


# belize<sup>2022</sup>

July 16-23, 2022  
Belize City, Belize, Central America

## Important Dates

---

- **NOW, as soon as possible** – apply for your passport
- **Sunday, January 2** – Initial deposit of \$100 is due
- **Sunday, March 6** – 2<sup>nd</sup> payment due, \$500
  - **Team meeting** – 5pm at PVUMC
- **Sunday, April 17** – 3<sup>rd</sup> payment due, \$600
  - **Team meeting** – 5pm at PVUMC
- **Sunday, June 5** – final payment due, \$600
  - **Team meeting** – 5pm at PVUMC
- **Saturday, July 9** – final team meeting, dinner, “packing party” – 4 PM at HB’s
- **Saturday, July 16 thru Saturday, July 23** – 

## Contact Information

---

### We are working through

**Praying Pelican Missions**  
8011 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue S, Suite 333  
Minneapolis, MN 55426  
888-776-4090  
[www.prayingpelicanmissions.org](http://www.prayingpelicanmissions.org)

### Group leader

Hunter Bradley (423) 292-9911  
hunterb61@gmail.com

## What to bring to Belize

- A servant's heart - A selfless attitude – Flexibility
- An excited expectation that you WILL see and experience Christ!
- Money for 4 meals, \$75 - \$90 suggested – Saturday (*while we're traveling*); Friday (*lunch*); Saturday traveling home (*all meals*)
- Money for shopping / souvenirs
- Money for team activities on Friday (*snorkeling, cave tubing*)
- Your Bible, journal, etc.
- Clothes –
  - Casual church clothes for our church services – could be 3-5 services throughout the week
  - Casual everyday clothes (shorts, t-shirts, sweats, jeans, etc.)
  - Tennis shoes – flip flops – Chacos
  - Swim suit
  - Hoodie or sweat shirt, rain jacket
  - Hat or visor (something to keep the sun off your head!)
- Sun screen, sunglasses
- Mosquito repellent – needs to have DEET in it – the higher concentration the better
  - Spray on repellent
  - Wipes
  - Arm / ankle bands
- Medications – any personal meds you need, including
  - Tylenol, ibuprofen, Aleve, etc.
  - Allergy medication
  - Any prescriptions you may be using
  - Dramamine or other motion sickness medication
  - Diarrhea / upset stomach medicine – Pepto Bismol, Imodium, Tums, etc.
- Bathroom items, personal toiletries, etc. (soap and deodorant!!)
- Card games, etc.
- Candy, gum, etc. to hand out to children (nothing that will melt)
- Snacks, bottled water, etc. – for your own use in the airport and on the plane
- Camera – take lots of pictures, and **be sure to get them to HB for the slide show!**

We will be doing several VBS-type activities with elementary and pre-elementary age children. We will need to take arts and craft supplies with us. We'll know more about what exactly to take as the trip gets closer.

**We'll be working in the "Rootsville" area of Belize City and on Caye Caulker. We will be doing children's ministry (VBS), youth ministry, light construction and home repair, food ministry, and possibly other things!!**

**In all things, we will be spreading the love of Christ!!**

## Medications and Vaccines

**You should be up to date on routine vaccinations.** These vaccines include measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine, diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine, varicella (chickenpox) vaccine, polio vaccine, and your yearly flu shot.

### Hepatitis A

CDC recommends this vaccine because you can get hepatitis A through contaminated food or water in Nicaragua, regardless of where you are eating or staying.

### Hepatitis B

You can get hepatitis B through sexual contact, contaminated needles, and blood products, so CDC recommends this vaccine if you might have sex with a new partner, get a tattoo or piercing, or have any medical procedures.

### Typhoid

You can get typhoid through contaminated food or water in Nicaragua. CDC recommends this vaccine for most travelers, especially if you are staying with friends or relatives, visiting smaller cities or rural areas, or if you are an adventurous eater.

### COVID-19

Recommended for all individuals who qualify for vaccination.

---

## Passport Information

### You can apply for your passport at

Washington County VA Treasurers Office  
1 Government Center Place (near the Higher Ed Center)  
Abingdon VA 24210  
276-676-6272

If you already have a passport, make sure the expiration date is at least 6 months AFTER our trip

It is our goal to raise as much of the money we need for the trip as possible. You will have the opportunity to participate in group fundraisers as well as individual, personal fundraisers ***You can help by doing your part!*** Spread the word about our fundraisers, show up and participate in the fundraisers, ask for donations.

In the past, several team members have covered all of their fees through their own personal fundraisers. Some even had money left over to buy souvenirs, etc. How did they do this? Easy!

