

# Short-Term Missions Guide

2022 DESTINATIONS



PARK STREET CHURCH

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# Getting Started

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1. Start by completing the 2022 SHORT-TERM MISSIONS APPLICATION online at [parkstreet.org/missions](https://parkstreet.org/missions). If you have been on a PSC short-term trip before, please choose the 2022 **RETURNEES SHORT-TERM MISSIONS APPLICATION**.
2. Applications for our summer trips are due by **April 15**. Fall trip applications are due by **June 1**.
3. Once you are accepted, you will be asked to make a \$100 deposit. The money will be applied to your fundraising for trip expenses. Payment may be made online at [parkstreet.org/give](https://parkstreet.org/give) or by check in the offering plate or mailed to Park Street Church, 1 Park Street, Boston, MA 02108. Please mark deposits with **your name, your team name** and “**deposit**.” (i.e. John Smith, South Africa deposit)
4. With the exception of “youth trips,” candidates under 18 years must be accompanied by an adult, who takes responsibility for the minor during the trip.
5. Once your application has been received and reviewed, first time Short-Term Mission (STM) participants will be scheduled for an interview with a missions representative.
6. STM participants are required to attend the Short-Term Missions Workshop on Saturday, **April 30** and regular team meetings as the team prepares for the trip.
7. Team members are responsible for the cost of the trip. Costs listed are based on estimated travel costs and are subject to change. Members may raise financial support through contributions from family and friends. Giving may be received through the church’s online giving portal or by check (see #3 above.)
8. You are encouraged to build support through social media but you may not raise funds through fundraising sites, such as GoFundMe.com.

# *Frequently Asked Questions*

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## **Q: What is the purpose of short-term missions?**

Sending out Short-Term Mission (STM) teams is one of the strategies that we use to address our global priorities in Missions. Our aim is to support the long-term goals of our Park Street missionaries and partners by sending short-term teams to encourage them and help with various aspects of their ministries. Our desire is that participants will find their faith strengthened, their vision for missions expanded, and their relationship with the Lord deepened.

## **Q: Do I need to be a member of Park Street Church?**

A: No, but it is preferred that you are a regular attendee of Park Street Church. You should have a personal relationship with Christ.

## **Q: What is included in the cost of the trip?**

A: The largest portion of the cost for international trips is airfare. Housing costs, travel insurance, transportation, project funds, and food are included in the overall cost of the trip. Individuals should be prepared to pay for their own souvenirs, as well as an occasional meal or entertainment on days off.

## **Q: How is the trip paid for?**

A: Team members are asked to raise support as a team to cover the cost of the trip by sending support letters to friends, family members, co-workers, etc. It is a step of faith for each team member to raise these funds and it results in a deeper sense of gratitude for God's provision, as well as a committed team of financial and prayer supporters.

## **Q: Can I pay for the trip myself?**

A: Yes, but we still ask that you send out letters for prayer support, and let the recipients know how to donate to the team/trip as a whole if they are led to do so.

## **Q: Is financial support available from the church?**

A: No, it is not. Typically, if prayer letters are sent to at least 50 people, we have seen all the funds come in.

## **Q: Are donors' gifts tax deductible?**

A: Yes.

**Q: What happens if I raise more money than I need for my trip?**

A: Praise God for that! We encourage teams to work together to raise the cumulative cost for their team. Any overage raised individually goes to help fund shortfalls for the rest of your team. If a team is over-funded or if a trip is cancelled, those funds go into the church's overall STM fund and may help support other teams which might be underfunded.

**Q: What happens if I do not raise enough money for the trip?**

A: Sometimes God uses a serious lack of support as an indicator that an individual or team should not go on a particular trip. If you find yourself in this situation, the Missions Office together with the team leader(s) will determine if you should go. If your team's budget has been fully met, any overage the team raises may be applied to fund your shortfall. If your team overall has a serious shortfall in its funding, we will determine if the team should continue or not. If there is extra money in the church's STM fund, we may choose to use that to cover the team's shortfall.

