

2026 SANTA CRUZ, CA HS MISSION TRIP

Dates: March 14-20, 2026

Trip Leader: Van Greenwood

Partner Church Information: We find our purpose in the gospel of Jesus Christ expressed through biblical worship, discipleship and community. We serve our community in the Name of Christ thus building bridges of trust that can bear the weight of truth. We desire to see Santa Cruz County transformed by the gospel. This endeavor started 2.5 years ago when the Drew and Shannon Cunningham and their family moved to Santa Cruz and started a Bible study in their home. An official church was born out of that in August of 2017. Since then, the church has added new members, moved into a building and served the county in various forms. Teaching others through word and action, life and doctrine, we aspire to lead and walk with others to become dedicated and committed followers of Christ. For more info: <http://santacruzproject.com/#thescp>



Partner Church Staff/Leadership Information: After living in the Bay Area for eight years, the Drew and Shannon Cunningham sensed a clear call from God to plant a new church in Santa Cruz County. Drew and Shannon have been married since June of 2007 and have three children (Carsyn, Cruz and Ruby). They love living in Santa Cruz County and genuinely love the people God continues to bring in their path. Drew loves his family, surfing, music and pretty much anything outdoors. He's an avid reader and particularly likes reading old books. Further, he is a coffee fanatic. His favorite local spots include: Tacos Moreno, East Side Eatery, Mariannes Ice Cream, Verve Coffee and all of the surf spots on the East Side.

Drew's brother, Ross, and his wife, Kamryn, and children also moved to Santa Cruz at the beginning of 2018 to serve the church and its mission.



Trip Purpose: Our hope for this group is to help us serve our community and our congregation. Our goal in all of this is to see lives changed for the cause of Christ.

Ministry Activities: (a) Engage neighborhoods around the church; (b) serve the homeless community; (c) partner with other ministries to meet needs in the county; (d) service projects; (e) praying with people; and (f) serving the congregation through a variety of ways.

Geographic Information: The bay area is America's least church area. We want to conduct ourselves in a way that displays Christ. Daily high temperatures are around 62°F. Daily low temperatures are around 49°F.

Health Considerations: We will walk a lot and be outside a lot.

Clothing: Please bring modest clothing. A jacket and comfortable shoes are a must. Plan to dress in layers. Church is casual, so there is no real need for super formal clothing, and many projects have the potential to get messy. It will be up to you if you want to bring a swimsuit (again, modest please). Wetsuits are almost always a must because of the water temperature, but you can decide that for yourselves.

Lodging and Transportation: The team will stay at Camp Santa Cruz. They will fly to San Francisco or San Jose and then use rental vans to get around the city.

Deposit and Trip Cost: **\$125 nonrefundable deposit.** If you withdraw from the trip after the plane tickets are purchased, **you are responsible to pay for your ticket.** Give payments to Student Ministry Staff or place in the mailboxes in the student building.



Registration: All participants are required to register via the QR Code. All participants are required to fill out a mission trip application. In order to secure your spot, the application and deposit check must be turned in.

FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN AND PAYMENT PLAN

FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN			
Item	Trip Cost	Pay to Church	Spend in CA
Plane Ticket	\$ 735.00	\$ 735.00	\$ -
Lodging	\$ 210.00	\$ 210.00	\$ -
Meals	\$ 185.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 35.00
Activity/Misc	\$ 105.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 30.00
Transportation	\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Subtotals	\$ 1,360.00	\$ 1,295.00	\$ 65.00
<i>Church Support</i>			
Totals	\$ 1,360.00	\$ 1,295.00	\$ 65.00

PAYMENT PLAN		
Date	Payment	Balance Owed
09/28/2025	\$ 125.00	\$ 1,170.00
01/11/2026	\$ 420.00	\$ 750.00
02/01/2026	\$ 420.00	\$ 330.00
03/01/2026	\$ 330.00	\$ -
Total	\$ 1,295.00	

* Final payment will vary depending on plane price.

MEETINGS

Calendar: Reserve the dates and times for remaining meetings. **These meetings are required and important for preparation. Contact Van Greenwood if you cannot make a meeting.**

- October 5, 2025
- November 2, 2025
- January 11, 2026
- February 1, 2026
- March 1, 2026 - Parents need to attend this meeting.

