

Vision for Africa Information

Thank you for considering God's call to join us. The following will answer the most common questions regarding a mission trip with Salem's Vision for Africa.

Goals for the Mission

1. Declare the gospel message of salvation through Jesus Christ.
2. Bring healing to those in need through various clinics (eye care, medical, mosquito net distribution).

What is "Vision for Africa"?

Vision for Africa is a united effort of multiple Lutheran congregations to reach the mission goals stated above. Salem Lutheran Church, Tomball, Texas, serves as the Cornerstone Congregation for "Vision for Africa" by providing assistance in scheduling trips, securing supplies, and hosting regular meetings for the participating congregations to coordinate their efforts.

Cost

Salem's cost for each clinic mission is over \$3,000 per participant (includes airline ticket, Kenya ground transportation, most meals, lodging, supplies and equipment, etc.) We ask that each participant is responsible for purchasing their own airfare (on a flight listed below). To contribute to the cost of the mission, members of Salem are requested to contribute a minimum of \$800 toward these expenses. Non-Salem members are asked to contribute \$1000. The rest of the cost of the mission is subsidized by Salem Lutheran Church. If you would like to contribute more towards the mission, we can use that to scholarship more participants to join us.

You can pay online or send check to: Salem Lutheran Church – Memo: Kenya Mission
Attention: Catherine Bluege
22601 Lutheran Church Rd
Tomball, TX 77377

Application & Registration

Apply on Salem's website at: <https://www.salem4u.com/missions/>

Airline Tickets

You are responsible for purchasing your own airline tickets. For the May/June 2019 trip, book as follows:

Departure: Saturday, May 25, 2019, 12:15 PM	Departure: Sunday, June 2, 2019, 10:25 PM
UA 748 IAH to EWR	UA 8730 NBO to FRA
UA 960 EWR to FRA	UA 47 FRA to IAH
UA8729 FRA to NBO	
Arrival: Sunday, May 26, 2019, 8:10 PM	Arrival: Monday, June 3, 2019, 5:35 PM

For additional information see **Luggage** on next page.

*Each traveler is responsible for his/her own transportation to and from Houston Intercontinental Airport (IAH).

**The cost or value of your travel (airfare, visas, etc.) may be considered a tax-deductible contribution - Contact your tax advisor.

***Participants are NOT to leave the airport during any airline layover, regardless of length of layover.

Luggage

You must pack lightly. On the aircraft, each team member will be allowed only one regulation sized carry-on bag plus one other SMALL personal bag (large purse, backpack, etc.) **YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CHECK A SUITCASE OR LARGE BAG.** The checked-bag allowance for each ticket will be allocated for equipment footlockers. However, there will be a designated footlocker for you to place a single, gallon-size zip-lock bag for sharps and other personal items that are not allowed on the plane.

Personal Travel

At times, some participants choose to schedule personal travel for safaris, sightseeing, visiting, etc. after a mission to Kenya. If this is your option, you will be responsible for booking your own complete airline itinerary. Since equipment footlockers are checked using your ticket privileges you will be required to pay for any additional cost to check footlockers that would otherwise have been assigned to you. This charge should be paid directly to Salem Lutheran Church. Any post-mission personal itinerary should begin only after your team has returned to Nairobi for the flight back to the U.S. Full details should be given to Catherine Bluege at least eight weeks prior to the mission trip.

Immunizations, etc.

There are no required immunizations for travel to Kenya. Use the following list as a general precaution. Contact your personal physician to discuss these immunizations. It is at your discretion that you travel without the full series. Malaria is very common in Africa – Contact your physician for a preferred anti-malaria drug for Kenya. Remember, these are recommended, not required.

Tetanus: This should be kept current.

Hepatitis A: Two vaccinations 6 months apart - important for persons visiting rural areas, eating or drinking in settings of poor or uncertain sanitation, or who will have close contact with local persons, especially young children.

