



Who is eligible?

This trip is for high school students, college students, and young adults. High school students must be in at least Grade 10 to apply. A valid US passport will be required. Information on obtaining a passport can be found at the US State Department website. Passport cards will *not* work; it must be a passport book.

How do I sign up for the trip?

Attend one of the informational meetings October 6 at 12:30 p.m. or October 9 at 6:30 p.m. Then, fill out the application form for the trip online at FirstTrinity.com/Jamaica2014 and turn in your deposit of \$50 by November 4.

What will our schedule look like?

The team will fly from Buffalo to Jamaica on August 2. Saturday evening will likely be spent preparing for the ministries for the rest of the week and/or out inviting people to events we will be hosting. Sunday through Wednesday will be spent doing a variety of ministries as decided on by the team (see next question). Half of one of those days will probably be a recreation day to experience local culture and grow closer as a team. Thursday often includes some recreation time and then we will fly back to Buffalo on Friday August 8. (We will also get the special joy of celebrating Jamaican Independence Day is August 6!)

What will we be doing?

The neat thing about our ministry partner, Praying Pelican Missions (PPM), is that we have some say in what types of ministry we do. Ministry options we will decided upon as a team; possibilities include children's VBS ministry, service projects and construction, ministry in local churches, sports, ministry, prayer ministry, school ministry, mercy ministries, evangelism, youth or adult ministry, and others. Praying Pelican will work with our team, any other teams going that same week, and the local pastors and ministry leaders in Jamaica to match our gifts and talents with the needs of the people of Jamaica. In addition to our mission work, each day will also include time for individual and group devotions as well as a team meeting.

Are we going to a safe area?

The areas in which we will be serving are very safe. There are experienced Praying Pelican staff on site at all times with cell phones, transportation, and first-aid kits. They will also have ready access to hospitals and clinics, and have training on what to eat and drink. We always travel as a group and PPM has partnerships with local pastors, churches, and communities to help ensure everyone's safety. An orientation meeting is provided upon arrival in regard to other necessary safety information.

What other pre-trip requirements are expected of team members?

We will have meetings about once a month starting in January leading up to the trip in order to prepare for our ministry opportunities and to grow together as a team. It is crucial that as many team members be there as possible. Our first meeting will take place on Mission Madness day (explained below) as we will all be gathered already for that fundraiser. At that meeting we will discuss what times/days generally work best for the team as a whole and attempt to schedule future meetings at times when the majority of team members can attend. We understand that schedules make things difficult, but it is absolutely crucial for members to make this a priority.

Where will the teams sleep?

The team will be staying in a host school, church, or community center near our ministry sites. Each missionary will need to bring an air mattress, sheets, and a small pillow. Men and women will have separate rooms to set up "camp." Shower facilities will be available to you, and the facilities will be safe.

What will the teams eat?

PPM strives to provide a wide variety of options that will nourish and sustain all participants, which includes both native food and American food. All food and water is provided as part of our trip. Food allergies and/or special dietary needs are generally able to be accommodated.

How can I communicate with my family member while they are away?

The main form of communication throughout the week will be through the Trip Journals on the Praying Pelican Website. (See Prayingpelicanmissions.org/journals for examples). There will be blog posts and pictures on that website throughout the week. Family and friends back home can post comments which will be shared with the team by PPM Staff each day. PPM expects participants to leave cell phones, tablets, ipods, etc. This is both for the benefit of missionaries and the locals we are serving. If there is an emergency we will have access to phones through the PPM staff and will have information about that to pass along to families before we leave about how to contact us in case of emergency.

What vaccinations or medications will I need?

According to the CDC for travel to Jamaica, there are different categories of what is needed and suggested when it comes to vaccinations. It is crucial to have all the routine vaccinations up to date (MMR, Tetanus, etc.). Most travelers also make sure they have the Hepatitis A vaccination. Some also get the Typhoid and Hepatitis B vaccinations. The best thing is to talk to your family doctor and/or an area travel clinic to see what is best for you. More information will be shared as we get closer to trip about precautions to take to stay healthy on the trip. You can find more details at www.cdc.gov/travel and search for "Jamaica"

Which adults will be going on the trip? Can I go?

Rebekah Freed, the Director for High School and Young Adult Ministries will be the First Trinity Staff person on this trip. There are a limited number of other adult leadership positions available. This team will be formed based upon the criteria explained in the Adult Leader Information Sheet which is available from Rebekah Freed and includes other details such as expectations, costs, and commitments for adult leaders. Adult applications are online at FirstTrinity.com/Sign-Ups and are due by October 23. Applicants will be notified by October 30 of who will make up the adult leadership team.

How much will the trip cost?

The price is estimated around \$1,200 with the cost varying depending on flight cost. The price will cover airfare, lodging, ground transportation, food in country, and needed supplies during the trip. Food in the airports on the way to Jamaica, \$ for souvenirs, as well as any passport or vaccination costs are not included.

How do I make payments?

Because of the cost involved, and that many of the arrangements need to be made ahead of our departure. It will be necessary for participants to make regular payments as we prepare for the trip. With the exception of SCRIP funds, most fundraisers will be applied near the end of the payments due. This works to keep enough dollars on hand to make arrangements for the trip, as well as protecting the group from the risk of someone dropping out of the trip and leaving behind a debt that must be made up by others in the group. Please talk to the Bekah if you cannot make payments, and we will do our best to work with each missionary individually to provide scholarships as we are available. If it becomes necessary to leave the trip unexpectedly, we will do our best to reduce the financial burden as much as possible, though any unavoidable charges (e.g. non-refundable payments to PPM or flights that are already purchased) remain the responsibility of the missionary whether they attend the trip or not.