FUNDRAISING IDEAS



WHO IS THIS FOR?

Anyone that needs to raise money! Any cause, adoption, mission trip, non-profit, etc. You need to raise money; we want to help you!

HOW DOES ALL OF THIS WORK?

Check out our HOW IT WORKS page.

CAN I PERSONALIZE THE SHIRTS? (CHURCH NAME, TRIP, DATES, ETC.)

Yes. Whatever you want on the shirt, we'll try to make it happen! This is one of the many great things about FTN. No stock designs here. We design shirts just for your cause!

CAN I MIX & MATCH BETWEEN DESIGN & SHIRTS IN MY ORDER?

The easy answer is no. If you want to place separate orders, we can make it happen. But, to mix & match between orders would cause the price to increase, decreasing your profit for your fundraising. If you want to place a completely separate order with a separate design, just let us know!

WHAT IS THE PRICE PER SHIRT?

Several factors go into the price of a shirt, including the type and color of shirt, how many colors are in the graphic, how many locations (front, back, sleeve) of the shirt are printed, and the quantity of shirts ordered. We try to keep fundraising shirts between \$6-9.50 depending on the specifics. Contact us for specific price questions!

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE "PRICE PER SHIRT"?

Everything! Design, shirt, set-up, print, packing, and shipping. The price per shirt is the cost it takes to get it in your hands!

HOW MUCH SHOULD I RE-SELL THE SHIRTS FOR?

We suggest \$20 per shirt. That may seem steep, but think about it this way: GAP has their (RED) campaign shirts (to support AIDS research) priced around \$30 per shirt, for a simple red t-shirt. And people pay it because of where the money is going. The same is true for your shirt. People aren't just buying a t-shirt, they're investing in your cause! You may be surprised at how much people will want to help you and want a t-shirt from you.

*this is just a suggestion, feel free to sell the shirts for whatever you'd like!

HOW LONG DOES THIS PROCESS TAKE?

The selling process can be as short or as long as you want. Once you give us the sizes, it typically takes between 7-9 business days (M-F) to get the shirts shipped out from us! If you need them by a certain date, please let us know!

HOW DO THE SHIRTS FIT? (BIG, SMALL, TRUE TO SIZE?)

FTN uses a variety of different brands based on your needs and/or desires. If you have one in mind, just ask! Every brand runs differently in how it fits and so once we have a design and shirt picked out for you we would be more than willing to let you know how (our opinion) that specific brand fits (and if it shrinks or not when washing).

WHY DO YOU NOT HAVE ANY KIND OF WEB-STORE OR CROWDFUNDING PLATFORM ON YOUR WEBSITE?

FTN believes that the power to sell these shirts lies within the "circle" of people around you... family, friends, church members, classmates, social media connections, etc. Crowdfunding is great with some needs and ideas, but your personal shirt is going to sell much better to people with whom you're already connected! They believe in you and want to support you...and we stand behind that method of selling because we've seen it help a ton of people accomplishing their calling!

WILL YOU DESIGN & PRINT SHIRTS FOR SOMEONE THAT'S NOT FUNDRAISING?

Absolutely! Check out our non-fundraising brand, 52Threads! Churches, youth groups, camps, baseball teams, schools, etc. Doing so actually enables us to do more fundraising, so know that when we design & print your shirts, it's ultimately for the cause of the Gospel!

5 SIMPLE STEPS TO RAISING FUNDS

We want to make this as easy as possible for you...

1) CONTACT US

From the GET STARTED and let us know what you're raising money for.

2) WE CREATE A DESIGN FOR YOU

To check out. (It always helps if you let us know anything specific you would want for your design; we'll work until it's exactly the way you want it!)

3) ONCE YOU'VE GOT A DESIGN YOU LIKE

You then take the image of the shirt and pre-sell as many as you can! (kind of like girl scout cookies!)

Best ways to do that are through:

A) circle of immediate friends and family,

B) social media (Facebook-- some even create a page, twitter, Instagram, etc.)