***Anti-Malaria pills:** Necessary when going to Kenya.

Passport & Visa

Every participant must have a passport that is valid for at least 6 months after entry date into Kenya. The process of obtaining or renewing a passport can take as long as 4-6 weeks, so plan ahead. A Kenyan visa must be obtained within one month prior to the mission trip. The cost is \$50. You may apply for your visa at: <https://www.ecitizen.go.ke>. We can assist you in this process.

Insurance

A travel insurance package (accident, medical, luggage loss, etc.) is provided for all participants at no additional cost. However, it does NOT cover trip cancellation prior to departure.

Food – Water, Etc.

The accommodations in Kenya include breakfast and evening meals. Some of the meals may be very similar to American style; others will vary in preparation and type. Every effort is made to ensure that the food is nutritious and safe. Lunch is the responsibility of each individual. The clinic work proceeds uninterrupted and team members normally take individual short breaks to snack for lunch. Bringing food from the U.S. is discouraged, since you will have limited packing space. Snack food can be obtained at stores in Kenya (a “Walmart” type store is available). The “don’t drink the water” advice for foreign travel applies in Kenya. Safe, bottled water is readily available at reasonable prices and you are expected to purchase your own supply of drinking water. **DO NOT** drink any water or brush your teeth with water from a faucet, shower or water tap. Antiseptic hand lotion is available at the stores in Kenya.

Clothing

Clothing for the mission must be chosen carefully. Although Kenya is located on the equator, the climate at some of our clinics and lodgings is mild due to their higher altitudes. A light jacket or sweater may be desired in the mornings or evenings. Medical scrubs are worn by team members at the clinics. Long pants are recommended. **DO NOT** bring shorts. Longer skirts or dresses are permitted. A light rain poncho plus an extra

pair of shoes are suggested. If rubber boots are advised for your clinic, they can be purchased on the first Saturday while shopping for personal food, sanitation, and water supplies in Nairobi.

Money

You are advised to bring about \$200 in \$100 dollar bills. These bills should be crisp, unworn, without creases or marks and dated 2003 or newer. Contact your bank a couple weeks in advance since many banks do not have a supply of “perfect” \$100 bills on hand. You will be able to convert U.S. dollars to Kenyan shillings at the Nairobi airport. Visa and Master Card are accepted in a few places in Nairobi. Discover and AmEx are not readily accepted in Kenya. Debit cards may be declined. Use a credit card instead of cash when purchasing in European airports. Advise your credit card company that you will be travelling abroad.

Safety – Security - Accommodations

Our native hosts live in the areas we visit and make every effort to ensure that the group is safe at all times. Accommodations will be different from American standards but are safe and clean. Meals will be taken either at our lodgings or at restaurants known and recommended by our hosts.

Schedule/Itinerary

Saturday-Sunday – travel from Houston to Nairobi

Monday – jet lag recovery, sightseeing, shopping, final clinic briefing, and evening worship

Tuesday – team travels to clinic location

Wednesday-Saturday – conduct clinics during day; fellowship, meal, devotions in the evening

Sunday – teams return to Nairobi; depart for home in the late evening

Monday – Arrive back in Houston

Miscellaneous

You are encouraged to bring a camera, but discretion is crucial when taking photos of strangers. A daily journal and small Bible are recommended. English is widely spoken, but knowing a few native words or phrases is appreciated by the locals.

Questions? Contact one of the following:

Paul Cheney

Director of Missions & Outreach

Church: 281.351.8223

Cell: 281.380.7051

E-mail: pcheney@salem4u.com

Kevin Pieper

Minister of Mission & Outreach

Church: 281.351.8223

Cell: 281.635.2400

E-mail: kpieper@salem4u.com

Catherine Bluege

Missions & Outreach Coordinator

Church: 281-351.8223

E-mail: cbluege@salem4u.com

22601 Lutheran Church Rd
Tomball, TX 77377



CODE OF CONDUCT

Vision for Africa Kenya Mission Trip

I am about to embark on a mission trip with the Kenya mission team, a mission during which I represent

- a) my country
- b) the church members who donated money
- c) the Church at large
- d) Jesus Christ himself

My sole purpose in joining this mission team is to accomplish the Great Commandment and Great Commission of Jesus Christ:

