

Updated 06/23

CAMPALIGN GUIDE 2023



He must increase
but I must decrease.
John 3:30

CAMPAIGN:

a systematic course of aggressive activities for some specific purpose.



LATIN AMERICAN MISSIONS

A ministry under the oversight of the elders of the Forrest Park church of Christ in Valdosta, GA.

Welcome to the LAM family!

You are about to embark on an amazing experience that is unlike anything else in the world. God bless you for your desire to help serve some of the poorest people on the planet.

Great things are about to happen. We are going to have a great opportunity in sharing the message of Jesus Christ to the lost in Latin America. Start praying about the main purpose of our trip; winning the lost!

This guide is designed to give you a comprehensive view of what you need to prepare for the campaign. Please give every word in this guide your

utmost attention. You will be much more prepared for the trip if you follow the ideas and tips in this guide. It is updated often to include the latest information to help make you the most effective servant while on this campaign. Even the most experienced participant will find this guide informative and helpful. Some information may be repeated in different sections. This might be a clue that it is important.

Although we have gone to great lengths to prepare for all needs of our group, please understand the unpredictable nature of being in a foreign country! The rules are different, the culture is different, and the climate is different. That's why the key to every campaign is:

FLEXIBILITY

susceptible
of modification
or adaptation

TEAM NOTE



One Goal / One Purpose

A mission trip can feel like a grand adventure. However, the greatest adventure is to see the joy and love on the faces of the people who have accepted our Lord in baptism. Our purpose is to seek and save the lost. All of our energy is spent leading us to the next soul.

LAWS OF L.A.M.



LAWS
you need to
KNOW



LAW:

a thing regarded as having the binding force or effect of a formal system of rules

Some people call these rules. Others call them laws. Whatever you call them, they are the only **NON-FLEXIBLE** part of this campaign (that's why there are a lot of "!" and CAPS in this section). These rules are from the Elders at the Forrest Park Church of Christ who are overseeing this campaign.

1. Do not, under ANY circumstances leave the group. There is never a time when it is ok to go do something on your own. There are no exceptions to this rule. **DON'T DO IT!!**
2. Do not part with your passport! It is the only thing that can identify you as a citizen of the U.S.A. Keep it on you at ALL TIMES!!!
3. Do not drink the tap water! Do not brush your teeth with the tap water. Do not wash a contact lens with with the tap water. In Latin America, tap water is good for ONLY two things: bathing and BAPTIZING. REMEMBER: Bad tap water makes bad ice (watch your drinks). There may be some restaurants that serve clean ice and water. If in doubt, ask your team leader or don't try it.
4. About eating local food, CDC states, "Boil it, cook it, peel it, or forget it."
5. Do NOT wear shorts, yoga pants, tights, leggings, sleeveless shirts, tank-tops or spaghetti straps. Capri pants are fine. The nature of our work makes it necessary to dress professionally and modestly. **This includes travel days.**
6. Do NOT wear flip flops, or sandals except for showers. We will be working in very rural communities where farm animals often roam (even in the capital city). Parasites and disease can easily enter your body through your feet.
7. Do not consider any part of this campaign a vacation. You are not on your own time. You are part of a group and we need team players.
8. Be on-time. It is a very selfish thing to be late, because when you are late, you are holding up the whole group and holding up the progress of teaching the lost.
9. Always listen to the instructions of your team leader. Do not think you can do it better, not because you can't do it better but because there are very good reasons (based on years of experience) for their methods.
10. If you have ANY problems, please notify your team leader(s) immediately. They are best equipped for problem solving. Complaining to other team members brings down morale and will not solve your problem.
11. Pools are for baptisms ONLY. Otherwise they are off limits.
12. Give it your all everyday. BUT when it's time to rest, take advantage.
13. Absolute ZERO tolerance for alcohol, tobacco, or non-prescription drug use. You will be immediately sent home at your own expense.
14. Absolute ZERO tolerance for any illicit sexual activity including the use of pornography. You will be sent home at your own expense.

Don't drink the water!!!