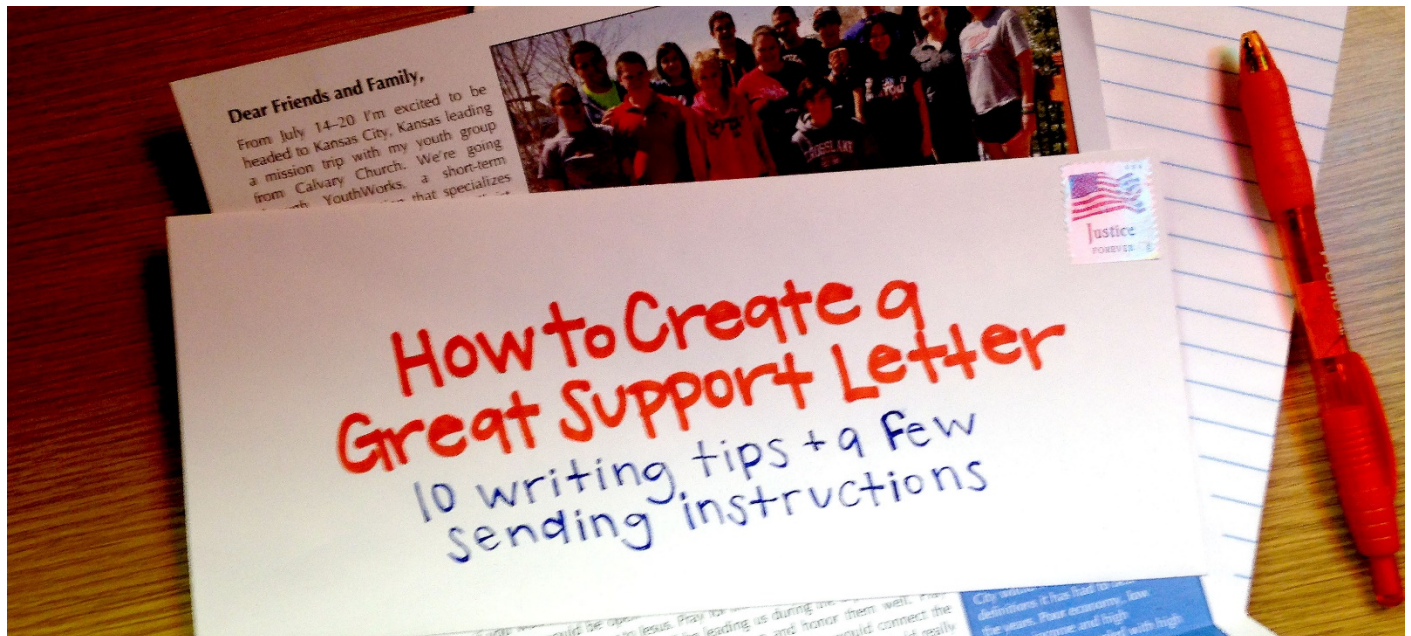
The very best, and easiest, way for you to raise money for your trip is by **getting sponsors**. Don't pass up the opportunity to raise your fee by seeking donations. Many people who cannot attend the trip themselves are more than willing to help out, but they have to be asked! It is best to have a personalized letter that you give to each potential sponsor. I have attached a sample letter for you to go by.

Another personal fundraiser is the **"M&M's for Belize" fundraiser**. All you do is get the tubes of M&M's (from Walmart or Sam's), put a label on it saying what it's for (available from HB), and give out free candy! Ask people to save their quarters in the tube, and give it back to you when they get it full! The bigger tubes will hold just over \$20 in quarters, but many people will put in green money, or even write a check, many times for more than \$20!

Finally, we will have a spring **yard sale**. If you have items you'd like to sell to raise money for Belize, bring them! You can either donate them to the "group sale" to help offset group expenses or have a section of your own to raise your own personal money.

We may, if needed, do other fundraisers, such as car washes, pancake breakfasts, etc.

# HOW TO CREATE A GREAT SUPPORT LETTER



Mission trip support letters are easy to write if you know what to include. The following are some quick tips on what to put in, what to avoid and how to share your mission trip support letter.

But first, let's make sure you know *why* you're writing a support letter. When you write a support letter, you're doing way more than just asking for money and prayer – you're inviting someone to *participate* in your trip. While they won't be hopping in the van with you, they *will* be filling the vital role of providing support in your mission trip experience. Keep this in mind as you write and send your support letters.

## 10 WRITING TIPS

- 1. Keep it short.** One page is plenty. Two pages should be your maximum. Quality trumps quantity.
- 2. Make it look good.** First impressions matter. If designing documents isn't your cup of tea, find a friend who can help. Including a picture of you or your team is an easy win.
- 3. Proofread it.** Errors are fairly noticeable... and often avoidable. Have someone help you by reading your letter for any errors before you hit PRINT.

**4. Be interesting.** Share about what you are doing, the place you are going and the people you will be with, but don't drag out your letter with tons of minute details. (YouthWorks provides a Community Info Sheet for each of our communities; you might include some of those details about the community you're headed to in your support letter.)

**5. Make it personal.** People want to support *you*! Don't send a generic letter from the team when you can send a personal letter from you. While you might share some details about your team, also include what your hopes, fears and needs are.

**6. Don't forget the details.** Where is the trip? What are the dates? What will you be doing? Is there a send-off service beforehand? How much money are you trying to raise? If they want to donate money, where do they send it and who are checks made out to? A great way to ask for money is to suggest a couple options for dollar amounts (e.g. "I recommend a gift of \$50, \$100 or \$150, but of course, any amount is more than welcome.")

*You should also include whether or not donations are tax deductible. Ask your church if gifts qualify. Also, many qualifying organizations recommend that checks have nothing written on the Memo line as it can jeopardize the gift's tax deductible status. If the gift qualifies as tax deductible you might write something like this: "Gifts are tax deductible. You can make checks out to ABC Church, but please do not write anything on the Memo line as this could jeopardize your gift's tax deductible status."*

**7. Don't just write a "fundraising letter."** Support is so much more than people's money. At the same time, there is nothing to be ashamed about when offering people the opportunity to be generous. If asking for money is *part* of the support you need, make it secondary to asking for prayer. Even if people can't contribute financially, they can certainly still support you.

**8. Ask for prayer.** And be specific when you do. Give them 4 or 5 things they can pray for, for example: the community and ministries you are visiting, your team, your travels, etc. (If you wrote a team covenant, there is probably some great things to pray for in there!)

**9. Be humble and respectful.** Don't make the place you're headed seem destitute in an effort to make your trip sound more significant. Remember that Jesus is the hero, not your team. Use language that honors what God is already up to in the place you are headed. Use phrases like, "serve alongside," "partner with" and "learn from."

**10. Say thank you.** A great way to end your letter is with gratefulness for the people you are asking to partner with you in this mission trip. Thank them in advance for whatever way they choose to support you.