



### Jesus was an immigrant

Most of us have heard that Jesus and his disciples were called “Galileans”. But did you realize that that made him an immigrant and an illegal alien? While the 1st century Middle East didn’t have our modern borders, or ideas of ‘immigrants’, still, in Jesus day, the Galilee was a separate country and thus he was a foreigner whether he was in Jerusalem or the other regions where he went in mission.

### Jesus was an outsider

Yet outsiders are whom Jesus deals with most. He reveals himself to a Samaritan Woman as the Messiah. He includes Matthew the Roman tax collector, and Mary of Magdala among his friends. His mission is with women, children, street people, lepers, and gentiles.

### Walk a week in Jesus’ shoes

Living and working for a week with Frontera de Cristo will change the way that you see others and yourself. Time spent walking the desert trails replenishing water supplies and looking for walkers in trouble, working side by side with coffee roasters in the “Just Coffee” fair-trade workshop, sharing the gospel in song and drama with people who don’t speak your language, are just a few of the experiences that you will be able to share Jesus’ perspective,

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# Head South of the Border

with

Bethelwoods and

Frontera de Cristo



Presbytery Youth Mission Trip 2011

Agua Prieta, Mexico



# PRESBYTERY MISSION TRIP 2011

*Agua Prieta Mexico*

## What will we do in a week in Mexico?

Sunday	Travel to the Douglas, AZ on the US/ Mexican border
Monday	Breakfast with a migrant family Interactive learning about border history, politics and money matters
Tuesday	"Lifeguard duty" with the Water for Life project on the Sonoran desert border, filling water bottles and looking for stranded walkers
Wednesday	Orientation at the Migrant Resource Center on the US border, afternoon spent making burritos, repainting offices, movie night: "Lives for Sale"
Thursday	Morning worship, group exercise living as a "Maquila"*, including shopping, eating and living on a Maquiladora salary.
Friday	Recross the border to spend the day at a fair-trade coffee co-op Evening candle-light prayer vigil at the border
Saturday	Visit to an Arts and Crafts cooperative, Time for reflection and meditation, preparation to return home,
Sunday	Fly home to South Carolina

*\*Maquilas are Mexican employees of duty-free US factories just over the Mexican border*

Trip Schedule	
Dates	Event
Feb 1, 2011	Application & Deposit due
April 16, 2011	Mission Trip Work Day 1
May 1, 2011	2nd installment due
May 5, 2011	Mission Trip Webinar
May 21, 2011	Mission Trip Work Day 2
July 1, 2011	Last installment due
July 31, 2011	Depart for Mexico
Aug 7, 2011	Return to Rock Hill, SC
Aug 2011 (TBA)	Mission Matters, Bethelwoods

## How do I sign up?

Fill out the application form completely and email or snail mail a copy (see application for address). The cost is \$700, some of which will be supplied by your home church, and some you will be raising during two group workdays in the months before the trip. (See application for details)

The trip price includes ALL airfare, lodging, meals, transportation, insurance and all activities.

YOU are responsible for getting a passport (\$100--info will provided), and any spending money.



# Application and Information form for 2011 PRESBYTERY YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO MEXICO

**Trip Dates: July 31 - August 7, 2011**  
**APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 1, 2011**

Priority on this trip is given to High School Youth (those who will have completed the 9th to 12th grade in 2011) who are active members of one of the churches in Providence or Charleston Atlantic Presbyteries. You must be willing and able to participate in all preparation sessions (some via internet) and the followup activities.

.....  
Participant's Name (as it appears on your passport) \_\_\_\_\_

Sex: M F Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_ grade \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/ Guardian's name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, St, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Parents/Guardians daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_ T-shirt size? \_\_\_\_\_ (for 2011 Traveler T-shirt!)

Do you have a passport? \_\_\_\_\_ if yes, when does it expire? \_\_\_\_\_

.....  
Because we ask your church to pay part of the cost of the trip (\$200), you will need to have your minister or clerk of session sign this application before you submit it to the presbytery office.

\_\_\_\_\_ Church, of \_\_\_\_\_ Presbytery, recommends this applicant for the 2011 Presbytery Youth Mission Trip to MEXICO and agrees to furnish 1/3 of the cost of the trip (\$200).