PREPARATION



PREPARE TO SHARE:

Not only do you need to prepare your luggage, tickets, money and other essentials, but we also need to prepare to share the Gospel with others.

YOU SHOULD ALREADY:

1. Be Praying for the success and safety of our campaign.
2. Have your passport. (Do you KNOW where it is?)
3. Sent a color copy of your passport to LAM.
4. Have bought your plane ticket.
5. Have gotten immunizations. Consult the CDC website for recommendations.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO NOW (as in right now. Go!):

1. Pray for the campaign. Pray for the people we'll be meeting, the other campaigners that will be on the team, the preachers that will join us, the translators we'll be using, and (if you have time) me, your leader.
2. Send in your Shared Team Expenses*. Refer to your Team Letter for specifics.
3. Send me the details of your travel itinerary. Follow the instructions in emails on how to submit your itinerary.

TO DO BEFORE YOU LEAVE:

1. Keep praying for the campaign!!!
2. Clearly mark your bags for travel.
3. Prepare for your job. Especially if you are going to be involved in evangelism. Brush up on your Bible knowledge, and prepare "cheat sheets" if necessary.
4. Read and re-read this guide. Do not skim any part of it. I just might save your life.
5. Did I mention PRAY?

But
the goal of our
instruction is LOVE
from a pure heart and
a good conscience
and a sincere faith.

I TIM 1:5

Packing for a trip this long, with the limits that the airlines place on luggage has become quite a challenge. Here are some helpful tips to make packing a little easier.

1. Consult the website of the airline you will be using to find out what their limitations are for weight and number of bags you can carry.
2. Mark your luggage with a unique tag or other identification to make your luggage stand out from the rest. Most luggage looks similar and quite often people pick up the wrong bag.
3. Most airlines will allow one check-on, one carry-on and one personal bag.
 - CHECK-ON BAG: Put all your toiletries in your check-on bag. This trip is just long enough that the travel size toiletries might not last the whole trip. Pack as light as possible in this bag. 50 lbs is the industry standard for this bag. There is no need to pack your own supply of water. Bottled water is easily available. There will be some bottled water waiting on you arrive.
 - CARRY-ON BAG: Pack at least one set of clothes in your carry-on bag. If your check -on bag is lost you'll be glad you did. Also pack your heaviest things (non-liquid) in this bag. There are no weight restrictions on this bag. Paper, books, and any heavy VBS materials are ideal for this bag. No pocket knives, or sharp tools of any kind. They will be disposed of as you go through the security check-point.

- PERSONAL BAG: Purses are not recommended. A small duffel bag or large backpack is ideal. Keep all of your personal/valuable things in this bag. Keep any personal medications in this bag. Also, **no liquids in this bag.**
- 4. LADIES ONLY: Pack personal hygiene products whether you think you'll need them or not.
- 5. There is no need to pack a song book. We will use a projector to display all songs that we sing.
- 6. Pack Light weight clothing. We are in a tropical climate and jeans are not really comfortable in that sort of heat and humidity.

Pack light.
But remember, if
you don't pack it,
you won't have
it.

This will also help keep your check-on baggage from getting too heavy.

7. While on campaign, there will be little to no use for hair dryers, curling or straightening irons, etc. It takes up valuable space and weight in your luggage.
8. Pack snacks. Eating is a luxury in many parts of Latin America. However, for your own stamina and strength you need to keep nourished. The heat, humidity, and work load will require more calories than you are used to. Three meals is sometimes not enough.
9. Pack a small, simple "First Aid" kit. A few band-aids, antibiotic ointment, aspirin, pepto, alcohol wipes, etc. Don't go overboard.
10. Pack an empty small bag, backpack or "fanny" pack that you can carry your essentials in on a daily basis.
11. Keep personal electronics to a minimum. Computers, and gaming devices are of little to no use. Take this opportunity to "unplug" from the world for a week. Many phone plans of the major carriers include some international data and texting.



Think about what you pack

Your luggage has only so much space. Packing everything you need for a week is difficult to do. How are you going to get your souvenirs back to the states? Some people buy inexpensive clothes from thrift stores so they can give them away to the locals who need them. That leaves plenty of space to return home with gifts for family and friends.

