

# Jamaica Christian Services USA, Work Teams



# Work Team Information

## Packet

### Jamaica Christian Services USA, Inc.

We at the Jamaica Christian Services USA, Inc. are delighted that you are considering a trip to Jamaica and to be part of the wonderful work of Jamaica Christian Services USA & Jamaica Bible Seminary, Ltd.

We have put together a prayer list for you to use as a guide as you prepare for Kingdom work on the island of Jamaica.

#### **PRAYER LIST**

1. Pray daily about your trip.
2. Pray for safety in traveling.
3. Pray for your love and understanding of a different culture.
4. Pray for your relationship with other team members, if traveling in a group.
5. Pray for safety while working in a foreign country.
6. Pray for effectiveness in all your efforts as you share the love of Christ with the Jamaican people.

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Select prayer partners who are willing to pray for you during your trip to Jamaica. We, at the Jamaica Christian Services, will also pray that your trip will be a blessing to you and to the people in Jamaica. To God be the glory.

#### **Immigration Card:**

On the flight to Jamaica you will receive an immigration card. This card must be completed. The purpose of travel - "Visiting Jamaica Bible Seminary & the Churches of Christ. The address to give on the immigration card is: Mineral Heights Church of Christ, Gold Ave., Phase 2, Mineral Heights, May Pen P.O. Clarendon, Jamaica, West Indies. The telephone number is 876-902-0043. Please put the exact date of the returning flight that you have scheduled.

#### **Immigration and Customs:**

It is important to be on your best behavior while in Immigration and Customs. Do not joke or tease about anything. Drugs and weapons should never be mentioned. You are a guest in a different country and culture. Answer questions when asked, otherwise be silent. Be sure to go through the "**Nothing to Declare**" line, in the Customs Building. If asked, you should say, "I am visiting Jamaica Bible Seminary and the Churches of Christ in Jamaica. I have personal effects and a few gifts for the mission."

#### **Items to take to Jamaica:**

A Christ like attitude, Bible, journal and pens, camera, film and extra batteries for your camera, one set of twin sheets and pillowcase, pillow, one bath towel and wash cloth, and beach towel, toothbrush and toiletries, work gloves, and work boots (if needed), hat, and sunglasses, a lightweight rain coat or poncho, insect spray for mosquitoes, and Imodium AD or other

medication, sun block SPF 30 minimum, spending money for souvenirs, snacks, and extras.

Be sure to take medicine and vitamins you take regularly (take some extra in case of a delay) as these items may not be available in Jamaica. No fruits, vegetables, fireworks or weapons may be brought into the country, not even a water pistol. Bring a smile.

Due to security alerts the 3:1:1 policy is in effect:  
NO LIQUIDS OVER 3 OZ., 1 QT. ZIP LOCK BAG, 1 PER PERSON (Carry on only.) More can be taken in your check through luggage.

### **Key Word**

‘Flexibility’ is a key word for missionaries. Many times on the mission field things do not go as planned. Therefore we must be tolerant and patient. Varying circumstances may arise which change day to day plans or even an entire work project. It would be good to memorize the following:

“I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength.”—Philippians 4:11-13

### **Devotions:**

Devotions are a time that you will enjoy with your group. Please plan a daily devotion with someone from your group.

The Jamaicans will join you in the evening for a time of singing and sharing. This will be a memorable highlight of your trip. This is a good time to ask questions about life in Jamaica.

### **Address:**

On the night of arrival and on the night prior to departure we will be staying at:

Hotel Gloriana  
1 Sunset Blvd.  
Montego Bay, Jamaica  
Phone: 876-979-0698

Jamaican cell phone for Cassandra Geringswald will be available for team use:  
1-876-842-2203.

You may use personal cell phones if you have international calling. Cassandra’s phone will have plenty of minutes for all to use. We will be staying at the churches where we are working.

Emergency contact church is Mineral Heights Church of Christ at Mineral Heights, phone 1-876-902-0043 or email [rsrscott@hotmail.com](mailto:rsrscott@hotmail.com)

Mail often takes 2-3 weeks from the U.S. to Jamaica, therefore you will not be able to receive mail from home. Emergency Numbers: Jamaica Bible Seminary 876-925-2803  
DSL Vonage direct to Kingston Campus: 1-614-543-0491

### **TRIP COSTS:**

This will be a worthwhile trip. You will always look back on this experience as good investment in God's Kingdom with eternal rewards.