C) your local church

D) work/school

4) YOU SUBMIT YOUR ORDER

using the order link we'll share with you during the fundraising process.

5) WE PRINT AND SHIP THE SHIRTS TO YOU

for distribution! You now have the funds to go and change the world....It really is that easy!

*no money is required upfront, only once you email us with the sizes you need.

"Money should not determine your vision, just fund it."

Pick a Number

A "Pick a Number" is a large board (or whatever else you decide to use) with a bunch of numbers on it. The numbers include every number from 1-70, and they can be on the board in order or all mixed up (get creative!). **The idea is that friends and family can "Pick a Number" to donate.**



Once they pick a number, that number is taken off the board (or X'ed out). This board could be set up at school, church, or work. And check this out - If all 70 numbers are taken, **you'll raise \$2,485**. If only half of the numbers are taken, you'll still raise over a thousand dollars! And no single person had to give more than \$70.

Note: Putting 40 numbers will get everything fundraised, even your spending money!

Create and sell a product

We have seen tons of creativity from mission trip participants who have made and marketed their own products to raise the funds for their mission trips. If you plan on serving on mission trips on a regular basis, you might consider setting up an online storefront on a website like Etsy.com to bring money into your mission trip savings account year-round.

Art. For the artistically gifted, Javier Perez, manager of missions and humanitarian aid, suggests an art auction featuring a gallery of pictures and paintings.

Food. Many people know that the way to another's heart is through their stomach, so they head to the kitchen to make and sell delicious treats. Melanie Miller and Brittani Cirinna baked hundreds of cake pops, while Ada Sanchez sold homemade empanadas.

T-shirts. A custom T-shirt is always a popular choice. Krista Askey and Morgan Shamasko had shirts custom designed and printed to raise money for their trips to Africa.

Provide a service

Are you good at cutting kids' hair? Are you handy with a hammer? Do you scrapbook, or thrive on home organization? Think about what you're good at doing for yourself – maybe you could do the same thing for others and earn some extra money. Here are a few other ideas:

- Repair computers
- Mow lawns
- Do oil changes
- Shovel snow
- Bake special occasion cakes
- Walk or groom pets, or pet-sit
- Tutor students
- Style hair for formal events
- Sharpen knives and lawnmower blades
- Edit cover letters and resumes
- Officiate local sporting events
- Babysit

Sell Wristbands to Support the Cause

Bracelets or wristbands are popular item that can be purchased in support of a mission trip. Fundraising ideas involving wristbands could include offering [customized wristbands](#) that have your group's inspirational message printed on them, the location, and the year.

Wristband Resources has a great selection of quality silicone wristbands that would be perfect for this. They also have more than 20 years of experience in providing custom wristbands. Our products are all high-quality and we have trained support staff available to assist you both during the ordering process and after an order has been placed. We also offer live online support. Orders are processed quickly for fast turnaround so you'll have your wristbands in plenty of time for your mission trip fundraiser.

Write a Mission Trip Support Letter

See additional document for details on how to write a mission trip support letter and samples of mission trip support letters.

Donations for Your Trip

- Make checks payable to QSBC (DO NOT WRITE STUDENT NAME IN MEMO LINE).
- Include a written note that states **Student's Name** and the **Mission Trip Name**.
- Mail to QSBC (14613 N. May Avenue Oklahoma City, OK 73134), Attn: Courtney Dishman

Write a Mission Trip Support Letter

Support Letters for Mission Trips

I regularly receive fundraising letters asking me to help someone go on a mission trip, and most of the time, I am more than willing to help out. **Unfortunately, most support letters for mission trips are lacking in the one vital characteristic necessary for maximum effectiveness.** And that crucial element is...

... prior service. Expecting some great writing "hook" to seal the deal? Were you thinking it was going to be some great missionary sales pitch that nobody can resist? Well, it's not. It is simply the age-old law of sowing and reaping.

Support Letters for Mission Trips : Serving!

Let me say it clearly. **The biggest item missing in most mission trip support letters, and any other fundraising for mission trips, is the reality that many people who are planning to go on a missions trip have not been serving in the locality in which they live,** or very substantially in the church which they attend.

Before you send out a missions fundraising letter, you need to make sure that you are serving the community where you are. Period.