PACKING LIST



YOUR LUGGAGE...

is YOUR luggage. Don't expect anyone else to take care of your stuff. Don't expect anyone else to carry your luggage for you. If it is too heavy for you to carry, IT'S TOO HEAVY

Recommendations:

- Bible
- Bible study materials/VBS
- Passport (and holder)
- Color copy of passport
- Notebook
- Pen/pencils
- Good Walking shoes
- Light weight clothing
- 10 packs of pocket sized Kleenex
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Shampoo
- Soap
- Floss
- Medications
- Allergy Medication
- Hand Sanitizer
- Diarrhea Medicine (you'll be glad you brought it.)
- Personal hygiene products
- Small First Aid Kit
- Flash Light
- Extra Batteries
- Bug Spray
- Sun Screen
- Snacks
- Small backpack for daily needs
- Shower shoes/flip flops
- Toys/candy for kids
- Camera
- Poncho
- Extra spending money
- Towel(s)*
- Sheets*
- Small pillow*
- Light blanket*
- Mosquito netting/tent*
- Air Mattress*

*Needed for non-hotel lodging. Check team letter for specifics.



Overstuffed bags can rip or break in transit

Support LAM

Many people will find a life long passion for missions after having their hearts touched by the amazing people of Latin America. Latin American Missions (LAM) exists for one purpose; to share the Gospel with the people in Spanish speaking countries of Central and South America. We are seed sowers, but we need your help to be able to do more.

After participating on this campaign you will realize there is more to do than can ever be done, however, we must do ALL we can. It is through people just like you, young or old, that we can do more for the souls of these precious people. Most people WANT to leave a legacy of hope for people that they meet, they just don't know how.

There are several ways that you can give to help spread the Gospel to this part of the world.

1. MONTHLY SUPPORT. The LAM staff, native preachers, School of Preaching students, Future Preachers Training Camps, Children's Home and many other people rely on people who dedicate themselves to giving every month. This is the most needed way to support LAM. We have donors from all over the country from all walks of life and who give as little as \$10 a month and as much as \$1,500 per month. We can even arrange for automatic withdrawal.

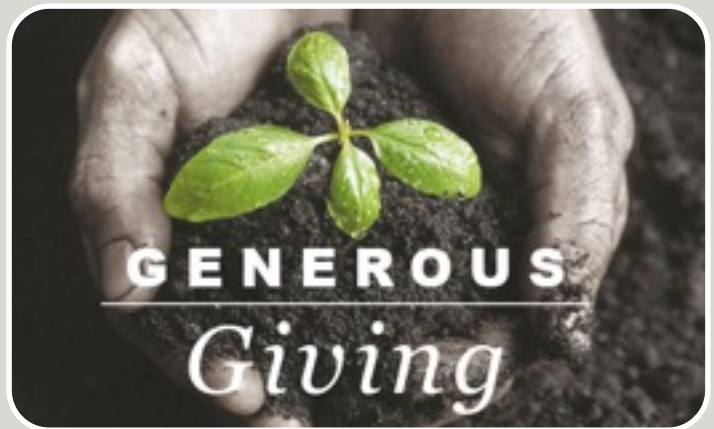
2. LUMP SUM ANNUAL GIVING. We have several people who like to give at specific times a year (Tax returns, first of the year, end of the year, etc.). They do so by giving one time per year at their convenience.

3. ONE-TIME GIFTS. Others have a wind fall of money at times and think of LAM. Whether it is the sale of a house or car, or an inheritance.

4. ESTATE PLANNING. Legacy planning is an amazing way to leave a gift that will last beyond your years.

5. CONGREGATIONAL SUPPORT. It has been a great blessing to have the vast resources of an entire congregation to come together to make a difference in Latin America. Many times congregations want to focus on a specific country or even a specific city/ congregation to be involved in. Others see the need to help support the "big picture" by supporting Printed Word Evangelism, or aiding in the support of a staff member. If you would like for one of our missionaries to present the work to your congregation and/or elders, please contact us.