Meals away from the church grounds are at your expense. We provide three meals per day as a part of your daily cost.

For ministry teams the cost will be about **\$975** per person which includes air fare from anywhere in the U.S. Figure **\$975 plus airfare** per person including housing, meals, transportation in Jamaica, and project money. However, the airfare prices are subject to change due to fuel surcharges, baggage fees, and other factors. A **2nd week** of an extended mission trip can be **\$150** depending on where we are going to be.

This package includes hotel expense for the day of arrival and departure. Sightseeing expenses and souvenir shopping are not included.

### **Clothes to Bring:**

**Please bring 1 set of nice dressy clothes & shoes for church.**

**Men- Dress shirt & tie, long pants for church.**

**Women- Modest dress, blouses, (no mid drifts, no spaghetti straps) skirts and dresses.**

In respect to the Jamaican cultural customs married women should wear a hat or scarf, when attending country churches (not necessary in tourist areas or for young women).

Please bring 3-5 sets of clothes for work and recreation.

Men - Jeans, cool slacks, sport shirts, knee length shorts & t-shirts.

Women - Slacks, skirts & blouses, jeans, Capri's, knee length shorts for sports, modest comfortable clothing. One piece swim suits.

Bring an air mattress and pump. Bring sheets to fit your air mattress and a couple of towels and wash cloths. Laundry will be done by team members so pack for 4-5 days.

For teams traveling in the early spring or late fall, you may want to bring a light jacket or sweater and light blanket, especially at night in the mountainous areas of Top Hill and Mandeville.

When entering the island as a group, it is necessary to wear your Jamaica Christian Services T-shirts to get through Customs quickly. These will be provided for you by JCS. I need your T-shirt size turned in with your application.

### **8 MONTH NOTICE:**

Completed application and an eight month notice must be given with a non-refundable **\$125** deposit by **December 31** of the year prior to the trip. **Deposits due Dec. 31, 1st 1/2 due by Mar. 1st and balance due by June 1st.**

These steps are essential to ensure you and your group the dates and times that are best for you and gives us a chance to plan the team projects and needs. Once tickets are purchased they are nonrefundable, non-transferable, but can be used for future travel within a year with penalty.

### **Checks:**

Make checks or money orders payable to Jamaica Christian Services, Inc. (Add 5% for paypal payments: rgeringswa@aol.com). **Do not send checks made out to you!**

Send to: M/M Richard J. Geringswald  
Jamaica Bible Seminary  
5709 La Serena Ave.  
Lakeland, FL 33809-4262  
Phone 863-859-2984 or 863-602-5289  
E-mail: [RGeringswa@aol.com](mailto:RGeringswa@aol.com)

### **Applications:**

There are two forms included that must be filled out by each individual coming to Jamaica. One is an individual application and health form. The other is a permission and release form. This should be signed by someone in your family or your minister. These are very important!

### **Inoculations:**

No special inoculations are required by the Department of Health for traveling to Jamaica. Work teams should be current with their tetanus shots. We ask that you be updated before departure. Please check with your primary care physician to be sure that you have all the necessary inoculations that they feel is necessary for your health.

### **Medical Attention:**

We will have an emergency medical kit at the mission or church for minor injuries or problems. For more serious concerns there are medical facilities and doctors available. Please bring your medical cards and information with you.

### **Special Health Concerns:**

If you have a health condition which we should know about, please be sure to list that information on your application. Note if special diet is needed, such as diabetic.

### **Water:**

The water is safe to drink at the mission. In areas that it is not safe we will take portable water with us. Sometimes our bodies react to a change in drinking water. It is best to have Imodium available if this should occur.

