

TRINITY

CENTER FOR WORLD MISSION

Manual for Volunteers Going to Africa



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A History of TCWM'S Work in Africa



TCWM started in 1998 with our first mission trip to Uganda. We initially ministered in various parts of the country, with the goal of helping to plant one church each year. Eventually we settled in Kapchorwa, Uganda, which is in the NE part of Uganda. From there, our ministry and vision grew into primarily starting seminaries to provide theological education and discipleship for pastors and church leaders. We now have 7 teaching sites in 5 countries. It grew out of necessity. There were few reformed pastors and there was a great need to share the Gospel and train new converts. It would have been easy to stay in one place, but we were challenged by William Carey's quote, "Expect great things from God, attempt great things for God." And so we went to new places: Kenya, Northern and Western Uganda, Rwanda, and South Sudan. Now we are making our way across East and Central Africa.

In recent years, God has blessed our work. The ministry of TCWM grew eight-fold between 2014 and 2021. Since 1998, we have helped with many ministries in Central Africa, including orphanages, a radio station, medical clinic, elementary schools, and many crusades, but our primary focus has been the establishment of networks of Biblical, grace-filled, Christ-centered, gospel-preaching, and reproducing churches

through training pastors at our Trinity Biblical Institute seminaries. We are educators and church planters.

“ Expect great things from God, attempt great things for God. -William Carey



WHAT TO EXPECT

The daily schedule during classes are a morning devotional and worship time, then two 1.5 hour lectures in the morning with a break in between, lunch around 1pm, then group discussion in the afternoon and dinner is usually around 6:30pm. There is an evening devotional/worship time after dinner if you are at the TBI campus, otherwise we encourage the teams to have their own prayer time together at the hotel in the evening. If you are a guest faculty member, please have extra devotionals and sermons ready because you might be called upon to teach or preach last minute. If you would like to lead a devotional or share a message and are not being given the opportunity to do so, please speak with the main leaders and they will be very happy to arrange extra times for you to share.

Throughout the day, you will meet many students. We encourage you not to make personal promises or send support directly to an individual initially. If the need is legitimate and you want to help, talk to TCWM and we will verify the legitimacy of the need through local leaders and then the gift can be given through appropriate non-profit or church channels which will then also provide follow up and accountability to make sure the funds are spent as intended. It is very common in this context to be "hit up" for money, so expect that going in.



PACKING LIST

Clothing (Men and Women)

- Casual clothes for free days and travel days
- Light sweater/ light jacket
- Walking shoes or tennis shoes
- 6-8 changes of clothes
- Shorts or pjs for sleeping in
- Hat / sun visor / sunglasses
- Hiking / tennis shoes
- Sandals / flipflops for wearing around the guest house

Clothing (Men)

- Slacks, suit, or jeans
- Plain shirts
- Button shirt and tie for Sunday service
- Sport coat, blazer or suit, and pair of dress shoes for preaching

Clothing (Women)

- Below the knee length skirts or dresses
- Long pants are ok for hotels and travel, though dresses are generally preferred while attending functions, church, or meetings
- Comfortable blouses or t-shirts

Paperwork

- Passport
- Yellow Fever Vaccine Card (required only in Uganda)
- Boarding Pass
- Travel Insurance
- Invitation Letter (Ask MaryChase for this)

Toiletries

- Shaving cream & razor
- Shampoo & conditioner
- Bath soap
- Deodorant
- Toothbrush & toothpaste
- Moistened hand wipes or hand sanitizing gel
- Sunscreen
- *Insect Repellent*
- Kleenex/Wet Wipes
- Toilet paper
- First Aid Kit
- Medicines

Misc.

- Bible
- Prayer Journal / Notebook
- Teaching material
- Pens and pencils
- Backpack
- Small flash light
- Phone charger
- Adaptor (British Plugs for Uganda, Europlug Type C otherwise, electronics must be able to handle 240 volts even with adaptor or they burnout)
- Reading material
- Alarm clock
- Small gifts for kids, new friends, and ministry leaders
- Emergency cash/Visa Credit Card⁵



Notes for Packing

Pack lightly and for warm weather (temperate, equatorial climate). Be sure to pack a jacket or sweater for cool nights. Preach and teach in business formal attire with dress shoes, or full suit. Also bring clothes for informal occasions such as travel or tourism day, during which you should still wear long pants and a collared shirt with shoes more comfortable for walking. Laundry can be done while there, but there is a two-day turnaround.

Take a small first aid kit and medications such as your own prescriptions, aspirin, Pepto Bismal, cold medicine, and Imodium D tablets (for diarrhea). They can all be left there to help others at our clinic if you don't use them!

You should bring a wallet or travel purse to carry your passport, Yellow Fever vaccine card, Covid vaccine card (if you have one), and a pen. You will want to make sure you have them easily accessible as you travel!

Feel free to bring small gifts to give out such as deflated soccer balls, candy for kids, or theology books and bibles for adults (most speak and read English). You may also want to bring business cards or tracts for evangelism.

Most importantly, don't forget your Bible!

Resist the urge to bring the below items (a little humor): British Safari Hats, Zip Off Missionary Pants.



