

# 2023 Cuba Ministry Partnership

## November Initial Immersion Experience

### Covenant's Cuba Ministry Partnership

Covenant Presbyterian Church in Austin, Texas, plans our 45<sup>th</sup> trip to Cuba this fall. Covenant's Mission Committee and Cuba Ministry Team oversee relationship building trips and, when possible, we receive reciprocal visits from members of our sister church in Cuba.

### Initial Immersion Experience

- **Mission:** Introduce, to first-time CPC travelers, Christianity in Cuba as experienced at our sister church with the guidance of some of the 210+ Covenant veteran Cuba travelers.
- **Trip Duration:** Expected to be 7-8 nights, departing after Monday, October 30, 2023 and returning before Saturday, November 11, 2023.
- **Group size:** Limited to 15, including returning veterans.
- **Cost of trip:** \$1500.00 (scholarships are available).

### Application Preference Criteria

- Order of receipt of completed application.
- Members of Covenant receive preference until May 31.
- Specific needs of team & sister church (ex: need for Spanish speakers, musicians, teachers, etc.).

### Application Process

Your application can be completed now by submitting:

- The completed reverse side of this application (**Covenant must be prepared to submit all passport information in June to our sister church.**)
- A deposit of \$500 (refundable if you are not selected for this trip). 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 2024**).

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.

### Team Commitments

- There will be required pre-trip orientation team building meetings Sunday afternoons from 3 pm. – 4:30 p.m. October 8, 15, 22, 29 and a mandatory group packing event the evening before departure at 5:30 p.m.
- Initial deposits for the trip of \$500 are due with the application. The balance of \$1,000.00 will be due by 8/31.
- Scholarships are available. Contact Whitney Bell, Director of Mission, at [wbell@covenant.org](mailto: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 plan to stay in dormitory facilities in the sanctuary.

### For more information

- Contact Cuba Ministry Team Leader Jack Kern at [jackckern@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jackckern@sbcglobal.net).

# 2023 Cuba Ministry Partnership

## November Initial Immersion Experience

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

### Family Contact while I'm in Cuba

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

- Member of Covenant (listed in Membership Directory) since \_\_\_\_\_
- Have worshipped at Covenant regularly since \_\_\_\_\_

**Partial scholarships:** Please do not let the cost of the trip impede your participation if you feel God is calling you to Cuba this fall. God has always provided ways to help raise the necessary funds. Please contact Whitney Bell, Director of Mission, at [wbell@covenant.org](mailto:wbell@covenant.org) for more information on scholarships.

**A valid passport (expiring after May 2024) is required. Please note: It takes an average of eight weeks to obtain or renew a passport.**

\_\_\_\_\_ (Must be CHECKED) 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 will be due in August.

\_\_\_\_\_ Copy of inside personal information page of passport attached (needed for our Luyanó hosts to apply for your Cuban religious visa).

\_\_\_\_\_ (Must be CHECKED) 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 can also be dropped off at Covenant's office during office hours.

DATE COMPLETED FORM, CHECK AND PASSPORT COPY RECEIVED: \_\_\_\_\_