

VISION FOR KENYA
TRINITY ABLAZE IN KENYA
Spring Mission 2019
May 30 – June 9

Thank you for answering God's call to join us. The following is important information to answer questions regarding the Vision for Kenya - Trinity Ablaze in Kenya mission outreach.

GOALS FOR THE SPRING MISSION 2019

1. Conduct eyeglass mission in partnership with the Kenyan Ministry of Health and the Kenyan Lutheran Hour (NURU)
2. Bring outreach missions to multiple locations to the Maasai, Kamba, Kikuyu and other ethnic tribes in Kenya
3. Partner with evangelism teams to present the gospel message of salvation through Jesus Christ alone to each person who visits the eyeglass clinics.

APPLICATION AND REGISTRATION FEE DEADLINE

March 4, 2019 – Minimum \$600 non-refundable deposit by check payable to Trinity Ablaze in Kenya.

March 4, 2019 – Completed application submitted to Trinity Lutheran Church – Richard and Marilyn Lynch

April 7, 2019 – Balance of \$1000 is due, a check payable to Trinity Ablaze in Kenya. A ticket will not be purchased for you until this payment is made. Once tickets have been purchased there will be no refunds. It is important that you have full medical clearance and can receive all required immunizations and travel medicines prior to making this final payment.

TRAINING AND ORIENTATION DATES

May 4, 2019 – 8:45AM - 3:00PM – orientation and training for the clinics at Trinity, lunch included – MANDATORY

May 26, 2019 – congregational commissioning

COST

If you are a member of a Connect Congregation* the basic cost of this mission is:

\$1600 from each participant

\$1600 from the Vision for Kenya congregation for each participant

Everyone is responsible for the cost of his/her immunizations, which can be a substantial amount. Check to see if your medical insurance covers immunizations needed for travel to Africa.

If you are not a member of a Connect Congregation, the cost of this mission is \$3200 from each participant.

*A Connect Congregation is a congregation that has decided to participate by sending members or teams on future Ablaze in Kenya missions, by a declaration of intent by the leadership of the sending congregation. The \$1600 from each participant covers his/her personal contribution. Once a congregation has declared their intention to be permanently involved in the outreach, that congregation will ultimately assume responsibility to pay for all on-ground expenses (food, lodging, transportation) and vision clinic supplies (frames, lenses, eye medication) provided for the mission work undertaken by its members.

SCHEDULE / ITINERARY - Spring 2019

Thursday-Friday, May 30 – May 31 – travel days from Houston (or point of origin) to Nairobi

Saturday, June 1 – make final clinic preparations, recover from jetlag, sightseeing and shopping in Nairobi, worship

Sunday, June 2 – teams travel to clinic locations throughout Kenya

Monday-Friday, June 3-7 – conduct eyeglass clinic during the day, devotions and fellowship in the evening

Saturday, June 8 – travel back to Nairobi, meet and share experiences with other team members

Saturday-Sunday June 8 -9 – travel days from Nairobi to Houston (or point of origin)

PERSONAL TRAVEL

Some team members choose to schedule personal travel after a mission to Kenya, staying longer to do sightseeing, etc. It is permissible for a mission team member to ask Richard Lynch to book their tickets with different return dates, providing:

1. You assume responsibility for communicating exactly whose ticket(s) will differ from the groups' tickets.
2. You provide exact booking instruction (names, dates, etc.) by the booking deadline. Once notification is given to Richard Lynch, no changes are allowable.
3. You assume complete financial responsibility for the footlockers assigned to you to reach Houston. Early payment for footlocker charges is expected upon receipt of invoice from Trinity Ablaze in Kenya.

PASSPORT AND VISA REQUIRED

Each missionary must have a PASSPORT that is valid for at least 6 months after the departure date to Kenya. U.S. passports are obtained from any U.S. Post Office that houses an U.S. Customs office. The process will take 4-6 weeks to receive your passport. Follow the instructions explicitly and expeditiously. On the application indicate exactly how your name will appear on your passport. If you already have a passport, make sure it will still be current until at least 6 months after our departure date. Kenya requires a VISA for entrance into the country. You are responsible for securing your own visa. A Kenya visa may be obtained electronically via the internet (preferred method - separate instructions will be issued after final balance is paid) or obtained at the Nairobi airport terminal for \$50 dollars in new crisp U.S. currency.