**Q: If I decide to cancel my involvement in the trip, can my donations be returned to the donor?**

A: In order for donations to be tax deductible, they must be "irrevocable and non-refundable" according to the IRS. If you are unable to participate in your STM, your donations will go to fund other STM trips or projects that are part of our Missions program. Keep in mind that donations are made to the STM project and not to an individual team member. If you cancel your involvement after travel documents are purchased (airfare, visas, etc.) you will be expected to cover any associated penalty fees and losses that are not covered by travel insurance.

**Q: What kind of preparation is provided for the trips?**

A: A Short-Term Missions Workshop will be held for all teams covering topics such as fundraising, cross-cultural communication, team building, etc. Following the workshop, teams will meet five to six times in order to get to know each other, prepare for the project, and pray. These meetings are required and are critical to the overall success of the trip.

**Q: What about COVID?**

**A: All team members for international trips are required to be fully vaccinated.** We will monitor the COVID conditions in the given region and in conjunction with field team leadership, will make a final decision about

authorizing or canceling short-term trips. **Participants in all other STM trips must follow the COVID protocols established for that trip.**

**Q: Will I need a passport or a travel visa?**

A: If you are leaving US soil, you will need a passport. If you do not have a passport, you should begin the application process immediately. Routine processing of US passport applications is currently taking 8 to 11 weeks, with expedited processing currently taking 5 to 7 weeks. See [travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov) for details and application instructions. Most countries require that travelers' passports not expire within six months of the end of their trip. Please check your passport immediately. If it expires within six months of the end of your trip dates, please begin the process to renew.

A travel visa is an entry document required by a foreign government in addition to your passport. Not all foreign governments require a visa. Your team leader will check the foreign entry requirements for the country you plan to visit. If you are not a US citizen, please make sure that the team leader and the Missions Office know. It may mean a different visa process for you.

**Q: How can I serve if I cannot go?**

A: **Prayer is vital** to every STM. Although you may not be able to go, your prayer participation is an invaluable gift for these teams and for the long-term work in these places. Additionally, if you are led, you may participate through a financial gift. Checks or online gifts ([parkstreet.org/give](https://parkstreet.org/give)) should be made payable to Park Street Church and should have the STM team name on the memo line, as well as the individual's name, if you are donating on behalf of a specific participant. For trip planning purposes, it would be helpful to receive the gift at least 30 days prior to the team's departure date.

**Q: What happens when our team returns from our trip?**

A: Upon their return, team members will be asked to complete an STM evaluation and participate in a team debrief with Missions staff. The team will also be asked to give a trip report to the church. Participants will be encouraged to continue to pray for the missionaries and projects they served and to seek ways to deepen their missions involvement.

# Important Dates

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APRIL 15 .....	Applications Due for Summer Trips
APRIL 30 .....	STM Workshop
APRIL–JUNE.....	Team Preparation Meetings
JUNE 1 .....	Applications Due for Fall Trips
JUNE 13–19 .....	New York City-Global Gates Outreach
JULY.....	Central Asia— Young Adults
JUNE 28–JULY 28 .....	Boston, MA-English Club for Afghan Children
JULY 31–AUGUST 5 .....	Lewiston, ME— Ministry to Refugees
AUGUST .....	Tajikistan—Refugee Relief
AUGUST OR SEPTEMBER.....	South Africa— Prison Ministry
AUGUST 15–20 .....	Revere Beach, MA—Evangelism
NOVEMBER 23–30.....	Kenya—Children’s Ministry

**PLEASE NOTE:**

- **Cost figures given for each trip are approximate** and are subject to change due to airfare fluctuations and other factors.
- Trip dates are also subject to change according to airline flight schedules.

