar Salad & Brownies: Dennis & Jane
 - Corn: Carolyn
 - Olives, Celery, Carrots: Jeb & Emily
 - Butter, Beer, Nuts, & Mints: Raymond & Carmen
 - Cool Whip & Pickles: Matt??? Please e-mail if you can provide these items.
 - Wine: Becky???? Please e-mail if you can provide these items.

Please let me know if you need assist to purchase the food or assist to preparing the food.

Departing July 18th 2008 from Denver International airport:

- Passport and picture ID is required for check in.
- Everyone **must be** at the airport 2 hours before flight time. **New information:** As of March 1st new requirement; you must be checked in two hours in advance of the flight.
- Those in the group flight your travel will be ticketed in June.
 - Your departure time is approximately 8:10 am.
 - I will e-mail your ticket information to you.

Arrival in Miami approximately 2:00 pm EST.

Departing Miami approximately 6:30 pm EST.

Arrival in Managua approximately 7:00 pm CST (They are not on day light time, so time is the same as MST.)

- Meals while travel are your responsibility.

Vaccination Information

- You need to make sure your tetanus is up to date
- T-dap vaccine will extend your protection against Tetanus, Diphtheria, & Pertussis.
 - However, there is a age restriction, your health care provider will advise you
- It is a good idea to get Hepatitis A & B vaccination
 - Your health care provider will advise you
- The Public Health office can provide the vaccinations at the best monetary value

Customs Document required when entering Nicaragua:

- On the flight from Miami to Managua you will complete the document.
- Each person must complete this document.
- This document must remain on your person so you have it to present at the customs booth after deplaning in Managua, along with your passport.
- You will also need at a minimum \$5.00 to be paid to the customs agent. [New Information:](#) The cost is now \$7.00.
- The customs agent will give stamp your passport and give you a “document” that must be shown to the exist agent when departing the airport with your luggage.

To the Hotel in Managua:

- With your 2 pieces of luggage and carry on, we will, as a group, walk across the street to the Best Western Hotel.
- You will purchase your dinner at the hotel.
- There are several swimming pools available for your relaxation.

On Saturday, 7/19/2008:

- Gather for breakfast at 8:00 am.
- Load luggage at approximately 9:15 am.
- Department hotel by 10:00 am driving to Somoto.
- Stop for lunch along the way.
- Check into the Hotel Pan Americano in Somoto.
- Free time...enjoy the “Liberation Day” festivities.

On Sunday, 7/20/2008:

- Breakfast is served at the hotel. (See the information board in the hotel for the time.)
- Those wishing to attend church service: the vans will be the mode of transportation. (See the information board in the hotel for the departure time.)
- For lunch: as a group we will go to the waterfall and a unique restaurant above the falls. (See the information board in the hotel for the departure time.)
- The restaurant accepts credit cards.

- Group meeting in the evening to discuss schedules for work sites, medical clinic, Christian education location etc.

Tips & Suggestions:

- Some places will take a credit card.
- Bring a fanny pack to keep your personal items (billfold, passport, hand sanitizer etc.)
- Men should carry your wallet/billfold in your front pocket.
- Wear minimal jewelry.
- Keep your cash, ATM, and/or credit card secure!
- Each day, carry only the money you need for the day. There is a safe at the hotel.
- It is recommended you walk out and about in groups.
- Bring a personal water bottle to be refilled from a safe water source that will be at the hotel and at the work site.
- Do not use the hotel (Somoto or Managua) water (in the faucet) to drink or brush your teeth.
- Bring a zip lock to store your toothbrush.
- Earplugs might be needed, to assist your sleeping due to church bell ringing every 15 minutes.
- The hotel in Somoto does not provide washcloths; bring one for your use.
- The hotel in Somoto does not provide amenities like soap, lotion, and shampoo
- The hotel in Somoto will provide one bath towel, if you would like two towels; bring another for your use.

You will find the needs of the Nicaraguan people to be great and your heart will inspire you to want to give:

- It is best not to tip or give money to the young or the old who are begging.
- You will receive offers from the young and the old to provide a service; they will expect to be paid.
- If you identified a need for a family or an individual, bring this info to the group meeting in the evening. The needs will be discussed as a group and decisions will be made as a group.

Lunch at the work site or clinic:

- This expense is on your own.
- Bring a bag for your lunch.
- Items for lunch can be purchased at Pali (owned by Wal-Mart) or the local Pulperia (corner store).