MPCC MISSIONS - FUNDRAISING GUIDE

Congratulations!

Thank you for accepting the invitation to be a part of what God is doing around the world.

On a short-term trip you will have some incredible responsibilities, both on the field and on your team. Our prayer is that you view this as a true ministry opportunity. You are not a volunteer. You are a minister — an extension of the Missions Ministry of Mount Pleasant Christian Church. Our emphasis is on encouraging our members to serve and to empower nationals to make disciples of all nations.

As you prepare to start inviting friends and family to partner with you on this mission, we encourage you to begin with prayer, then review this guide and begin your fundraising journey!

Tools for Fundraising

Service Reef

Your primary tool will be utilizing your personal missions page that you created through the Missions Portal housed on the Service Reef platform. When you applied to join your team, you set up your personalized mission trip profile. This page can be customized with your personal story of why you joined this mission trip, what you are praying and believing for, adding photos and more. Once you've customized your missions page, you can share the link on all social media platforms and via email.

Click on the following link for help in setting up and customizing your personal fundraising page:
https://servicereef.freshdesk.com/support/solutions/articles/151000012675-personal-fundraising-pages

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Letter

In addition to sharing this opportunity electronically, you should consider writing a letter that shares the same information, along with links for donating to your trip.

Here is an example of a past team member:

Poland Mission Trip 2025

Ways to support!!
Scan QR code for link to donate!
Venmo: @lenagavorski

Dear Family and Friends,

I am excited to share that God is leading me back to Poland this summer to serve during the International Basketball Camp. I am so excited about having this opportunity again this summer. I want to share why I was so impacted last summer. God actually called me to go to Poland twice and those trips, and the circumstances that made them possible, have impacted me greatly. I was able to serve alongside Proem Ministry at two different camps. In my first trip, I meet over 100 Ukrainian kids and helped them to experience a week of camp. These kids have been facing wars and hard situations. Bringing them out of that and providing them with a week of peace, was an impactful thing to witness. God is moving in this ministry and moving in the lives of many people. On my second trip, I was able to go for the basketball camp, which included kids from many different countries. We played basketball all week long while learning about Jesus! I was given the opportunity to coach a team and meet several kids. Many lasting friendships were formed.

I have stayed in contact with many of the kids and I look forward to the opportunity to see them again! God has put it on my heart to go back to Poland to continue to expand His kingdom. I need to raise $2,800. I am asking for you to partner with me for this trip! For those of you who have supported me last summer, your support for my trips meant so much to me and I would love to have your continued support to help me go back this summer! For those of you who did not have the opportunity to support me last year, I would appreciate your support. And if you are not able to support right now, I would still appreciate your prayers!

Lastly, please forward my story to anyone you think could help me reach my goal!

Love,

Lena Gavorski

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RaiseRight

MPCC participates in a gift card program called RaiseRight (historically called SCRIP). This program allows you to purchase gift cards that you might need or regularly use and depending on the vendor contract with this program, a percentage of that gift card purchase goes into your "account." You can then designate those funds to be transferred to an individual's mission trip.

For details, visit the RaiseRight desk located in the corner of the Commons near the kitchen. Rob and Kris Weisbach currently run this program and are at the desk most Sunday mornings.

Tips for Fundraising

Reminder Notes:

- Funds can be donated electronically via Service Reef OR by check made out to MPCC or Mount Pleasant Christian Church.
- We do **NOT** take cash donations for Mission trips.
- Please distribute blue collection envelopes or collect checks and put them in a blue mission envelope. Turn these in to your team leader, front desk, or drop them in a collection box.
- We **MUST** have an email address for each donor in order for them to receive donation receipts and year end reports. These receipts and reports are generated automatically by the Service Reef software.

Reasons people give

1. THEY FEEL INFORMED
   Why are you going? How will the money be used? How can others become involved? How do you expect to grow spiritually?
1. THEY BELIEVE THEIR GIFT WILL CHANGE LIVES
   What's the Kingdom benefit? Will the unsaved hear the Gospel? Will God's be done?
2. THEY FEEL VALUABLE TO YOUR MISSION TRIP
   Plan to communicate with them often. Consider how dependent you are on their prayers and support.

Before you personalize your Service Reef Mission page or write your Letter, remember:

1. PRESENTATION MATTERS
   What would get your attention? Maybe it's not a typical letter format. Maybe it's inside a greeting card with a clever message. Or maybe you get super creative and create a personal video letter. Whatever you do, think outside the box.
2. INVEST YOUR TIME
   People can tell when you've spent time on your letter and put thought into it. So, go after a quality letter and people will notice; your return will be worth it.
3. MAKE IT PERSONAL
   Tailor the letter to the people you are writing to. Generic mass mailings won't necessarily work. Be sure you don't send letters to people you barely know.

Follow these suggestions to compile the best donor list:

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1. Try to come up with 100 names first. Just write them down during this step.
   Who's on your list? Use discretion when contacting people you don't know well enough and/or when choosing to contact church leaders.
2. Make it a goal to send at least half of your letters to people who aren't church members.
3. Make sure you send letters to people with whom you have personal relationships. They'll be much more likely to support you.
4. Include both Christians and non-Christians. Even though it's through a church, you will be pleasantly surprised at how many non-Christians choose to support a worthy cause.
   TIP 1: Limit your letter to one page separated into paragraphs.
   TIP 2: Consider including some photos.

It doesn't stop with a received donation…

1. What can you do to keep the momentum going and your message in front of your supporters? Maybe meet one or two friends for coffee to talk one on one. Ask them to give money in place of birthday, Christmas, wedding gifts, etc. Invite them to a yard sale to raise funds, or even a trip location themed dinner you're hosting. The ideas are endless!

2. Send thank you notes once your supporters have contributed financially or committed to prayer. Send additional notes or emails before and after the trip.

3. Also consider sending follow-up letters. Share with your supporter what God did on your trip. Be sure to include pictures. Your supporters will love it.

4. Post your Story on Service Reef and share that page. It's simple and a quick way to add photos and journal entries and share them electronically.