The truth is, if you are faithfully serving the people to whom you are mailing the support letters, they will be much more inclined to help you in your mission trip support. And if you have never given them the time of day, or hardly even spoke to them, they will only give because they are compassionate missions-oriented people or out of compulsion.

The Most Important Tip in Mission Trip Fundraising

The most important advice I can give you for mission trip fundraising is this: When you have determined your budget goal, write it down and pray for God's provision every chance you get. If you keep it in the forefront of your thoughts and prayers, you will receive the amount you need.

Now, all you have to do is ask, and, believing, you will receive. Christian fundraising really is just that simple! If you follow these mission trip fundraising tips, you will be surprised at how the Lord meets your needs, and you will have a great opportunity to impact the world for Jesus Christ.

- **Speak to your church family**
 - Sometimes church leaders will allow Christian teens to speak to the congregation about the missions trip, which can elicit financial support. Some churches will even conduct a special offering to help students raise funds for the trip.
- **Raise Your Own Money**
 - Sacrificial giving is often the most rewarding. In order to get some of the finances you need for your trip, you may want to sacrifice some of the activities that cost you money like weekly trips to Starbucks, movies, eating out, or new clothes. Instead of getting presents for Christmas or your birthday, why not ask for financial support for the mission trip? Also, you can do odd jobs like babysitting, chores, mowing lawns, and more to raise money.
- **Corporate Sponsorship**
 - Christian teens sometimes forget that there are a lot of corporations and businesses that set aside money each year for philanthropic use. Try checking with some local companies to see if they will

sponsor or contribute to your mission trip. Remember, a person or company does not have to be Christian to give to a mission trip.

- **Write a Letter**

- Writing a letter is one of the most effective ways to raise money for a mission trip. On average, a Christian teen can raise \$2,500 by sending well-written letters to 75 people. Think you don't know 75 people? Think again. Don't limit yourself to just friends and family. Send letters to everyone you can think of - the worst they can say is that they have no money to give. Also, don't forget to send Thank You notes to those who have given you financial support for your trip.

Fundraising Letters

When you begin to write a mission trip support letter, the first decision you really have to make is **how committed you are** to the task and the mission trip that is before you. Why? Because most people agree that fundraising for mission trips is the hardest part of preparing for your Christian trip.

If the mission trip support letters that you distribute are to be effective, then there are some simple guidelines you will want to follow. But one word of advice... **don't obsess** over trying to create the perfect mission trip fundraising letter. Pray that God will open hearts (including yours) and be yourself. That is what people already know and are drawn to.

Fundraising Letters for Donations Keys

The keys to writing fundraising letters for donations for your Christian missions trip are pretty fundamental, but some of the other articles listed below will go into more detail about each one. Here they are in a bulleted list to help summarize the main points.

- Determine how much money you actually need
- Break the total down into a reasonable amount for each donor as a suggestion
- Be as personal as you possibly can in the text of the mission trip support letter
- Tell a story (If you've been there before – share a touching story of how we helped someone in SD)
- Be honest about your need
- DON'T beg, but DO ask humbly for their help
- Have a simple and easy method for the donor's response (like an envelope stamped/addressed to WOW, with a note typed up that has your name on it for them to send with the check)
- Place a follow up call to see if they received your letter or have questions
- Remember to thank each donor personally
- Also – if you want to include pictures on your letter from past trips, a t-shirt design from the past or with the WOW Ministries logo – Lori has these available.

It means a lot to me to see that the person is actually using his own money first, and then asking me to help for the rest. A sample letter for a mission trip would be to say that the missions trip is going to cost a total \$400, that he had put in his \$____ savings, and that he was asking me to help him with the remainder.

The Ministry of Mission Trip Letters

Mission trip letters can be a large ministry opportunity for service even before we go into the international mission field. So there is no reason to dread the process; rather, we should embrace it as part of God's plan in our lives, and especially in this missions adventure.

Starting with the outer envelope itself, make sure to write the address neatly with the correct spelling, and include the return address as well. **Nothing says "cheap mass mailing" like a sloppy outer envelope with no return address.** It may even get tossed in the trash by someone who thinks it is a chain letter or junk mail of some kind.

