

Work Team Information Packet

Jamaica Christian Services, Inc.

We at the Jamaica Christian Services, Inc. are delighted that you are considering a trip to Jamaica and to be part of the wonderful work of Jamaica Christian Services & Jamaica Bible Seminary Ltd. **Please read this Information Packet carefully before you fill out your application form.**

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 on this trip.

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. Please know the exact date of the returning flight that you have scheduled. After spending several hours trying to sleep in airports and airplanes filling out an immigration card that you have never seen before can be a challenge. On the following page there is a sample immigration and customs card. You might want to practice on the sample card in this packet so you will know how to fill out the one they give you on the plane. If you any questions about how to fill it out, please see one of your mission trip leaders. Remember to bring a pen with black or blue ink with you on the plane. **Keep this Information Packet in your carryon luggage.**


On line 7 where it says “Intended Address in Jamaica” write: Gold Ave., Phase 2, Mineral Heights, May Pen P.O. Clarendon, Jamaica.

On line 10 where it says, “Purpose of Visit” check the box that says, “Visiting Friends/Relatives.” If the clerks in Immigration ask who you are visiting, say, “the Mineral Heights Church of Christ.”

Sample Immigration and Customs Card



Welcome to Jamaica
IMMIGRATION/ CUSTOMS C5 CARD



PLEASE WRITE USING BLACK OR BLUE INK ONLY

1 Family name

First (Given) Middle

2 Birth date Day Month Year Gender M F

3 Number of family members travelling with you

4 Home Address

5 Passport Number: 6 Country of Issue:

7 Intended Address in Jamaica: (Hotel / Street Address / Apt. Number ; Local Contact Number)

8 Countries Visited in the Last Six (6) Weeks:

9 Flight Number / Vessel Name 9a Port Arriving From

10 Purpose of Visit: Visiting Friends/Relatives Vacation Business/ Meeting
 Honeymoon/ Wedding Intransit Other (Please state)

11 Number of pieces of luggage
Accompanied (11A) Unaccompanied (11B)
(Checked luggage and hand luggage) (luggage sent by air or sea freight)

12 I am bringing:

(a) fruits, plants, cut flowers, vegetables, soil, meat, live animals and organisms, honey, wildlife products, plant material, food, animal products or live birds. Yes No

(b) pharmaceuticals, chemicals, narcotics, and other illicit drugs or biological substances Yes No

(c) arms, ammunitions, explosives, fireworks, toy guns or other weapons Yes No

13 I am/we are carrying currency or monetary instruments over US\$10,000 or equivalent Yes No

14 I have goods exceeding the value of my (our) personal duty-free allowance Yes No

15 I have gifts or articles for resale Yes No

Read the instructions on the reverse of this form. Space is provided to list all the items you must declare.
I declare that the information given is true and correct. I understand that the failure to make a full declaration is an offence and may result in fines, forfeiture of the goods and/ or imprisonment. I also understand that I have the right to appeal.

Signature _____ Date of Arrival _____

Spouse and children under age 18 accompanying you		
Name	D.o.B (DD/MM/YY)	Relation

All passengers, 18 years and older are entitled to US\$500 Duty Free Allowance on items not for resale or in commercial quantity.

In addition, passengers and crew members are entitled to import free of duty: 200 sticks of cigarettes or 50 sticks of cigars or 230g of Tobacco; 1 litre of Spirits; 1 litre of Wine; 170 ml of Perfumed Spirits and 340 ml of Toilet Water.

If you have checked 11 A only and checked NO in boxes 12, 13, 14 and 15, please use the **GREEN LINE**.
If you have checked YES in any of the boxes 11B through 15, please use the **RED LINE**.

If you are in doubt, declare all your goods to the Customs Officer

* Value should be the price paid or payable in the country of purchase

Description of Articles	Value (\$) in Currency*	For Customs Use Only

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Immigration		
EMP		S
TR		UN
RR		UL
RRV		CUL
PR		H
T		V
Customs		
Signature of Examining Officer		ID#

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 Christian Mission 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 (Bring a Smile!)
- 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, hand sanitizer and/or wipes
- Work gloves, and work boots (if needed)
- Hat, and sunglasses
- A lightweight rain coat or poncho (if needed)
- Insect spray for mosquitoes
- Imodium AD or other medications
- Sun block SPF 30 minimum
- Spending money for souvenirs, snacks, and extras

It is also a good idea to bring a reusable water bottle with your name on it. 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.

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 Words:

‘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. There will be times when you will have unmet expectations. You may have your heart set on going to a certain location or doing a certain job and then things will change and your help will be needed in a different area. Remember that we are going on this mission trip to serve others. 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

Another important word to remember is “cooperation.” We are all on the same team and our team leader is taking all of us in the same direction to accomplish a common goal. We might not always agree with our team leader but it is important that we show respect and follow directions with a positive attitude.

“Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the word of life.”—Philippians 2:14-16a

“Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.”—Hebrews 13:17

Devotions:

Devotions are a time to debrief with your group at the end of the day. Please bring your Bible and your journal. Each day pray for God to show you what He wants you to learn and experience as a missionary. Watch for what God is doing among us and come to devotions prepared to encourage one another with your observations. Sometimes the Jamaicans will join us for a time of singing and sharing. This will be a memorable highlight of your trip. It is also 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.

Phone and Internet Service:

You may use personal cell phones if you have international calling. Cassandra’s cell phone will have plenty of minutes for all to use. Each Friday evening we will stay at the Hotel Gloriana where there is free internet service. From Saturday evening until Friday morning we will be staying at the churches where we are working. Mail often takes 2-3 weeks from the U.S. to Jamaica, therefore you will not be able to receive snail mail from home. Do NOT give out your phone number to anyone in Jamaica.

TRIP COSTS:

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

For ministry teams from the northwest the cost will be about **\$1,450** per person which includes air fare from Portland, OR (PDX) or Seattle, WA (SEA), 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. Each additional week of an extended mission trip will add **\$150** to the cost of the trip. This package includes hotel expense for the day of arrival and departure. Sightseeing expenses and souvenir shopping are not included.

Meals:

Meals away from the church grounds are at your expense. You will need to bring your own money for any food you want to buy in the airports or on the airplanes. You will also need to pay for your food when we are in Montego Bay (Friday afternoon through Saturday morning). From Saturday afternoon until Friday morning Jamaica Christian Services will take care of your meals. We provide three meals per day as a part of your daily cost.

Clothes to Bring:

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

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

Women- Modest dress, blouses, (no mid drifts, tank tops, tube tops, or spaghetti straps) skirts and dresses. In respect to the Jamaican cultural customs married women should wear a hat or scarf, when attending church (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 (no mid drifts, tank tops, tube tops, or spaghetti straps). For swimming please bring a one piece swim suit or wear a T-shirt over your swim suit.

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.

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 **\$25** deposit and **\$100** ticket reserve fee by **December 31** of the year prior to the trip. The first **50%** is due by **March 1** and the remaining **50%** is due by **June 1**. 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 payable to Jamaica Christian Services, Inc.

Send to: M/M Richard J. Geringswald

Jamaica Bible Seminary

5709 La Serena Ave.

Lakeland, FL 33809-4262

Phone: (863) 859-2984

E-mail: 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!

2016 Mission Trip Dates for July & August:

The summer schedule for July and August includes Vacation Bible School, medical teams and some construction projects. There are three different weeks to choose from; you can choose to go for one, two, or all three weeks. **Week 1** will be in Jamaica at Mineral Heights & Mitchell Town, July 14 to 23; and then **week 2** will be at Macca Tree, July 21 to 30; and finally **week 3** will be at Top Hill, July 28 to August 6.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
July 10	July 11	July 12	July 13	July 14 People going for the first week will probably leave on this day.	July 15	July 16
July 17 Mineral Heights Mitchell Town	July 18 Mineral Heights Mitchell Town	July 19 Mineral Heights Mitchell Town	July 20 Mineral Heights Mitchell Town	July 21 People going for the second week will probably leave on this day.	July 22 Mineral Heights Mitchell Town	July 23 People coming home after the first week will come home on this day.
July 24 Cassandra's Birthday Macca Tree	July 25 Macca Tree	July 26 Macca Tree	July 27 Macca Tree	July 28 People going for the third week will probably leave on this day.	July 29 Macca Tree	July 30 People coming home after the second week will come home on this day.
July 31 Top Hill	August 1 Emancipation Day Top Hill	August 2 Top Hill	August 3 Top Hill	August 4 Top Hill	August 5 Top Hill	August 6 Independence Day People coming home after the third week will come home on this day.
August 7 Jamaica Bible Seminary	August 8 Jamaica Bible Seminary	August 9 Jamaica Bible Seminary	August 10 Jamaica Bible Seminary	August 11 Jamaica Bible Seminary	August 12 Jamaica Bible Seminary	August 13

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, 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 and cooperation is expected.
- We usually take turns washing dishes and everyone is expected to help out with the daily chores.

Extra Tid Bits:

- 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.
- The J.C.S. Management team has the right to ask anyone to leave if their conduct is not in accordance with Christian principles.

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

Name: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Home Church _____

Email (please print clearly): _____

Passport Number: _____

Birthdate: _____ T-Shirt Size: _____

The International Airport most convenient for your location: _____

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, 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, July 14-23
- Week 2, July 21-30
- Week 3, July 28 to August 6

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 packet.** 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

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian if under 18 years of age

Date

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: (863) 859-2984 or E-mail at: RGeringswa@aol.com

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.