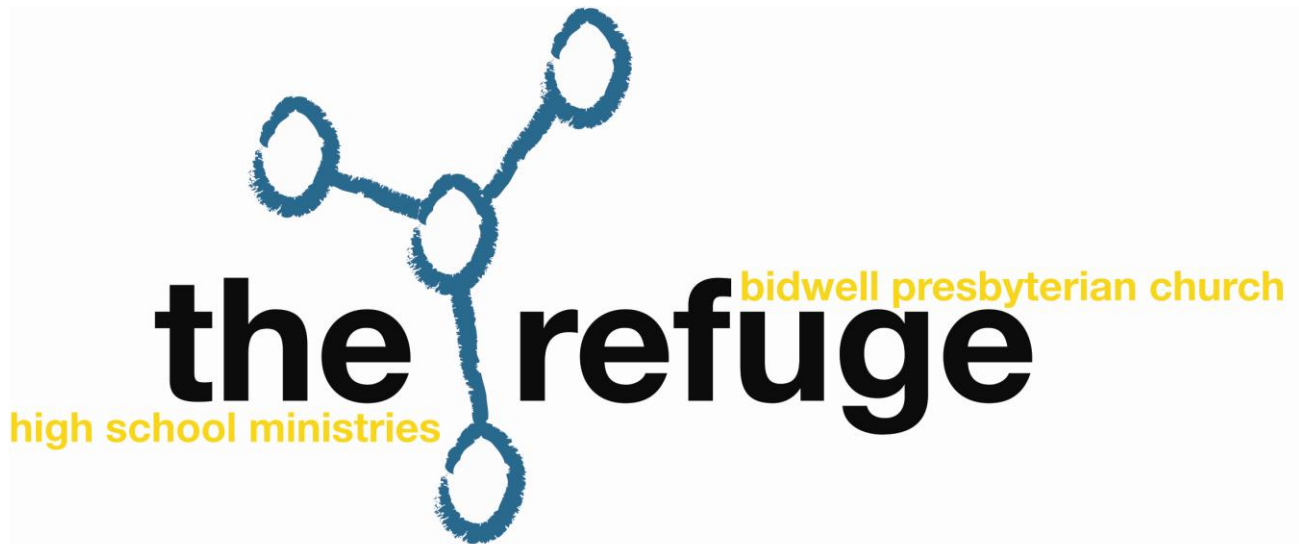


Mexico 2012

March 17th – 24th



Door of Faith Orphanage
La Mision, Baja California, Mexico

Registration & Info



January 10, 2012

Dear Parents and High School Students,

We are excited to announce that we will be traveling to Mexico to serve the Door of Faith Orphanage during spring break, **March 17-24, 2012**. To read more about Door of Faith, check out www.dofo.org.

This letter and registration packet includes a lot of details about the Mexico Mission, so please read carefully.

Registration:

This registration packet contains all the forms you'll need to attend. However, the specifics about the mission and the role you will have are discussed at the Mexico team meetings, which is why they are mandatory. See the meeting schedule below. We have also enclosed a "Key Dates" card for your convenience.

Enclosed are forms printed in beige that need to be turned in by the **registration deadline, Tuesday, Jan. 24**.

- BPC High School Mexico Mission registration form
- Application Questionnaire
- Mission Team Commitment
- 2011/2012 BPC Medical and Liability form.

If you have already turned in your 2011/2012 BPC Medical and Liability form for program year beginning Sept. 2011, you do not need to turn in an additional one. Contact Kristy Hughes at the office if you are not sure if we have the current medical form on file for you.

- Also: a copy of your passport or passport card

Payment and Fundraising:

The cost of this trip is **\$375 per person**. You can either turn in the total amount due when you register or pay a \$50 deposit (balance will be due on March 8).

You also have the option of raising your trip fee by writing opportunity letters to your family and friends. **If you decide to write opportunity letters we strongly advise you mail them by January 24**. A fundraising packet can be found at the Refuge, on our website, at the church office, and also at the welcome table on the patio on Sundays. This packet contains instructions on how to write the letter, important facts to include in your letter, and essential mailing materials for 15 letters. Your supporters will send their donations directly to the church where we will keep track of how much money has been received in your name. Your supporters need to have **sent us their donations by February 25** because we will be giving you a statement on March 1 indicating how much money you have raised, and how much you still owe. Any money you raise above and beyond \$375 will go toward trip costs on the whole. **The final deadline for paying the registration fee is March 8**.