The point is not so much to seem professional, but to show that the person who wrote the mission trip letters (you) cares about what he is doing and the purpose to which he has been called. You also want to greet the person by name in the fundraising letter, and here is an important tip:

Don't run the letter on a computer printer and then handwrite in the potential supporter's name. Cheesy! **I personally like to handwrite all the letters I send,** and I hate it (writer's cramp!), but it lets the person know that I care about them and God's mission enough to take the time to do it. And I do care!

Tell a Story in Your Mission Trip Letters

If you can, and especially if you have been on Christian missions in the past, tell a story in your missions trip support letter about something you have seen or have heard about in place to which you are going to minister.

People relate to stories in mission trip letters because stories relate to real life. Just a list of information about where you are going and what you are doing does not help people to see the real need of those you are going to serve.

One word of caution about stories though. You do not want your mission trip letters to *just* be about depressing thoughts and scarcity and hardship. **Our Lord is a Lord of optimism, abundance, and grace;** let us be a people of joy and faith in our God, who is able to do all things. Yes, there is trouble, but He has overcome all things! Let us speak of these things, and rejoice in them!

Missions Trip Support Letter Tip

Now, here is a helpful tactic when writing your fundraising letter for donations or calling people on the phone. Divide your total budget into an amount that you think the majority of our prospective ministry partners (donors) would be willing to give. Normally a range of about \$20-25 is a good estimate where I live. (So \$400/\$20 would be 20 people saying "yes".)

Now determine how many "donor units" you need to receive in order to meet your budget goal. That is a good way to know the challenge that is before you. **If you are asking for donations in \$20 increments, then you know you need just 20 "donor units" to meet your goal... a very realistic number to hit.**

Why Get Specific on Missions Trip Support Letters?

Why do I recommend asking for a specific amount? A lot of potential ministry partners receive fundraising letters for donations, and they just need a little guidance or a little bump to get them to give.

If you received a missions trip support letter stating that the potential missionary needed to raise \$2,000, and you could only afford to give \$25, you might feel that your \$25 wouldn't make enough of a difference to even bother sending it in.

However, if you are asked to just help with a small \$25 donation, most people would agree to that small amount. And, if the Lord led them to give two or four units (\$50 or \$100), they would do that as well. **It helps to give the option** some specific size gift and show how even a small donation will make a difference and is part of your plan.

Well, no matter how good your template fundraising letter may be, **there has to be a simple way for people to give** or they will simply let your letter lay where they opened it, untouched again until it is finally thrown away in the trash can. There must be an easy and relatively painless way for people to send you money if you are going to meet with any kind of success.

Ways for 'Donors' to Respond:

By far, **the most common way for people to respond is through the mail to your personal address.** This is an accepted practice that most of your potential donors will be familiar with and accustomed to; therefore, there will be less resistance to this method than any of the other types when you use a template fundraising letter.

Unfortunately, the process of sending money to you personally though does not provide the donor with any tax breaks that might encourage them to give more. So it would be best to have them write the check to "Walk On Water Ministries", and include a separate note that it is to help with your fee! (Not a memo on the check or that is not legally tax-deductible.) You can get the check to us. OR have them mail it to us directly. **The fact that people are able to deduct a donation from their taxes will encourage a few more financial gifts, but the average gift will be greatly increased if a church or other nonprofit religious organization is sponsoring the missions trip.**

What Should Fundraising Letters Samples Seek to Do?

In all of our Christian mission trip fundraising letters for donations, we should always seek to honor God by showing our absolute trust in His ownership of resources and His provision for all of His work. We never need to feel as if we are begging for financial help from others, only that **we are giving them the opportunity for the Lord to work through them** for the benefit of the Kingdom and their own growth as a Christian.

Not only are we growing in Christ in our missions trip endeavor, not only do we seek to win others on our mission trips, but we also know that God is trying to inspire generosity and faith in those who will help us financially as well. And most fundraising letters samples that are available do not acknowledge this important aspect of the purpose God has in our missions adventure.

