

2024 Cuba Ministry Partnership

NOVEMBER INITIAL IMMERSION EXPERIENCE

Covenant's Cuba Ministry Partnership

Covenant Presbyterian Church in Austin, Texas, is accepting applications to build this year's ministry team for our 48th trip to Cuba. Covenant's Mission Committee and Cuba Ministry Leadership Team oversee relationship building trips and, when possible, we receive reciprocal visits from members of our sister church in Cuba.

Initial Immersion Experience

- **Mission:** To visit our sister church and continue growing in our relationship. To bring first-time travelers to learn about life in Cuba and for returning veterans to grow their connection with our Cuban brothers and sisters.
- **Trip Duration:** Expected to be 6-7 nights, departing on or after Monday, October 28, 2024 and returning on or before Saturday, November 9, 2024. (exact dates should be set by August 1.)
- **Group size:** Limited to 12, including returning veterans.
- **Cost of trip:** \$1500.00 (scholarships are available).

Considerations and Requirements for Building our Team

- Specific needs of team & sister church
- In general, Must have been a Covenant Member for over 1 year
- If first time traveler, must provide a reference from a Covenant member with whom you have served
- Must work well within a team

Application Process

Your application can be completed now by submitting:

- The completed reverse side of this application (Due by May 31st.)
- A deposit of \$500 (refundable if the application is not approved). All checks should be made payable to Covenant Presbyterian Church with the memo space on your check reading "Luyanó Cuba Ministry".
- A paper copy of the inside personal information page of your passport (**passports must expire after May of 2025**).

Please submit all forms above to the Covenant Office at 3003 Northland Drive, Austin, TX 78757. Please mark them to the attention of the Cuba Ministry Team. The travel team is prayerfully formed by the Cuba Ministry Leadership Team and the Covenant Director of Mission.

Team Commitments

- There will be required pre-trip orientation team building meetings Sunday afternoons from 3 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. October 6, 13, 20, 27 and a mandatory group packing event the evening before departure at 5:30 p.m.
- A deposit of \$500 should be submitted with the application. The balance of \$1,000.00 should be submitted by 8/31.
- Scholarships are available. Contact Whitney Bell, Director of Mission, at wbell@covenant.org for more information on scholarships.
- Pray for discernment from the Holy Spirit to know if you indeed are called to participate as a travel team member to our sister church in Luyanó, a Havana neighborhood.
- Travelers should expect to stay in dormitory facilities in the sanctuary.

LEARN MORE AT [COVENANT.ORG/CUBA](https://www.covenant.org/cuba)

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Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number and Email _____

Activities at Covenant _____

(First time travelers only) Name and Email of CPC Member Reference

Name: _____ Email: _____

Emergency Contact

Name _____

Phone _____

Email Address _____

United States religious travel license requires completion of **ALL applicable lines below:**

- Member of Covenant (listed in Realm) since _____
- Have worshipped at Covenant regularly since _____

A valid passport (expiring after May 2025) is required. Please note: It takes an average of eight weeks to obtain or renew a passport.

Please initial next to each blank below:

_____ I have read both sides of this application form

_____ \$500 deposit check payable to Covenant partially covering airfare, religious visas and travel documents attached to form. Note additional \$1,000 for air fare balance, room and board are due by 8/31

_____ Copy of inside personal information page of passport attached

_____ I have been informed and recognize that US and Cuban travel regulations are in a constant state of flux and, if it is God's will that this trip occur, that the actual departure and return dates may vary by a day or two depending on events beyond Covenant's control.

Mail completed form, passport copy and check to Covenant Presbyterian Church, Attention Cuba Ministry Team, 3003 Northland Drive, Austin, TX 78757. Applications may also be dropped off at Covenant's office during office hours.

DATE COMPLETED FORM, CHECK AND PASSPORT COPY RECEIVED: _____

For Questions: Contact Cuba Ministry Team Leader Jack Kern at jackckern@sbcglobal.net.