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**ALL PARTICIPANTS IN INTERNATIONAL STMS MUST BE FULLY VACCINATED AND ALL OTHERS MUST ADHERE TO THE COVID PROTOCOLS ESTABLISHED FOR EACH STM LOCATION.**

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# 2022 Trips

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## New York City

### *Global Gates Outreach to Muslims*

JUNE 13–19  
COST: \$750



Park Street will join up with Global Gates to reach out to Muslim communities in Metro New York.

Team members will engage people in various neighborhoods, get to know them, offer to pray for them, seek to share the Gospel with them, then ask if they are willing to meet together again with their family/friends to hear more. The hope is that new groups of people studying about Jesus together can start as a result of this project.

Global Gates calls these “Sifting Weeks” and they are an important part of the ongoing day-to-day ministry going on in these communities. Our team will do the work of finding “people of peace,” who will in turn share the Good News within their own networks. Prayer and personal evangelism are important parts of this project. *COVID vaccinations are highly recommended.*

Check out [globalgates.info/global-gates-short-term-mission-trips](https://globalgates.info/global-gates-short-term-mission-trips) to learn more about these trips.

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APPLICATION DEADLINE APRIL 15, 2022

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## Central Asia

### *Virtual Webinars for Young Adults*

JULY (EXACT DATES TBD)  
SUGGESTED DONATION:  
\$100 FOR THE LOCAL MINISTRY

For this STM project, Park Street Church will collaborate with a local ministry to conduct a summer program for young professionals and university students. The task is to support the work of our local partner by developing short professional webinars to attract non-Christians and seekers. The goal is to use this opportunity to build relationships and demonstrate Christ's love by meeting practical needs.



The Park Street team will participate virtually by presenting professional development or life skills webinars. Team members will bring their professional experiences or expertise to the project, working together to prepare webinars to present to English-speaking young adults. The goal of these webinars is to draw students and young professionals who are interested in developing their job or personal skills, while giving them an opportunity to hear testimonies and a witness to the Gospel of Christ.

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APPLICATION DEADLINE APRIL 15, 2022

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## Boston, MA

### *English Club for Afghan Children*

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS, JUNE 28–JULY 28

SUGGESTED DONATION:

\$50 TOWARD PROJECT EXPENSES

This team of adults and youth will join together to get to know our new Afghan neighbors and help meet a practical need by providing fun and interactive ESL lessons for children. Children will gather at Park Street Church from 9:30 to 11:30 on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, allowing their mothers to attend Park Street's ESL classes. On some days lessons will be followed by a trip to a nearby attraction, such as the Public Garden or the New England Aquarium.

Volunteers are needed to help teach the lessons, to help with activities and games, to prepare and serve refreshments, and to help lead and chaperone the outings. Experience teaching ESL is very helpful but not required for all volunteers. Team members are asked to contribute \$50, which will go toward paying for outings, materials, and refreshments. *COVID vaccinations are highly recommended.*

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**APPLICATION DEADLINE APRIL 15, 2022**

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## Lewiston, ME

### *Root Cellar Ministry to Refugees*

JULY 31 – AUGUST 5  
COST: \$600

Park Street will be heading to Lewiston, Maine again to work among a community of refugees predominately from



the war-torn country of Somali. Our team will be joining the ministry of the Root Cellar to reach out to this community in practical ways. Team members will help conduct an afternoon vacation Bible school-type program, lead a soccer program, tutor English, prepare and serve meals, and help with various service projects.

The Root Cellar opened its doors in 2009 in Lewiston, ME. Recognizing the need for a place where teens could come as an alternative to the streets, Christian volunteers provide a positive place where the area youth can drop in for food, games, and friendship. Located in the heart of the residential downtown neighborhoods, the Root Cellar is committed to bringing enriching services to neighboring youth and their families. *COVID vaccinations are highly recommended.*

For a closer look at Root Cellar's ministry, please visit [therootcellarlew.org](http://therootcellarlew.org).