The fact is that **all Christians need to continue to grow in their generosity because Jesus Himself was generous**, and our purpose here is to glorify Him in everything we do, even our fundraising for mission trips. And when we write and distribute our mission trip fundraising letters, we must always keep that in mind, even though we really need to raise the money to go ourselves!

It is pretty simple to design fundraising letters that raise money for mission trips. The hard part is writing mission trip letters that build up, encourage, and serve the potential ministry partners in a way that truly glorifies God. Let us be on the side that trusts 100% in the Lord's provision and plan, and concentrate on beginning now what He wants us to do when we arrive at our missions trip destination. And that is to serve Him and His people.

So begin your mission trip service now, and you will be that much more prepared to truly impact those to whom you will minister then. Come up with a few fundraising letters samples of your own, and then pick the one that is most consistent with the ministry to which you have been called.

One caveat: I firmly believe that each person should pause and ask the Lord to direct them to write their own donation letter instead of using someone else's fundraising letters template. However, there are times when a person needs a simple example to help them get started, to assist them in getting those creative juices flowing.

It is also important to remember that it does not matter how persuasive your writing skills if you have never reached out in service to your potential ministry partners. No fantastic "sales" copy can overcome the lack of service in the life of a Christian. You may be able to get away with it once, but you will never have ongoing success without it.

The Final Tip for Your Fundraising Letters Template

Even if you use a fundraising letters template, there is one tactic that seems to help more than any other, and that is to **call the recipient about a week or so after the letter arrives**. What do you say? Pretty much what you wrote in the fundraising letters for donations.

You simply need to make sure they received the letter and "ping" a response. Calling them on the phone also gives them an opportunity to ask you any questions and shows them that you are committed to doing whatever it takes to follow God's plan for your mission trip. Don't just assume that your mission trip letter example will do everything for you.

A Unique Twist on an Old Fundraising Idea

When it comes to raising funds for a mission trip the method many people try is mailing out a support 'form' letter that tells every recipient that you are raising money to go on a particular trip and that you'd appreciate any donations they can give you. These letters can be successful, but here is a way to make them even more profitable: Instead of preparing your letter on a word processor and then making a bunch of copies try mailing hand written letters instead. Yes, this is A LOT of work, but think of the value that people place on a handwritten note compared to just another piece of mail. Also, on a printed letter you may just put a greeting like "Dear Friends" with a personal note you can make the salutation "Aunt Mary" or "Mr. and Mrs. Bailey." This helps the recipient to think that what you have to say is directed especially to them.

Example of a mission trip support letter

How to write support letters: Use the following letters as a guideline or template to create your own fund-raising letter. They promote the ministry rather than making raising the money the main issue. Don't copy it verbatim, but use it as a guide and make it your own. Best wishes on your fundraising efforts. Whatever course you decide to go, this fundraising letters template should help you out.

Right off the bat, **you can quickly see in the 1st mission trip letter example that it is an impersonal form letter**. Although this is okay for mass mailings, rather than send out 100 letters to your entire mailing list, it is much more efficient and effective to send out a personalized support letter for mission trip (like, maybe 25) to your close acquaintances.

See samples below:

SAMPLE FUND RAISING LETTERS

Dear _____

I'd like to share with you a trip that I am going to take that will hopefully be a life changing experience for the people I come in contact with, as well as myself.

I was happy to find out that I have the chance (again?) to be a part of the Walk On Water Ministries Mission Trip along with about 30 others from the Quad City Area. Our team will be traveling to Standing Rock Indian Reservation staying in McLaughlin, SD from _____ (June 12th, 2013) to _____ (June 19th, 2013). While we are there we will be ministering to the Lakota people through Bible School, drama, music, witnessing, and some landscaping and home repairs. Through this we hope to win many souls to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Now, all I need is the money to get there. I already have saved up \$____ of the \$400 fee, however, I will need sponsors. Right now I am looking for 20 people to sponsor me for \$20 toward this wonderful experience. However, I realize that this amount may not be possible, so any amount that you might be able to give would be greatly appreciated. If you are sending a check, please make it out to "WOW Ministries" & a separate note saying with my name on it rather than write that in the check memo. I believe that with prayer and God's help my financial need will be met.