- *"Love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength" and "love your neighbor as yourself."*
- *"Go into all the world, teaching them to observe all I have commanded you..."*

I recognize that I must use discipline, discernment, and self-control during this mission, and refrain from any behavior that might reflect negatively on those I represent. Specifically, I will conduct myself with honor in the following ways:

- *Worship and Devotions* - I recognize that the spiritual component of this mission is the central core value of this team, and I will fully participate in all devotional activities.
- *Team Safety* - I will stay with the group at all times. I will not allow myself to be put into a situation or setting which would compromise the integrity and safety of this mission.
- *Use of Alcohol / Tobacco* - Recognizing that many Kenyan Christians, including our Lutheran friends, do not drink alcohol or smoke, I will not smoke or drink alcohol until I reach the departing airport at the end of the mission. I will not allow the reputation of the mission to be compromised by my conduct.
- *General* - I will adapt to local customs so as not to offend our hosts, and I will constantly monitor my own behavior, asking the question "Does my conduct bring honor to the cause of Jesus Christ?"
- *Day Off* - I will use my day off to rest and relax in order to complete the mission, and I will conduct myself in a way that brings honor to Jesus Christ and the mission team.
- *My Spiritual Life* - I intend to return home with a renewed sense of commitment in my spiritual walk.

I understand that I will be accountable to the Missions Team Leaders and my peers on the team. By completing my application for this mission trip, I submit myself to this code of conduct. This is what I commit to, with God's help. "I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

Vision for Africa Kenya Mission Trip

Waiver of Liability

Warning: Please read this document carefully before submitting your application!

By its terms, you surrender the right to seek compensation by lawsuit or otherwise for any injury or loss associated with this mission trip or any future mission trip to Kenya.

1. This agreement is made by and on behalf of the APPLICANT in order to induce Salem Lutheran Church to permit the APPLICANT to take part in the mission trip to Kenya.
2. Completion of the application for the mission trip to Kenya, indicates agreement with and submission to this waiver of liability by the APPLICANT.
3. The APPLICANT represents and warrants to Salem Lutheran Church of Rosehill, Texas that he/she has the full and complete authority to enter into this agreement and acknowledges that absent this agreement, he/she would not be permitted to participate.
4. The APPLICANT further acknowledges and understands that during the trip to and from Kenya, and while in that country, he or she may be afflicted with illness or disease, be severely injured, be killed, be kidnapped, be held hostage, be the victim of a crime or crimes, be the victim of an act or acts of terrorism and/or otherwise suffer loss, injury, harm or damage.
5. The APPLICANT further acknowledges and understands that in the event he or she falls victim to one of more of these things, it may be due to an error, omission or oversight (including, but not limited to, acts and omissions involving or constituting GROSS or SIMPLE NEGLIGENCE) on the part of an employee, representative and/or member of Salem Lutheran Church of Rosehill, Texas, and/or Salem Lutheran School (these persons and entities are collectively referred to as the "RELEASED PARTIES").
6. In full light of these acknowledgements and understandings, the APPLICANT acknowledges and agrees that he or she is willing to bear these risks and, as a consequence, promises never to attempt to obtain compensation or redress from one or more of the RELEASED PARTIES for any loss, illness and/or injury suffered while on, or as a consequence of having gone on, the mission trip. The APPLICANT further warrants that this covenant extends to and includes all losses or injuries of whatever kind or character, even if they are caused by, or result from the sole and or concurrent SIMPLE or GROSS NEGLIGENCE of one or more of the RELEASED PARTIES (collectively, "Trip Losses").
7. The APPLICANT likewise agrees forever to defend, indemnify and hold harmless each and every one of the RELEASED PARTIES of and from each and every claim, demand and/or cause of action brought, asserted and/or made against one or more of the RELEASED PARTIES that arises, in whole or in part, from one or more Trip Losses suffered or experienced by the APPLICANT.
8. The APPLICANT covenants that this agreement will be binding upon his or her heirs, representatives, descendants, successors and assigns, and that it will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, Texas law.