

EXAMPLE # 1

Dear Friends and Family,

From July 14–20 I'm excited to be headed to Kansas City, Kansas leading a mission trip with my youth group from Calvary Church.

We're going through YouthWorks, a short-term missions organization that specializes in setting up life-changing Christcentered trips for teenagers. The neighborhood we'll be serving in is largely Hispanic, so we'll be participating in bilingual worship and sharing some Mexican food cooked by friends in the community. One of the interesting issues we'll be learning about is how local ministries respond to the many undocumented workers within the community. Additionally, we'll be serving the community through helping facilitate a sports camp for kids, restoring old houses with a local ministry, and serving through partnerships with various local organizations.

The theme for the week is "UNDESIRABLE." We'll be talking about how God sees us and how we can serve others. The theme centers on the idea that teenagers are loved, not alone and incredibly valuable – three messages that I believe are vital for students to understand. As you can probably tell, it's going to be a full week of listening to, learning from and loving on the people we meet in Kansas City, and there is going to be a great opportunity for growth within our group. I would love it if you would pray for this mission trip experience. Pray for the 17 of us who are going – that we would be open to learning from the community we're visiting and grow closer as a group and closer to Jesus. Pray for the five YouthWorks staff who are living in Kansas City all summer long and will be leading us during the trip. Pray for the community members who we meet – that we could love and honor them well. Pray especially for the kids who we'll get to do ministry with – that they would connect the love we show with the love Jesus has for them.

Finally, pray for me – that I could really experience a YouthWorks mission trip week in a fresh and effective way. If you will commit to praying for us, please let me know. I would love to share that news with my team. Also, many members of our team are still working on fundraising for this trip. Please consider supporting us financially. I recommend a gift of \$50, \$100 or \$150, but of course, any amount is more than welcome. Gifts are tax deductible and can be made out to:

"Calvary Church" and mailed to: Attn: Sam Townsend c/o Calvary Roseville 2120 LexingtonAve. North Roseville, MN 55113

Thank you for considering supporting us through prayer and/or giving. This trip would be impossible without the generosity of so many. I'm excited for this new opportunity in my own leadership, and I'm looking forward to sharing about it with you when I return.

Grateful for the places God draws us,

Sam Townsend