Essential Checklist

- Teaching and Passport: Commit to your trip dates and topic, receive and prepare seminary curriculum from Doug for your class, and make sure you have an up-to-date passport that does not expire within 12 months of your trip.
- Vaccines and Medicine: Research and make an appointment to get your Yellow Fever Vaccine and certificate as this is required for entry to Uganda (this is a time tested and very safe vaccine, some exceptions are made for those who can't have "live vaccines" with a doctor's note). Call your county "travel clinic" if they have one, or just the regular county health clinic if not, and they should be able to arrange the vaccine. Be sure to tell them you are going to Uganda to see what other recommendations they have (these are optional). We recommend getting a prescription for Malaria pills as a malaria preventative (we usually use Doxycycline).
- Fundraising: The total cost is \$5,000. Donations can be sent to TCWM PO Box 580 Dahlonega, GA, 30533, or through our online donation form. Either way, please be sure your name is noted in the memo line or comment section so we know that the donation is for your trip! We will reimburse your plane ticket with initial funds and the remaining \$3500 should be sent in no less than 1 month prior to your departure.
- Airfare: We have a travel agent whom we use to purchase plane tickets, so the \$5,000 includes your flight. If you would rather purchase your own tickets, let us know! We can reimburse you with any donations we receive for your trip. Please keep in mind that airline tickets need to be purchased at least two months in advance for the best prices, so we would greatly appreciate you sending your funding in before then.
- Invitation Letter: Email info@trinitycwm.com and request your "invitation letter." Be sure to share your legal name, the country(ies) you will be visiting, and the exact dates you will be in the country. You will need this for your visa.
- Visa: Apply for a visa no later than 8 weeks before your trip, using the exact dates you will be in the country. The official Ugandan Visa website is: <https://visas.immigration.go.ug/> The cost is \$55; it is up to you to pay for this expense. Note: you will need a visa for each country you will stay and preach in. Apply for a tourist visa, but when asked the reason for entry just say "Conference", attending or teaching as may be the case.

Essential Checklist Cont.



- Covid Test: Get a PCR Covid test within 72 hours of when your plane leaves the USA from a clinic that guarantees results to you in 48 hours (if applicable). Print this out or have a screenshot of the results on your phone. This changes frequently and may or may not be true by the time you go.

- Travel Documents: Oftentimes many airlines want you to pre-upload travel documents in advance online, so visit their websites and follow their instructions. Do this for each airline company. For example, if you bought tickets through Delta, but they partner with KLM to get you to Africa, visit both Delta and KLM's website as they may have separate requirements.

- Boarding Pass and Baggage: Either download the app for each flight/airline and have your phone fully charged so you can pull up your flight details when traveling or print off your itinerary and boarding passes when checking bags. Usually, baggage allowance is two 50lbs bags, plus one smaller 35lbs. carry-on (pre-weigh). Note: If you use an app and it says, "unable to check you in in advance," don't worry - just check in when you get to the airport, this is normal for international travel. Arrive at the airport at least 3 hours before your departure time.

- Travel Insurance: TCWM will buy travel insurance for you. Print off 2 copies each of your travel insurance card and your passport. Ask MaryChase to send you the copy of your travel insurance. Take these copies for yourself and leave a copy of each for your spouse or family member. Email Doug McNutt (doug@africatbi.com) a copy of your passport, and put your spouse/family member on that same email chain so that we have each other's contact information in case of emergencies

- Emergency Cash: Take \$500-\$2,000 in personal cash for emergencies, souvenirs, etc. and also a credit card (Visa is very universal/good, AMEX/Mastercard is very limited/bad).

SURVIVAL TIPS

Don't drink the water, unless it has been boiled (coffee or tea). Drink bottled water and bottled drinks. Be careful of ice, it probably has not been purified. Do not brush your teeth or rinse your toothbrush with tap water. Use bottled water.

If you can peel it, you can eat it. If it isn't peeled, don't eat any fresh fruit or lettuce. Politely turn down salads, sandwiches with lettuce and other foods where the ingredients have not been boiled or peeled. In a very fancy restaurant which regularly hosts tourists, you can eat anything, and this does not apply.

Many people take a couple of tablets or a spoonful of Pepto Bismol for a couple of days before the trip, each morning during the trip, and for a couple of days after the trip. The coating of the stomach seems to help ward off some stomach bugs. This is optional and up to you.

Take granola bars or other snacks in your backpack to tide you over between meals. Trail mix is also good and can be shared.

Do not leave any money or valuables lying around! Take a passport wallet, money belt or similar in which you can safely carry your passport, visa, airline ticket, and other valuables with you each day.

Get to bed early! Resist the temptation to sit up late. As the week wears on, you will be glad you got as much sleep as possible. Take sleeping pills before bed when you get there to help keep you asleep in the early hours of the morning if you find yourself waking up at 3am and unable to go back to sleep. Same for when you get home to the US.

Tell your friends and family you will make phone calls whenever you have the opportunity, but sometimes the network in Africa is down.

Do not eat any food that has been offered to you by the people in the village. Even if it looks harmless, it could make you very sick.

Use sun block and insect repellent as needed. Doxycycline makes you sunburn easier. Take your malaria medication every day.



One Final Note

We encourage you to do your own research before you leave for your trip! Websites such as *Britannica.com* are helpful to gain a better understanding of the country and culture you are traveling to.

We are so thankful for your obedience to the Lord and your willingness to fly to Africa to preach and to teach the Word of God! We appreciate the sacrifices you have and are making for the sake of the Gospel. Know that we are praying for your family as you are away. We are praying for you as you travel. And we are praying that the Lord would use you to advance the Kingdom of Christ! Please call me with any questions or concerns, leading up to your trip or even while you are in Africa. After you return, please type up a report/testimony (at least an email) and send it to me so we can debrief together!

Through Christ Alone,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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***We create seminaries
Which create pastors
Which create churches
Which create disciples***

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