### **Rules:**

- **Alcohol, tobacco, mj, and/or illegal drugs are prohibited on the entire trip.**
- Leave your valuables at home (jewelry, etc.).
- Earrings for men are not part of the Jamaican Christian culture.
- Please do not bring clothing with suggestive phrases/pictures or that have beer or tobacco ads.
- No radios or CD players. We will have a CD player for the group's enjoyment and you may bring Christian CDs.
- Do not bring weapons or hunting knife/switchblade. Pocket knives are OK, but must be put in your checked luggage.
- Do not check in luggage for a stranger or carry a stranger's items/luggage in any airport or onto a plane.
- Keep a close eye on your carryon luggage at all times.
- Do not make change for strangers at any airport.
- When filling out a custom form on the way back to the U.S., do not say you have been on a farm.
- Be wary of taxi cab drivers. They may end up to be kidnappers and robbers in disguise. Use reputable main name companies like JUTA, etc.
- Always notify the group leader when you are going away from the main group and never go by yourself.

- Photography: Always ask permission when taking pictures of individuals. Some may not want to be photographed. Use discretion when taking pictures in a populated area.
- Public displays of affection are not permitted for married or single people.
- Fellowship between sexes is limited to public rooms/places.
- Exemplary Christian conduct is expected.

**Extra travel tips:**

- You should be prepared to pay \$1.00 U.S. per suitcase or duffel you are carrying as a tip to the skycaps when you get to Jamaica. Don't be stingy!
- Do not bring expensive jewelry.
- If you bring a treat for children bring hard candy or crayons, coloring books, little toys, pencils or small inexpensive items that would catch the eye of a child. No chocolate as it melts and is not popular with Jamaicans
- The J.C.S. Management team has the right to ask anyone to leave if their conduct is not in accordance with Christian principles.

**Types of Teams**

1. Medical: MD, ARNP, PA, RN, LPN, CNA, EMT or Pharmacist. We hold clinics in remote areas using church facilities.
2. Construction: all phases of repair or new construction.

3. VBS & Youth Programs: teachers, crafts, worship leaders & sports.
4. Teachers & Professors for college sessions: O.T., N.T., Leadership & Electives.

**The purpose of Jamaica Bible Seminary is to train leadership for the Churches of Jamaica.** We also assist our students with the types of teams listed above.

**PERMISSION FORM**

**Recommended by the following minister or pastor:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Home Church \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**PERMISSION AND RELEASE INFORMATION:**

“I \_\_\_\_\_, certify that I am willing, prepared, and physically fit to travel and to participate in a work project with Jamaica Christian Services. I agree to abide by the rules and follow all instructions as noted throughout this pamphlet. My trip sponsors, or someone from Jamaica



Christian Services has my permission to take me to a doctor or hospital for medical treatment, hospitalization, or for emergency surgery should the need arise. If it is necessary for me to return home early (due to personal, medical or disciplinary reasons) I will assume total responsibility for any additional costs.

Signature of person going on the mission trip \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Application for Jamaica Christian Services USA,  
Inc.  
Work Trip Summer 2016**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Home Church \_\_\_\_\_

Beneficiary for Insurance purposes:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email (please print clearly):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Passport Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_ T-Shirt Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any special skills or abilities you have such as: teaching, preaching, music, drama, cooking, construction (specify), medical (specify) or any other.

**Health Information**

List any medications or foods to which you are allergic \_\_\_\_\_

List medications taken on a regular basis  
\_\_\_\_\_

List any health problems  
\_\_\_\_\_

Blood type: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and address and phone number(s) of someone to be contacted in the event of an emergency.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**THIS FORM MUST BE TURNED IN WITH  
DEPOSIT!!!**

**Please specify the weeks you are planning to go:**

- Week 1, Feb. 19 to 27, 2016     Week 4, July 22-30, 2016  
 Week 2, June 3-11, 2016     Week 5, July 29-Aug. 6, 2016  
 Week 3, July 15-23, 2016

Please send this application with 50% of total trip expense as soon as possible (at least three months in advance). Upon receipt of your application and deposit you will receive more detailed information

regarding your mission trip to Jamaica. If you have any questions  
Call Richard or Cassandra Geringswald: hm. 863-859-2984 or cell  
863-602-5289

Send application and funds to:  
Jamaica Christian Services, Inc.  
c/o Mr. & Mrs. Richard J. Geringswald  
5709 La Serena Ave.  
Lakeland, FL 33809  
Thank you. We look forward to working with you and your group.





