



**FPC Summer 2018
Puerto Rico Mission Trip
June 18- 26**



Why do we go on mission trips?

- To get away from the noise
- To learn the value of service
- God has asked us to “go”
- To build strong relationships
- To grow our faith and knowledge of Jesus

“Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction and to keep oneself unstained from the world ~James 1:27

“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ Then, the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of my brothers, you did it to me.’ ~Matthew 25:34-40

Flight Information

SOUTHWEST AIRLINES: Arrive at HOBBY AIRPORT at 9:00AM

FLT#	DOW	Date	From	To	Depart	Arrive	Flt Type	Drop-off & Pick-up
818	MON	18-Jun-18	HOU	SJU	11:25AM	4:50PM	Southwest	9:00AM
489	TUES	26-Jun-18	SJU	HOU	4:00PM	7:30PM	Southwest	7:30PM

LUGGAGE GUIDELINES

- 1 checked bag per person - 50 pound limit & NO BAG FEE
- One carry-on allowed (back-pack is maximum size)

DEPARTURE DAY SCHEDULE

Please arrive at HOBBY Airport at 9am. It takes a long time to get everyone through security and to the gate. We are all flying together this year, so there is only one flight. If your child is 18 or older they need a valid form of ID (17 & Under is not necessary). They DO NOT need a passport because Puerto Rico is a U.S. Territory. Once we arrive in San Juan, we will get our luggage, and Praying Pelicans will have buses to pick us up and take us straight to the Retreat Center. It is about 20-30 min from the airport to retreat center

Who Are We Going With? Why Puerto Rico?



www.prayingpelicanmission.org

These service opportunities will be coordinated by **Praying Pelican Missions**, an organization we have used on previous mission trips. We found them to be organized, safe, efficient and faithful people who were able to set up meaningful service opportunities for our large group!

In light of the devastation from Hurricane Maria, we feel that Puerto Rico is an ideal location for our youth group! There is an incredible need on this Island for help with reconstruction of homes and churches, as well as the opportunity to spread hope in the name of Jesus. We have also found that leaving the US (mainland) provides for an incredible opportunity to experience a different culture, disconnect from our phones, and hear from God. It will be an unforgettable trip that is sure to leave a lasting impression on your son or daughter!

Trip Leaders (23 Total)

Cheryl Tucker- *Youth Director*
Ryan Born- *HS Guys Director*
Hannah Johnson- *HS Girls Director*
Ben Barnes- *MS Guys Director*
Jenny Terry- *MS Girls Director*
Morgan Bates- *Ministry Coordinator*
Joe Flinn- *Summer Intern*
Ryan Glasscock- *Summer Intern*
Shannon Lewis- *Summer Intern*
Jenny Lillard- *Summer Intern*
Tim Cornelson- *Elder & Volunteer*
Lauren Casey- *Small Group Leader & RN*

Charles Sommer- *Parent Small Group Leader*
Bess Alford- *Small Group Leader*
John Drexel- *Volunteer*
Becca Drexel- *Volunteer*
John Watson- *Small Group Leader*
Will McMullin- *Small Group Leader*
Scott Reamer- *Parent Small Group Leader*
Paris Griffin- *Small Group Leader & RN*
Cindy Marion- *Parent Small Group Leader*
Jordan Reeves- *Former Intern*
Brooks Terry- *Volunteer*
Maura Montgomery- *Parent & Volunteer*

Contact Information

Ryan Cell: 832-380-0966
Hannah Cell: 713-392-2140
Cheryl Cell: 713-443-5773

Puerto Rico Mission Trip Questions

1) How many people are coming on the trip?

-We are bringing 125 people. (102 students and 23 leaders)

2) What will the weather probably be like when we get here?

-The Island's weather ranges between 80° and 90° in June. Think Tropical!

3) Where will we be staying? Is it totally safe?

-Praying Pelican Missions owns a Retreat Center just outside of San Juan in a low-populated area. The facility is gated and will be protected! They have been running mission trips with groups larger than us through this center since the hurricane and have had no safety issues. In case of power outages, the center has its own backup generators that will automatically start.

4) How many work sites are there? Do we know for sure that there will be enough work? What kind of work will we be doing?

-We will split into 5 groups of 20ish

-There will be plenty of service work

-There will be 2-3 leaders per work group to help navigate and keep each group safe while we travel and serve

-Buses will transport us from the retreat center to our worksites. It will take about 30-45 min.

-Translators will be present with each team, however most people speak English.

-We will help with reconstruction, run Vacation Bible School for surrounding neighborhoods, and visit homes to pray for and encourage families and those who are bed-ridden

5) What are the safety issues? Will there be supervision at each site?

-There will be FPC supervision at each site, 2-3 adults for every group. There will also be one Praying Pelican leader at each site.

-The two biggest safety issues are dehydration/exhaustion & safety with all work tools (no power tools- just hammers etc).

6) In the case of an injury, what would be the plan?