Important Dates for Registration

Your Fundraising Packets mailed	January 24
Registration deadline	January 24
Fundraising donations due	February 25
Receive your statement of balance	March 1
Final deadline for registration fee	March 8

The Mexico Fiesta:

This year we are again having a Fiesta to raise money for the remaining costs associated with the trip. All students are required to participate in the event. **Save the date of Sunday, March 4.** The Fiesta is from 12:00-2:00 pm, but your work commitment will be 9:00 am – 4:00 pm for set-up and clean-up.

Meetings Schedule- Your attendance will be mandatory at all Mexico team meetings.

Parent & Student Info Meeting	January 10	6:15 - 7 :00 @ BPC Student Center
Adult Leader Meeting	February 5	12:15 - 12:50 @ BPC Student Center
All-Team Meeting #1	February 5	1:00 - 3:00 @ BPC Student Center
Mexico Fiesta Fundraiser	March 4	12 pm - 2 pm @ BPC WFH
Your work commitment: 9 am – 4 pm		
Commissioning Sunday	March 11	services TBA
All-Team Meeting #2	March 11	1:00 - 3:00 @ BPC Student Center
Luggage Drop-off	March 16	3:00 - 7:00 @ BPC Student Center

Safety Concerns:

While there's been a lot of news coverage about violence in Mexico, very little of it notes that Mexico is a huge country with thirty-some states and that, a) almost all of that violence is narcotics-related and, b) you can literally count the number of tourists affected by this crime on one hand.

Officially, 111 U.S. citizens were killed in the entire country of Mexico last year, a third in just two Eastern cities. Almost all of them were involved in illicit vocations, usually the trafficking of guns, drugs, or people across the border. This is 111 out of close to 8 million visitors, with nearly 1 million of those being part- or full-time residents choosing Mexico over the U.S. or Canada.

According to [available indicators](#), Mexico as a country has a general level of 13.3 violent deaths per 100.000 inhabitants, making it one of the safest countries in Latin America.

The most current Travel Warning does advise U.S.citizens to **exercise caution** while in Tijuana and Northern Baja California – ***Bidwell Presbyterian Church will continue to be extremely cautious*** in the areas where our Mission Trip groups camp, work, and travel. We will **NOT** be spending **ANY** time shopping, touring, or entering any area in Northern Baja California other than the small rural town the orphanage is located in.

Although the existing Travel Warning identifies Tijuana and Northern Baja as areas of potential violence, there are no reports of incidences like those displayed in Ciudad Juarez (and we hear about in the newspapers). Additionally, BPC is continually monitoring the region and the U.S. Consulate for changes in safety.

Northern Baja California: Targeted Drug Cartel assassinations continue to take place in Northern Baja California, including the city of Tijuana. You should exercise caution in this area, particularly at night. In late 2010, turf battles between criminal groups proliferated and resulted in numerous assassinations in areas of Tijuana frequented by U.S. citizens. Shooting incidents, in which innocent bystanders have been injured, have occurred during daylight hours throughout the city. In one such incident, an American citizen was shot and seriously wounded.

In addition, the State Department warning points out that ***“there is no evidence that US tourists have been targeted by criminal elements due to their citizenship.”***

BPC Mission team members will spend **ZERO** time in the downtown, urban center of Tijuana which is addressed by the US State Department. Our teams will cross the border and immediately head south on the toll-road into the rural areas of Baja California

As a result of the available information and our interaction with those who actually live in Mexico, we are completely confident in the safety of our students on the trip to Mexico this year. We take the safety of our teams extremely serious, and we will continue to monitor and make the appropriate decisions. In 2009, we decided approximately 1 week before the Mexico Mission trip to redirect our students to serving in Arizona at a Navajo Nation Reservation.

Travel Documents:

A passport or passport card to travel to Mexico is mandatory. For information on how to acquire a passport, check out <http://www.usps.com/passport/>. We advise you to allow 8-10 weeks for processing a passport or passport card request. Please start the process ASAP!