Please pray for me as I prepare for this mission and while we are there. Pray that people will see the love of Jesus through us and will be touched in some way. _____ An example of how God works through WOW Mission Trips is _____ (something someone told you) OR _____ your own personal experience.

Thank you for letting me share with you what will be one of the most meaningful experiences of my life. If you cannot help in a financial way, please help support me with your prayers.

In His service,

Your name

Dear _____:

How are you doing? I hope that God is doing as many wonderful things in your life as He is in mine. I had a wonderful year at _____ School, and feeling God's will to do more for the world around me.

I want to share with you a challenging ministry opportunity that God has presented to me. From June 12 through June 19 God has offered me the chance to go to South Dakota with Walk On Water Ministries to reach out and spread the gospel to the Lakota people on Standing Rock Indian Reservation while also learning more about the people there and their culture. We will do this *by putting on Bible School for the children; using songs, skits and youth programs to reach the teens and doing repairs, landscaping, building projects as needed in the community.*

The Lakota people live a hard life in a land that has lost hope in many areas. Drugs, alcohol, gambling and other addictions are wild-spread there. Most of the children we will work with have broken homes touched by addictions, abuse and poverty. Teen drop-outs and suicides there are some of the highest in the USA. The Lakota people have a proud heritage and their beliefs parallel Christian beliefs, and it will be a joy to help reinforce those beliefs and be sure they know the true "Rock" of our foundation – Jesus Christ. We plan to open our hearts to show them Jesus' unconditional love, compassion and the One True Hope! One very good example of how I've seen this accomplished in the past is _____

To see pictures of past trips to Standing Rock, check out walkonwaterministries.net web page & click on the link to "Pictures".

I have been blessed to go to this area ____ times before and I gained _____ while I served the Lord doing _____

While God has opened up a door for me to develop a greater heart of compassion for His people everywhere, the exciting part is that you will be able to share in this compassion in several ways. First, you can help pray for me and my fellow 'Missionaries'. We will need prayers that God will prepare us for our visit and bless our efforts as we minister to the people of Standing Rock. We will also need prayers that our financial needs will be met. At this time we need to raise \$400.00 each to attend this trip, and that is quite a challenge!

Another way you can be involved is to help provide that financial support. Would you consider supporting me with a small donation? *If so, just mail a tax-deductible check payable to Walk On Water Ministries with my name mentioned in a separate note to WOW Ministries at 17623 Ford Rd. Geneseo, IL 61254.* Whether you feel led to contribute financially, through prayer, or both, all of your support is appreciated.

I look forward to doing God's work in South Dakota and letting you know all about how God has worked through this team when I return in June.

God Bless,

(Your signature)

Dear Greg and Rosemary,

I hope this letter finds you both well and rejoicing in our Lord today. It certainly is good to see the way He continues to work in each of our lives, continually leading us to more Christ-likeness.

I wanted to take a moment to write to you to let you know about a great opportunity He has opened up for me to share the love of Jesus in South Dakota this summer with a mission team from Walk On Water Ministries. Although I am a little nervous about the trip, I know that God will watch over and protect me, and that I just have to trust Him in all things.

While in South Dakota, we intend to reach the Lakota people on Standing Rock Indian Reservation by putting on Bible School for the children; using songs, skits and youth programs to reach the teens and doing repairs, landscaping, building projects as needed in the community. The Lakota people live a hard life in a land that has lost hope in many areas. Drugs, alcohol, gambling and other addictions are wild-spread there. Most of the children we will work with have broken homes touched by addictions, abuse and poverty. Teen drop-outs and suicides there are some of the highest in the USA. The Lakota people have a proud heritage and their beliefs parallel Christian beliefs, and it will be a joy to help reinforce those beliefs and be sure they know the true “Rock” of our foundation – Jesus Christ. We plan to open our hearts to show them Jesus’ unconditional love, compassion and the One True Hope! One very good example of how I’ve seen this accomplished in the past is _____

To see pictures of past trips to Standing Rock, check out walkonwaterministries.net web page & click on the link to “Pictures”.