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IMMUNIZATIONS

There are recommended immunizations for travel to Kenya. CONTACT YOUR PERSONAL PHYSICIAN OR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL MEDICINE PHYSICIAN FOR RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT IMMUNIZATIONS. Important immunizations include Hepatitis A & B, Tetanus, Yellow Fever, Typhoid, and Polio, you can learn more from the CDC website (Center for Disease Control and Prevention). Malaria is a big problem in Africa, and oral medication is needed to guard against it. Your physician can make recommendations appropriate for malaria in Kenya. Team members are expected to provide their own immunizations and medicines. Persons with hypertension should contact their personal physician regarding precautions against malaria.

HEALTH

Should you have any chronic health condition or special health needs, you need to discuss your condition with your personal physician and or specialist doctor before making application for this mission trip. Please assure you have full medical clearance to travel, obtain required immunizations, can take a Malaria prophylaxis, and have sufficient quantities of medications or treatments needed for the duration of the mission trip. Further, if you are not healthy for any reason before the mission trip departs please get clearance from your personal physician before embarking on the trip, if you are unable to travel please immediately inform Richard Lynch of your circumstances.

AIRLINE TICKETS/INSURANCE

The team travel coordinator will arrange travel from Houston to and from Kenya for the entire mission team. Travel insurance is included, except for cancellation. Note - everyone is responsible for his/her travel arrangements to and from the Houston airport or airport of origin.

FOOD and WATER

Kenya and its foods are very different from what many of us are accustomed to in the USA. Every effort is made by our host congregation leadership to ensure that our food will be nutritious and safe for us to eat. Kenyans will provide breakfast and the evening meal. However, some team members have found it difficult to eat some local foods. Each team member will need to provide his/her own lunch/snack that is eaten at the clinic. Some have found it best to purchase portable food either at home or in Nairobi for consumption away from Nairobi. Consume and ingest only bottled water in Kenya. DO NOT drink any water or brush your teeth with water from a faucet, water tap or from an unknown source. ALL MEMBERS SHOULD EXPECT TO BUY BOTTLED WATER IN NAIROBI. Please be aware that WHILE IN KENYA, CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL IS PROHIBITED.

LUGGAGE AND CLOTHING

Clothing for the mission must be chosen carefully. Please pack lightly. Every effort will be made to allow you to check one suitcase. Everyone should place sharp object, large bottle liquids, personal medicines or other small personal items that are not allowed on the plane in their personal checked bag. In addition to your checked suitcase, you are responsible for one equipment footlocker as your second checked piece of luggage. A backpack or small bag may also be utilized as a carry-on bag. Kenya is located on the equator and except along the coast, enjoys very moderate temperatures due to its high altitude over most of its territory. A jacket may be desired in the mornings and evenings. Team members while working at the clinics wear MEDICAL SCRUB TOPS. LONG PANTS FOR MEN AND LONG SKIRTS OR DRESSES FOR WOMEN ARE REQUIRED. DO NOT BRING SHORTS. Long pants for everyone are fine for relaxing in the evening. A raincoat or poncho is recommended, and as it is often muddy, an extra pair of shoes or rubber boots is also recommended.

MONEY

You are advised to bring at least \$200 in new \$100 dollar bills per person. These bills must be nearly perfect, without folds or marks with a date of 2003 or newer. It is best to convert the U.S. dollars to Kenya shillings at the Nairobi airport. Your team leaders will advise you about where best to do this conversion. Visa or MasterCard are accepted in Nairobi and the large cities. There are ATM outlets in Nairobi. It is advisable to apply to obtain your U.S. cash at least two to three weeks before the departure date, as most banks do not keep perfect bills on hand for immediate purchase.

SECURITY

The Kenyan Ministry of Health, Vision and Mission for Kenyans Society, and the Lutheran Church of Kenya, are our hosts while in Kenya. They live in the areas we will be visiting while we are in Kenya, and they will make every effort to ensure that the group is safe at all times. There will be guidelines that everyone will be expected to follow. The accommodations will be different from what most are accustomed, but are safe and clean. Meals will be taken either in our accommodations or at restaurants known by our hosts.

RECOLLECTIONS

Our best recommendation is to take a small camera. Discretion is crucial when taking photos of Kenyans. It is polite to ask permission of those involved. A daily journal is also recommended for your personal memories.

PLEASE REMEMBER

*We go to learn and to serve, with a spirit of humility, trusting in God to lead us and knowing He will equip us.

*It is best if people see us for who we are rather than what we do.

*People should feel empowered when we leave.

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