

# **Rwanda Mission Trip**

**Date of Mission Trip: June 19 – 28, 2012**

**Team Leader:** [Teresa Sherwood](#)

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## **What: (Purpose of the trip)**

Hundreds of thousands of children in Africa have been left orphaned; children caring for children because their parents have died of HIV/AIDS, disease, war, famine, and other causes. They face lives of loneliness, hardship and hunger. Many of the children end up begging for food, living on the streets, or worse. First Methodist Church Mansfield is committed to transforming the lives of these children through our partnership with ZOE Ministry.

Moving beyond traditional relief models, [ZOE's Orphan Empowerment Program](#) provides a holistic approach to transforming the lives of African children. The program addresses six areas needed to permanently transform the lives of orphans by breaking the cycle of poverty and moving them from dependency to self-sufficiency: Food Security, Health and Hygiene, Small Business Training, Cultivating Faith, Providing Homes, and Community and Education.

The mission team will serve under the direction of ZOE Ministry, meeting young people involved in every level of the Empowerment Program to learn of their challenges and celebrate their successes. An important aspect of serving on a ZOE team is the obligation to come back and share this story of transformation, hope, and faith.

## **Key Elements:**

- Passport required
- Vaccinations required
- Possible work projects may include working alongside the orphans as they build their homes or in their fields.
- Worship in the Rwandan community
- Learn about the challenges and the beauty of the country and its people.

**Who:** Adults aged 18 and over. Team members may not have access to health services and should be in relatively good health. Maximum 20 members on the team.

**Where:** [Rwanda](#) is a small country in central Africa. It was the site of a genocide in 1994 that resulted in the deaths of over 700,000 people. The country continues to heal from that devastating event.

**When:** June 19 – 28, 2012

**Cost:** approx \$3200. This will include air fare, in-country transportation, lodging, water, meals and accident insurance. It does not include vaccinations, passports, or incidental personal expenses. Team members may seek support from friends and family who wish to contribute toward their mission experience.

**Vaccinations:** Please visit the [Center for Disease Control & Prevention](#) for full vaccine information. While participants should discuss the appropriate vaccines with their physician or county health official, the trip leaders have personally elected to obtain the following vaccines: Hepatitis A & B, Tetanus/Diphtheria, Meningitis and Typhoid.

*Yellow Fever vaccine is required for travel to Rwanda. Preventative malaria medications are required by our Mission Department for travel in Africa.*

The vaccines may be obtained at several [Tarrant County Health Offices](#).

**Passport Information:** Passports can be obtained [on-line](#) or [locally](#).

**Questions:** Any additional questions may be directed to the [Team Leader](#).

**Team Schedule:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Team Event/Preparation</b>
Today	1) Contact <a href="#">Team Leader</a> to obtain registration packet 2) Order Passport if you don't already have one valid for 6 months beyond the trip 3) Begin plan for obtaining required vaccinations (some require 6 months between doses)
Jan 24	Exploratory meeting, 7:00pm, Wesley Mission Center Rm 121
Mar 27	<b>Registration closed.</b> Team meeting, 7:00pm, Wesley Mission Center Rm 121 <b>Registration packet and \$2300 due. (air fare).</b>
May 8	Team meeting, 7:00pm, Wesley Mission Center Rm 121 <b>Final \$840 due.</b>
June 18	Team departs for Rwanda
June 28	Team returns from Rwanda
TBD	Team reunion

[View photos from Rwanda Mission Trip 2010.](#)