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APPLICATION DEADLINE APRIL 15, 2022

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## Tajikistan

### *Refugee Relief*

AUGUST (EXACT DATES TBD)  
COST: \$2500



The Afghan refugee crisis has touched many of us here at Park Street Church as we have gotten to meet some of the

families displaced by the upheavals in Afghanistan. This STM team will travel to Tajikistan to see what is happening just over the Afghan-Tajik border. The team will spend time learning from and serving alongside Tajik believers who are loving and ministering to Afghans who have been fleeing to their country for more than a decade.

The team will spend time observing the work at a refugee resettlement village outside the capital city of Dushanbe. Our goal is to go in as learners and encouragers to those who are ministering to this community of displaced people. *COVID vaccinations are required.*

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APPLICATION DEADLINE APRIL 15, 2022

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## South Africa

### *Prison & Restorative Justice Ministry*

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER (EXACT DATES TBD)  
COST: \$3000



Park Street will be joining Hope Prison Ministry (HPM) for a two-week summer project in the prisons of South Africa. The team will work alongside missionaries Andrew and Anne May, who have been serving in the prisons in South Africa since 2008. They will link up with Hope Prison Ministry for this rare opportunity in a radically foreign context. They will have the privilege of seeing what God is doing inside the prison walls, sharing their faith journey, reaching out to the families of the prisoners, and encouraging those who are ministering in this context on a regular basis.

The team will assist the HPM staff in running a Restorative Justice course, which is a discipleship journey with a goal of seeing this generation of prisoners transformed. The team will aid local staff, as they lead this program which aims to break the cycle of crime and incarceration. Volunteers should demonstrate a willingness to learn from the HPM local team and follow their lead. Flexibility is key as prison ministry is, above all, unpredictable! *COVID vaccinations are required.*

*For stories and photos of our work in South Africa, please visit [parkstreetincapetown.blogspot.com](http://parkstreetincapetown.blogspot.com).*

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APPLICATION DEADLINE APRIL 15, 2022

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## Revere Beach, MA

### *Reach the Beach Evangelism Project*

AUGUST 15-20

SUGGESTED DONATION:

\$100 TOWARD PROJECT EXPENSES



Park Street Church will join with other area churches again this summer for the annual **“Reach the Beach”** evangelism project. Team members use various methods to engage those they meet in spiritual conversations. In this diverse neighborhood of Revere Beach, people from many nationalities visit the literature table to receive Bibles and Jesus Film DVDs in their own language. Live music, activities for kids, facing painting, drama, and a prayer table are all activities that draw people into fruitful interactions, as they enjoy a day at the beach.

An event this large requires much help and cooperation! Volunteers are needed during the planning stage, and many believers will be needed during the week—passing out tracts, helping at the bandstand, leading kids activities, talking and praying with the beach goers, etc. Even if you cannot participate every day, you can still take part in the festivities. Participants will be asked to contribute to the cost of putting on this event. *COVID vaccinations are highly recommended.*

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APPLICATION DEADLINE APRIL 15, 2022

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## Kenya

### *Children's Ministry for AIM Conference*

NOVEMBER 23–30  
COST: \$2,500

The Kenya team will present a Vacation Bible School program for the children of the missionaries attending the African Inland Mission



(AIM) conference. The AIM annual conference meets at Rift Valley Academy, a beautiful Christian boarding school located in central Kenya. The conference will host missionary families from all over the region, who come for rest, renewal, and equipping. Our team will help put on a program for elementary school-age children and another youth program for teenagers. By caring for the children and providing teaching and activities during this conference week, our team will enable their missionary parents to have a meaningful time of refreshment through worship and fellowship.

Team members should enjoy working with children and youth. In addition to the conference work, the team will be able to see firsthand the work in Kibera slum led by Park Street missionary, Carolyn Cummings. *COVID vaccinations are required.*

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**APPLICATION DEADLINE JUNE 1, 2022**

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