I have been blessed to go to this area ____ times before and I gained _____ while I served the Lord doing _____

In order to go on this missions trip, each team member must raise a little more than \$400 for travel and ministry expenses. I know that God has led me to follow Him on this adventure, and because of that, I have used all of my savings. However, I am still about \$____ short of the amount that is required.

Would you guys be willing to help me out with a donation? A small amount of even \$25 would be a great blessing to me, but if you could help with more, I would really appreciate it. If so, just return it to Walk On Water Ministry in the enclosed envelope including a note letting them know it is for me (your donation is tax-deductible).

Either way, I hope you will pray for me on this endeavor. It is WAY out of my comfort zone, but I know that God is in it, and I am excited to see what He will show me. Thank you so much; you have always been such an encouragement to me.

Sincerely,

Dear family and friends,

Hello, how are you? I hope you are doing well, and that God is working in your life as much as he is in mine.

God has really been working in my life, and he has really been revealing His will to me more and more. I am writing you this letter to share with you a challenging ministry opportunity that He has shown to me.

From June 12th through June 19th, God has offered me the opportunity to go to Standing Rock Indian Reservation with a Walk On Water Ministries with teens from the Quad City Area. On this mission trip, we will be spreading the gospel to the Lakota people who live on the reservation in South Dakota by putting on Bible School for the children; using songs, skits and youth programs to reach the teens and doing repairs, landscaping, building projects as needed in the community.

The Lakota people live a hard life in a land that has lost hope in many areas. Drugs, alcohol, gambling and other addictions are wild-spread there. Most of the children we will work with have broken homes touched by addictions, abuse and poverty. Teen drop-outs and suicides there are some of the highest in the USA. The Lakota people have a proud heritage and their beliefs parallel Christian beliefs, and it will be a joy to help reinforce those beliefs and be sure they know the true "Rock" of our foundation – Jesus Christ. We plan to open our hearts to show them Jesus' unconditional love, compassion and the One True Hope! One very good example of how I've seen this accomplished in the past is _____

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I have been blessed to go to this area ____ times before and I gained _____ while I served the Lord doing _____

While God has opened up a door for me to develop a greater heart of compassion for His people everywhere, the exciting part is that you will be able to share in this compassion in several ways. First, you can help pray for me and my fellow students. We will need prayers that God will prepare us for our visit and bless our efforts as we minister to the people of Standing Rock. We will also need prayers that our financial needs will be met.

Although I believe God will watch over me, I would like to specifically ask for you to pray for me and the others who will be going with me. Of all the things you can do to support me in this, prayer is the most important. Also, please pray that our financial needs will be met.

In order to go on this mission trip, we each need to raise a little over \$400.00, and that is a major challenge for each of us. Would you pray about helping me with a small donation? If so, just mail a tax-deductible check payable to Walk On Water Ministries with my name mentioned in a separate note to WOW Ministries at 17623 Ford Rd. Geneseo, IL 61254.

Whether you feel led to contribute financially or commit to prayer (or both), I truly appreciate your support. I can hardly wait to doing God's work on the Reservation, and I will give you a full report when I come back. God bless you,

A Support Letter for Mission Trip May Be Unnecessary

If you sincerely do not have enough money, then the fun (and fear) begins! Calling potential supporters and writing a support letter for mission trip fundraising is a great experience in your Christian walk. **You will learn to trust God more, and learn to serve others in a way that you have not before.** And there are as many ways to raise money for mission trips as there are people in the world. But the best way I have found is to... Ask!

Yes, it really is that simple when fundraising for mission trips. In truth, **you may not need to send out any mission trip letters for donations at all.**

When the apostle Paul needed money to help the Jerusalem church, he simply asked for help from people who cared (but technically, he did send a letter!).

If you need money to go on a mission trip that the Lord has asked you to go on, all you really need to do is ask. Ask people and ask God to open hearts. God will supply; he really will!

Support Letter for Mission Trip Alternative

If you would be willing to ask twenty people in person or on the phone to help you, more than likely you will have all the money you need. So many short term missionaries are afraid or embarrassed to ask and instead "cop out" with the impersonal fundraising letter or other, complex, mission trip fundraisers. **If you can't trust God now to empower you, how will you really know you can trust Him when you are 900 miles away from home?**