-All of the Praying Pelican staff is CPR Certified and First Aid Ready. We are only 15 min away from the major hospitals in case of a serious emergency.

-If anything happens to your child (injury or sickness) we will notify you and keep you informed! We have an RN and RN student coming with us!

7) Who cooks the food?

-Breakfast and Dinner will be provided by Praying Pelicans. Some groups will make sandwiches for lunch and bring it to their worksite. Other groups will have lunch made for them at the church where they will be serving.

8) Where will my kid sleep?

- The retreat center has two main rooms with bunk beds. Girls are in one and guys are in the other. The rooms are air conditioned, and have full showers and restrooms.
- Guys & Girls will sleep separately. Leaders will be in bunk rooms with respective gender.

9) Will we do something other than work?

-For 2 nights on the back end of our trip we will head to the Marriot Resort for an all inclusive stay. Not only do we get to rest, hang out on the beach before we head home, but we also have a great chance to reflect on the work we just did. It is always a well deserved break!

10) Will I get updates?

-Yes! We will send occasional emails throughout the week. Also, follow our **instagram** to see photos of the trip **@fpc_highschool**

FPC Summer Parent Agreement

- 1) No motorized sports
- 2) No iPods, iPhones, head phones, or electronics of any kind are allowed on this trip
 - They are totally disruptive to the process.
 - We expect **parents** to make sure they are in possession of their students' iPods and iPhones during our trip.
- 3) Absolutely **NO DRINKING** or **DRUG USE** (Zero Tolerance Substance Policy)

Just a friendly reminder of our ALCOHOL & DRUG policy as stated on the FPC Release & Agreement which was signed by both students and parents:

- **Alcohol and Drugs:** If a student is caught with **alcohol, drugs, or any tobacco products (including electronic cigarettes)** the *parents will be notified immediately and the parents will be responsible for making arrangements to pay for their student to go home immediately.* In other words, if a student is caught with alcohol or drugs they will be sent home immediately at their parents' expense even if it is on the last night. They will not return home with us.

Important Information for Parents!

- 1- **Forms:** Praying Pelicans requires an online form (emailed). Please fill out ASAP!
- 2- **Attend Sunday School & Summer Activities:** Now that you are officially on the list, we strongly recommend that each student attend as many youth events as possible. The summer calendar will be posted on our website soon at www.fpchouston.org/grow/students/high-school/. Team unity and fellowship are dynamic essentials to the success of this mission trip, so each person's involvement now is vital as we prepare together for the mission.
- 3- **Payment:** If you have not yet paid your balance, you can expect to receive an invoice soon. If you have any questions about what you owe or if you paid, please contact Eva Garcia in the FPC Finance office.

Puerto Rico Packing List

Devotional Materials	Health, Safety, & Hygiene
Bible	Prescription medicine
Personal Journal/Notebook and Pen	Nonprescription medicine
Spending Money	Sunblock (aloe vera)
Money (\$50-100)	Soap/shampoo/conditioner
Clothing (6 work days, 2 travel, 2 beach)	Deodorant
Work shoes must be closed toe (hiking boots, tennis shoes, or work boots)	Toothbrush and paste
Rain Coat	Water bottle (put name on it) – important!
Jeans or Work Pants (1-2, scrubs work well)	Insect spray
Shorts (4-6)	Towel (2)
T-Shirts (11-15)	Anti-bacterial hand sanitizer
Work shirts (5)	Contact solution/case/contacts/glasses
Swim wear (conservative)	Wet-wipes
Underwear (9 day trip)	
Socks (2 per day recommended/good quality work or athletic)	Supplies and Equipment
Sleepwear (lightweight)	Work gloves
Bandanas/handkerchiefs for sweat or hat	Backpack
Tennis shoes/sandals/after work shoes	Watch or alarm clock
Laundry bag	Sunglasses
Dress clothes for church & dress shoes GIRLS: knee length dress or skirt, nice shirt, nice shoes. NO tank tops or short skirts. BOYS: nice pants, collared shirt, closed toe shoes	Bedding: Sleeping bag/ sheets, sleeping mat, pillow
Travel Supplies	Money: \$75-\$100
Flight information	Food
Medical insurance card (optional)	Snacks and diet food (if required)

****Girls please bring modest clothing. Shirts that cover your shoulders and shorts that are not too short! This is a big deal in Puerto Rican culture and we want to respect and honor it.**

Trip Prayer Requests

- 1) For students “to know the love that surpasses knowledge—that they may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.” Ephesians 3:19
- 2) For every student to feel loved and welcomed, and to walk away with lasting, meaningful friendships.
- 3) For students to escape the distractions at home so that they may be fully present and able to listen to God.
- 4) For good health for all and the overall safety of our trip.
- 5) For God to give the leaders wisdom and extra energy during the course of the trip.

Still have Questions?

Don't hesitate to contact us in the Youth Office! Email is the best way, youth@fpchouston.org. If you need to speak by phone, email us your phone number and a good time