What is the payment schedule?

The following payments are based upon the estimated total of \$1200. They will be adjusted as needed depending on the final cost of the trip.

November 4, 2013 - \$50 Deposit
December 10, 2013 -\$150 (\$200 total)
February 2, 2014 -\$250 (\$450 total)

April 10, 2014 -\$250 (\$700 total)
June 10, 2014 -\$250 (\$950 total)
July 10, 2014 -Final Payment ~\$250 (Final total)

Will the team be doing fundraisers?

YES! First Trinity has two main fundraisers that help support short-term mission teams.

The first is **Mission Madness**. *All missionaries are expected to provide at least one theme basket (valued at at least \$50) and to find one gift card/certificate donation for this auction that takes place November 2. Missionaries are also expected to serve either the day of and/or the day before the event. Details coming soon.* If we receive the same profits we did last year, our trip can expect to have around \$4500-5000 from this event.

The other fundraiser is **Changing Our World** which generally provides around \$1100 to youth and young adult mission trips. Jars to invite friends to collect change are available in the main office hallway.

Youth and young adults also have the opportunity to receive funds from our **SCRIP program**. Both youth and young adults may receive the profit from any purchases made by their immediate family (including siblings and grandparents). The general SCRIP account will be divided evenly between the number of participants for both the Jamaica trip and the Crossroads MOVE trip. If someone is attending both trips, they will have to decide which trip to attribute their money to or split it evenly between the trips. The SCRIP group funds generally total around \$2500/year. For the data below, I'm assuming about half of that will go to Jamaica, but it depends on the number of participants in both trips. Individual SCRIP funds generally averaged around \$142 last year with some people making up to \$450. Both estimates provided below.

	Group Fundraising Estimates	With Individual SCRIP <i>(Based on 2013 Average of \$142)</i>	With Individual SCRIP <i>(Based on high end from 2012 and 2013 of \$450)</i>
10 missionaries	\$755.00	\$897.00	\$1,205.00
15 missionaries	\$503.33	\$645.33	\$953.33
20 missionaries	\$377.50	\$519.50	\$827.50

Have more questions?

Contact **Bekah Freed, Director of High School and Young Adult Ministries** with any further questions, concerns, or ideas. Thanks!

RFreed@FirstTrinity.com
835-2220 – office
698-9883 – cell

Personal Fundraising Ideas

The church fundraisers will help you get started, but you will likely have to raise a considerable amount outside of the church walls. Here are some suggestions for you. These are things you can do on your own:

- ***Birthday/Christmas Gifts*** -Have you ever thought of the money you are given for your birthday by various relatives? It adds up quick. You also might tell your relatives that you are going on a mission trip. If they know ahead of time what the money is for, the \$20 they give you might turn into \$40.
- ***Personal letters to families and friends.*** If you would like a sample letter, I can provide some.
- ***Allowance \$*** -You might consider cutting back on the stuff you normally buy with your allowance and saving up towards the trip. It starts out small but \$5 a month for 9 months is \$45.
- ***Part Time Jobs*** - If you already have a part time job and make \$7.00 per hour and can work an extra 2 hours per week, that is over \$50 per month; 9 months of that is over \$500.
- ***Couch, chair, and car seat raids*** -It sounds piddly, but go through the couches in your house. Hit your friends, relatives too (ask first). Not to mention underneath the seats in your parents cars and the cup of loose change on top of the laundry washer. If you can scrounge \$.50 a week in change, that is \$15 in spending money over the next few months. Consider asking your relatives to do a loose change drive for you.
- ***Working in the Neighborhood*** -Think about the money you could raise in your own neighborhoods and subdivisions. Try making up some flyers and offer the following services. Make sure that you include in the flyer that you are raising money and for what.
- ***Doing the Doo*** -The most dreaded, and the most lucrative fundraisers you can do in the neighborhood. Basically you offer to come in and pick up the dog doo that has piled up over the winter months. There is no hiding the fact that it is a nasty task. But people will pay \$20 - \$40 a yard to have it done as well. So if you pound out 10 or 20 yards doing this. That is a huge fundraiser, and you will make more money than with any other church fundraiser!
- ***Shoveling Driveways*** -When it snows you shovel it. Pretty self explanatory.
- ***Lawn mowing*** -When the grass grows you mow it. Pretty self explanatory.
- ***Baby sitting*** -When the baby poops, you change 'em. Pretty self explanatory.
- ***Group Fundraisers*** -Sometimes you can get a small group of friends together and make some cash.
- ***Spring Clean ups*** -Cleaning up all of the muck, and leaves and sticks in peoples yards when spring rolls around.
- ***Can collections.*** – Every 1,000 cans you collect is another 50 bucks toward your trip. Go door to door explaining to your neighbors what you're raising funds for and ask for cans toward your trip.
- ***Car washes*** -You can do this the traditional way, where you wash cars off of the main road for a donation. You can also grab a bucket, sponges and a hose and go house to house in your neighborhood and wash cars right in the driveway.
- ***Popsicles in the park*** -Grab your little brothers red wagon, fill it up with frozen popsicles and head to the park or a large event on a warm day. Take .10 cent popsicles and sell them for .75 cents.
- ***Buy a Mile.*** Ask people to consider supporting a certain number of miles of your trip. It's about 1612 between here and Jamaica. At an estimated \$1200 for the trip, that's about 74 cents/mile.

1 mile - \$.74

25 miles - \$18.5

50 miles - \$37

100 miles - \$74

Think of more? Let Bekah Freed know and she will pass them on to the rest of the group!