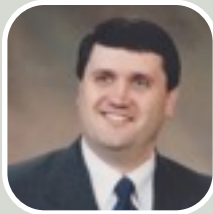
All of these giving opportunities have different tax advantages. Please consult your tax professional to understand what options will be best for you.



For more giving info, contact Brandon Britton, Director of Development by calling our office.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Latin American Missions ♦ PO Box 2331 ♦ Valdosta, GA 31604 ♦ 229.242.1069
 Location ♦ 4263 Inner Perimeter Rd ♦ Valdosta, GA 31602 ♦ FAX 229.245.1469
 lam@forrestpark.org ♦ twitter: @lamfp ♦ facebook: @LatinAmericanMissions



| | | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | KIRK BROTHERS | JOHN FARBER | CARY GILLIS |
|--|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|



**Future Preacher Training
Camps**
 kbrothers@hcu.edu
 731.435.0026

**Missions Coordinator
Medical Team Specialist**
 jafarber@forrestpark.org
 904.955.8680

Director
 334.462.2838
 cgillis.lam@forrestpark.org



| | | | |
|--|----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| | ROSALINA BRATHWAITE | THERESA GARNER | DONNA SWILLEY |
|--|----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|

Language Specialist
 rosalina@forrestpark.org

**Newsletter Editor
Secretary/Administrator**
 tgarner@forrestpark.org

Secretary/Administrator
 dswilley@forrestpark.org



| | | | |
|--|-----------------------|--|--|
| | FRANK WILLIAMS | | |
|--|-----------------------|--|--|

Fundraiser
 fwilliams.lam@forrestpark.org
 731.803.0831

TRAVEL TIPS

1. Check-in to your flight 24 hours in advance. Every major carrier will allow you to do this online and have smartphone apps.

2. Arrive at the airport early! Since 9/11/01 security checkpoints have slowed the check-in process. Arrive at least two (2) hours early. We recommend using the iPhone/iPad app, "My TSA" to check security checkpoint wait times at your airport. It also has other helpful travel tips, some included here.

3. Check your bags ALL THE WAY TO THE FINAL DESTINATION!

4. Keep your passport on you at ALL TIMES!!!

5. Keep keys, change and other metal objects in your personal bag until you have cleared security.

6. Don't wear a belt if you can avoid it.

7. Wear shoes that you can easily get on and off.

Don't take any chances

If you don't know where it came from, don't eat it or don't drink it!!

8. Body piercings and underwire bras can trip alarms and cause you to face additional screening.

9. Carry-on 3-1-1: "3" liquid, aerosol and /or gel items must be in a 3.4 oz or smaller containers. "1" Put the 3.4 oz containers in a sealed 1 quart, clear plastic, zip-top bag. "1" Only 1 plastic zip-top bag per passenger is allowed.

10. When you arrive or leave your destination, there might be a tourist tax of \$10-30.

11. Any money brought from the USA MUST MUST MUST be "clean money." NO TEARS, INK MARKINGS, HOLES, or FADING. The bills must be in near perfect condition. You WILL NOT be able to exchange or use your money if it is not "CLEAN."

12. Be a good traveling citizen. Delays happen. Flights get cancelled. Bags get lost. Be prepared for the worst and go with the flow. When trouble comes up, it is best to be friendly about getting the issues resolved. Most airline employees want to be helpful when these issues arise. Also, if you packed it, expect to carry it yourself.

13. Learn about the country before you go. The difference in customs, culture and language can give people "culture shock" and make it difficult to cope with the differences.



Don't drink the water!!

(Yes this is the 4th time)

14. Check and double check your supply of personal medications. It will be difficult if not impossible to acquire replacements or refills.

15. **Eating abroad:** Some of the best things about going to another country is the different foods you will encounter. On our trip, we will try to take advantage of this at least once while in the country. BUT, be careful. If it is not approved by the team leader, don't try it! Water and beverages are also tricky. DO NOT DRINK THE WATER, unless it is from an approved source. Bottled drinks are safe. If in doubt, DON'T DRINK IT!!

LATIN AMERICAN MISSIONS

PO Box 2330

Valdosta, GA 31604