

In preparation for the trip, we ask that you do the following:

CHECK YOUR PASSPORT: Make sure it is valid until If you do not have a passport, or yours expires before June 25, please start the process **NOW**, as this can take 8-12 weeks depending on government backlogs. We **strongly** recommend expediting the process if you are cutting it too close. More information on the passport process can be found here.

- **PLEASE NOTE:** You must have an active passport to participate in this trip. If you are unable to secure one before leaving, we will not be able to bring you along.

PACKING LIST: We have attached a packing list to help you plan ahead.

FLIGHTS: Begin monitoring flights into San Diego, traveling out June 14 and back on June 23. Many group members fly through Des Moines, but some deals can be found leaving from Cedar Rapids or Omaha. Flight costs have risen dramatically over the last few years, and these are not included in your registration costs. At this time we expect flight costs to range from \$425-\$750, but prices can change quickly. You can set up alerts using travel sites like Google Flights to get emails with price updates. We'll send more information about flights over the next few weeks as we find deals. If you find something that looks good, let us know.

- **PLEASE NOTE:**
 - **Discount Airlines:** Airlines like Frontier and Allegiant, while cheaper, are not good options for this trip as they only fly to San Diego on specific days of the week. If your flight were to be canceled, you may not be rebooked to fly for 2-3 days, forcing you to miss transportation into Mexico. These airlines also charge significant fees for bags and other items priced into fares for more common airlines like American, United, Delta, and Southwest.
 - **Saturday Returns:** We have had a few folks ask about coming home on Saturday instead of Sunday. While this is possible, we ask that you book a flight back **after 2pm**. Because border crossing times can balloon significantly without warning, if you book before 2pm, we cannot guarantee you will be back in time to make your flight.
 - **If you are unsure whether a flight will work, or if you need to travel with other participants, please reach out to us before booking your travel.**

KEY DATES

- **March 24:** 6:30-7:15p - **First Trip Planning Meeting + Q & A ---FULL TRIP PAYMENT IS DUE---**
- **April 21:** **Third Church Burrito Breakfast** (Fundraiser for building supplies- Please sign up to work a slot here)
- **April 28:** Have all **airline reservations** made and sent to leadership team
- **June 2:** 6:30-7:15p - **Final Trip Meeting**
- **June 14:** **Fly** into San Diego and check into hotel
- **June 15:** Drive over the border to La Mision, Baja, Mexico and stay at the Door of Faith Orphanage
- **June 16:** Church & Free Day
- **June 17-21:** Build 2 houses and serve within the community
- **June 22:** Drive back to San Diego
- **June 23:** **Fly** back home