

# SUMMER MISSION TOUR 2023

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION



Come join us for an experience of a lifetime! InFaith's Summer Mission Tour 2023 (SMT) will offer willing servants the opportunity to get out of their comfort zones and into a Christ-like lifestyle of service. Following Jesus' example of going to where the people are, participants will travel nearly 4000 miles to various needy mission fields of our southwestern United States and serve alongside full-time missionaries in their local environments. Each of the five consecutive weeks will offer a different perspective of missions in the US, as we meet missionaries and learn how they serve the Lord in their communities. Participants will learn what's it like to be a missionary, gain a broad perspective of how God is working, and receive many opportunities for them to use their time, talents, energy, and gifts to share the love and truth of Jesus Christ and further God's work in these communities. Our program is uniquely designed to assist those in year-round service, so that recipients are not left without a witness for future follow-up and the ultimate building of Christ's Church. Meanwhile, participants will gain a deeper understanding of the domestic mission field and consider God's calling to make disciples of all nations.

The SMT will begin with a four-day training program held at Forward Bible Camp, near Sacramento, CA. From there, the Team will venture out to the Mojave Desert of California, the Hopi Reservation of Arizona, then the rural backcountry of San Diego county, the urban environment of Fresno, CA and finally a week at Forward Bible Camp. Each week will include such ministry activities as leading Vacation Bible School, youth activities with games and Gospel messages, physical labor to meet local needs, a food ministry to the poor, and whatever else God may lead us to do in the moment. Part of the adventure will be gaining ministry knowledge and skills through the training, applying them in servant leadership, and learning to walk with the Lord in response to the leading of the Holy Spirit day by day.

Due to the nature of this missions experience, all participants will be required to raise their own financial support to cover the program cost of \$1400. In the same way missionaries go to the foreign field, our domestic missionaries will need to seek the financial support of other members of the Body of Christ. The need of each candidate (approved applicants) shall be shared with personal contacts with the goal of raising a team of supporters who will partner in the participant's missionary adventure. God's provision of this full amount will cover all basic food, lodging, travel to and from ministry locations, training, and basic ministry expenses for the six weeks.

## DETAILS

The SMT 2023 is open to young men and women who are at least 16 years of age by June 5<sup>th</sup>. A strong personal testimony and reputation of faith in Jesus Christ is essential. The application process begins online at [www.infaith.org/summer-mission-tour-2023](http://www.infaith.org/summer-mission-tour-2023), and will include follow-up with at least two references including a pastor, and an InFaith interview online. Once approved, participants can begin raising the financial support to cover his/her portion of the trip. InFaith will provide instruction for the support raising process.

Participants will be expected to arrive on June 5<sup>th</sup>, and be committed for the duration of the program until July 19<sup>th</sup>. Transportation will be provided from Sacramento for any arriving from out of town, or out of state by plane, bus, etc.

Training will include evangelism, recreational and spiritual leadership, camp counseling, supervision and care for children, camp cleaning, food service, communication and cooperation with others in the context of ministry. The SMT will conclude with a Debrief that will include fun and fellowship while

processing the experience to return home more mature in faith with a heart to serve others to the glory of God.

The SMT 2023 will be led by InFaith missionary Keith Stringfellow who currently serves as the Western Field Director, and part-time pastor of a small rural church. Keith and his wife Linda have been serving with InFaith for 28 years in a variety of missions including youth ministry, camp leadership, church planting and pastoral leadership: <https://infaith.org/ministries/keith-linda-stringfellow>

## TIMELINE

- Initial Application Deadline is May 20th. Applications received by this date will be given first priority. Team A will be limited to 12 participants.
- The Fundraising process can begin after Application submittal and final approval.
- Participants arrive at Forward Bible Camp for training camp on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

## FAQ

What if I can't raise the financial support?

This is often a challenging experience. InFaith will provide you some tools and tips to do your best. It is certainly a step of faith and requires trust in the Lord and frequent prayer to receive the resources according to what He has called you to do. A good relationship and regular participation in your home church is key to establishing a base of prayer and financial support. If the support does not come in, then it may be that God does not want you to participate in SMT this year. There are other opportunities to serve as a Summer Staff with InFaith that do not require as much support, ie: Summer Staff and one of our summer camp ministries like Forward Bible Camp.

What if I want to serve and join InFaith but can't serve the full 6 weeks?

Priority for choosing the members of Team A for SMT will be given to those who are available for the entire time, June 5-July 19. If you can't be available, then please consider applying to InFaith as a Summer Staff and serving alongside any of our InFaith missionaries in their local community only for the time you are available. Please contact SMT Director Keith Stringfellow for ideas for other places of ministry, [keiths@infaith.org](mailto:keiths@infaith.org).

Who do I contact with my additional questions?

For answers, please contact SMT Director Keith Stringfellow 760-505-0119, [keiths@infaith.org](mailto:keiths@infaith.org)