I'm looking forward to serving the people of Mexico with you! Stay connected with us, from pre-trip through the end, by visiting <http://refugemission.blogspot.com>

Blessings,



Brian Solecki
Pastor to Youth
Bidwell Presbyterian Church



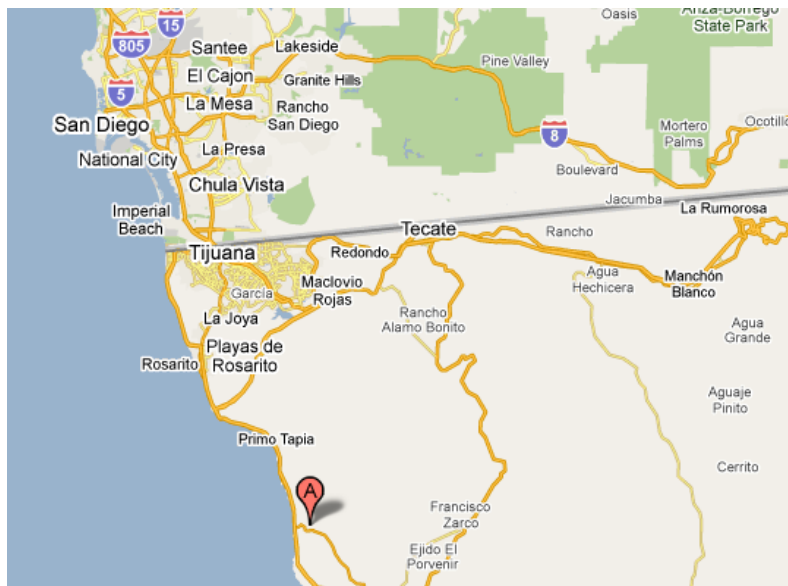
Door of Faith Orphanage Information



Door of Faith Location

La Misión, Baja California

The Door of Faith Orphanage has a camp ground on the 120 acre property. This serves as our base of operations for our home building ministry and orphanage ministry. The campground has sleeping quarters, a fully equipped kitchen, hot and cold running water, indoor toilets and showers. The town of La Mision is about 40 miles south of the U.S. border and close to the Pacific Ocean coast



Door of Faith Statistics

Here is a glimpse of what we go through in a week at DOFO!

2,850 meals
980 showers
567 diapers
480 loads of laundry
175 rolls of toilet paper

109 Band-Aids
98 trips to school
70 gallons of milk
45 haircuts
37 "time-outs"

15 gallons of bleach
4 trips to the doctor
2 birthday cakes
Countless hugs!!

Door of Faith Mission

- To provide the best home possible to the children entrusted to us.
- To have a home where visitors can be blessed by their visit.
- To become a base where people seeking to minister can come for supplies, training, and support.

Our Family Priorities:

1. **Family:** To provide family atmosphere for the children. We see the traditional family as the ideal model and want our children to experience all of the stability, love and guidance that comes from that.
2. **Education:** To prepare our children for life after Door of Faith. We want our children to have a strong education so that that when they move on from the orphanage they can be healthy and productive members of society.
3. **Community Service:** To live Christ's example of a life of service. We want to give back to the local community through service, outreach and compassion. To love our neighbor as ourselves.

Door of Faith History

Door of Faith Orphanage was founded in Tijuana, Mexico in 1959 by Curtis and Sylvia Freeze. They came to Mexico with \$35 in their pocket and a vision to help the underprivileged children in Baja California.

Unsatisfied with their location in Tijuana, the Freeze's began to search for a new site to build a permanent home. In 1962, a friend brought them to the present site, an abandoned dude ranch.

In its prime it hosted Hollywood elite such as Clark Gable, John Wayne, and Steve McQueen who would hunt quail and enjoy the solitude of our valley.

For many years the Freezes, their son Von, and his wife, Agnes Freeze, worked with others to build the kind of home that would raise responsible, productive members of society. Many of our staff were raised up in this work including Gabriel Diego Garcia, our Mexican Director.

In March 1994, while Door of Faith was in a time of transition, DJ and Lynette Schuetze joined Gabriel Diego Garcia and his wife Edwarda Ocampo Garcia in the work here.

Door of Faith has grown a great deal during the last decade to become one of the largest orphanages in Baja caring for well over one hundred children.

Today, along with providing a solid home to the many children on our care, Door of Faith has become a base for other ministries and outreaches. We are involved with local ministries including food distribution, home construction, short-term mission trips, orphanage consulting and many other areas.