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(minister or clerk of session)

(note: Presbytery will send a bill to the church for the church's part)

.....  
**Travelers must agree to participate in the pre-trip training/preparation sessions on the following dates: Date (time) Mission Trip Work Day; Date (time) Mission Trip Webinar via internet; Date (time) Mission Trip Work Day ; Date (time) Mission Trip packing, supper and communion service for travelers & their families; Date (time) Mission Matters Conference Day**

.....  
I agree to participate in all the scheduled pre-trip activities, to do my best and to strive to be Christ's disciple on this trip, treating everyone--participant and mission partner--as a fellow child of God.

Participant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_



# Information about the 2011 Presbytery Youth Mission Trip to Mexico

## **What is the cost?**

This trip is a working partnership between the participants, Frontera de Cristo, Presbytery and the participant's church. This is why the cost is divided up.

Each participant provides \$300, most of which will hopefully be earned during 2 Mission Trip work days, one in the Fall and one in the Spring. There will be local work projects provided both in Providence Presbytery and in Charleston Atlantic Presbytery to give youth a chance to earn their trip money and socialize with the youth participants at other churches.

The Participant's church provides \$200. The youth will be learning and working in Mexico as an outreach of their local church's mission, and it is hoped that the local church will invite their participating youth to share their experiences with the congregation once they are back.

Presbytery will provide \$200. Presbytery is eager to help young adults as they mature into strong Christians, not only in faith but with a sense of mission and Christian charity. This can only be learned by doing and Presbytery wants to be a part of that.

Frontera de Cristo is providing the housing, local transportation, meals, educational opportunities, guides and interpreters.

## **Who are the leaders?**

Collectively, the trip leaders have over 30 years experience with youth and mission trips. Jason Roberson is the Program Director for Bethelwoods, Mary Robinson is Director of Christian Education at First Scots Church and Bethelwoods Committee person (Charleston), Rev. Fred Powell, Pastor and Mission Consultant, leads medical mission groups to Central America each year for Providence Presbytery. Rev. Mark Adams, Presbyterian Church mission personnel from Clover, SC and Director of Frontera de Cristo, will be our local host and facilitator for the trip.

## **What is Frontera de Cristo and why are we going there?**

Frontera de Cristo ("Christ's Border" in Spanish) is the Douglas, Arizona/Agua Prieta, Mexico site of the Presbyterian Border Ministries, a mutual mission of the Iglesia Nacional Presbiteriana de Mexico and the Presbyterian Church USA. In all, there are six of these border ministry sites along the 2000 mile border between the two countries. Given the current national attention over immigration issues and what the bible has to say, this life and faith changing trip is a golden opportunity for the citizens of the future to learn first hand what is happening on both sides of the border in a completely safe Christian environment.

## **Where will we be staying in Mexico?**

Frontera de Cristo has a community house in Agua Prieta Mexico that provides space for medical and dental clinics and worship. We will have access to a full kitchen, women's and men's bathrooms and showers, air conditioning/heat, and a phone for emergencies.

We will be sleeping on air mattresses so we will be taking our own bedding.

### **What about Passports and border security?**

You MUST have a passport in order to go on this trip. If you do not have a passport start NOW to apply for one, because there is a lot of paperwork to line up and even after you have applied it takes several months to receive the passport from the government.

You can learn exactly how to obtain your passport at [http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/first/first\\_830.html](http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/first/first_830.html).

If you are applying for your first passport, teenagers must appear in person with their parent or guardian. Use this website (<http://iafdb.travel.state.gov/>) to find the closest place to apply in person. Bring the following with you:

- a completed DS-11 application,
- proof of identification (a *\*certified\** birth certificate, naturalization certificate or citizenship certificate, etc),
- two passport photos (ie. they must be according to particular standards) and
- the application fee (\$105).

If you were not born in the US, there are additional requirements that you can learn about at the website mentioned above

We will be passing through airport security as well as US/Mexico border checkpoints several times during the trip; always under adult supervision and, at the borders, always with personnel from Frontera de Cristo. It goes without saying that anything illegal (drugs, explosives, banned items) shall not be brought on the trip.

### **Is Agua Prieta Safe?**

The team that we will be working with on both sides of the border has many years experience, deep roots and wide networks of neighbors and friends in the Douglas and Agua Prieta area. With well over 2,000 mission delegations having participated within the PCUSA-National Presbyterian Church of Mexico partnership, including over 100 in 2009 alone, no serious incidents of violence have been experienced

### **What is the Mission Matters retreat after the trip?**

Mission Matters is an Friday-Saturday retreat gathering of all 2011 mission participants from Mexico, Guatemala and Honduras to reflect and share experiences, photos and faith. It will be scheduled at Bethelwoods DATE TBA August, 2011.