



**LAS VEGAS**  
**Mission Trip Information**

**December 14-19, 2009**

Greetings!

We are very excited that you are “engaging the current” with us in Las Vegas! This december we are taking on a mission with our friends at StripChurch. We are heading out to Las Vegas to do a Laundry Love Project, meet the spiritual and practical needs of people living underneath the Las Vegas strip and we will also be completing a remodel project in a brothel! Yes, a brothel. The entire concept may seem out of the norm and perhaps a bit controversial. Our basic mission will be to communicate that "Jesus loves you" by making simple, practical and relational investments in the lives of people who are on the outer edges of what most people know as every day life.

### **What is Current?**

Current is a movement of young adults who seek to grow in faith and awareness of current affairs and injustice, both domestic and global. We engage these issues by giving our resources and time, and regularly going to places and people affected by them to help meet their needs.

Our mission is to engage the current by...

GROWING – in our faith, in our awareness, and in our attendance.

GIVING – our resources, our hearts, and our time.

GOING – to people and places in need.

### **What is StripChurch?**

StripChurch is a unique form of ministry. No choirs or pews. While some people are uncomfortable with the darkest area of the world let alone ministering to individuals in a brothel, the men and women of StripChurch are not afraid to get out of their comfort zones. Their mission is simple: They let people know that they are loved and worthy.

### **How much does it cost? What is covered in my trip cost?**

The total cost is \$800. The trip costs will cover the following: housing in Las Vegas, transportation to activities, Vegas Show, T-shirt, and project resources. Basically, most everything you need once you're in Las Vegas, we will take care of. All you have to do is get to Las Vegas airport on Monday, and bring money for 4 days of meals.

### **When are the application and money due?**

Your application is due ASAP along with your \$100 non-refundable deposit. Team size is limited and will fill up fast. You are free to make payments as desired for the trip, with all \$ due November 10th, 2009.

### **Where will I be staying?**

We will be staying at a hotel in the Las Vegas area.

### **Is there an age limit?**

Participants must be 18 years old or older. We would love for people of all ages to join us from college to out of college! All are welcome!

## Writing A Support Letter

For some people doing volunteer work, creating a newsletter is their only effort made toward raising and maintaining a support base. For the receiving person, it may be informative, but is often impersonal and, therefore, often uninspiring and ineffective. Our support partners, friends, and relatives deserve more attention and care than a newsletter can provide. These people are just as much a part of the mission purpose as we are. Therefore, keep the following things in mind when creating your support letter:

- Recommended Number of Letters: 40
- Include the financial deadlines associated with the trip.
- Write as if you were sharing with a friend about your trip. Make sure your letter sounds more like a note to a class friend and less like a press release.
- Try to include a personal, handwritten note, even if it is only a single sentence. Use a colored pencil or pen so it stands out.
- Keep it short (1 page max).
- Have someone proof read the letter before sending it out.

### What about content?

- Tell the receiver of the letter about the opportunity you have and why you believe you should go.
- Include some details about the trip (interesting facts about the area you are working in, length of the trip, number of people going, type of ministry you will be doing).
- Let them know the cost of the trip.
- Make sure you let them know the specifics of how they can give toward the trip and that their donations are tax deductible.

Afterwards, make sure you send out thank you cards with pictures and stories from the trip. Plan a party to show pictures from the trip and teach all of your supporters about the lessons you learned on the trip.

## Sample Support Letter

Hey (Person's Name),

(It's a good idea to personally address each specific person with a short note here)

(Follow that up with this generic information to all supporters)

I also wanted to write to you today to tell you about an amazing opportunity that I have to travel to Las Vegas this coming December. I will be traveling with an organization called Current, an on-campus ministry and social justice awareness organization. Current is teaming up with various local organizations in Las Vegas for the trip I am going on, to learn about the importance of getting involved with issues facing the United States.

I will be traveling and working with a group of individuals from all over the country, so I am very excited to meet and interact with people with a similar heart as myself. We will spend part of my Christmas vacation volunteering with homeless shelters, working in needy areas on the Vegas Strip, and learning about people being trafficked into the United States, through cities like Las Vegas.

It is only by support from people like you that make this opportunity possible for me. The cost of the trip is \$\_\_\_\_\_. So, any donations you could give would be greatly appreciated. You can send any financial support back in the pre-addressed envelope that I included with this letter. All donations are tax deductible as Current is a registered 501c(3) organization.

As a thank you for your support, I will be having a party to showcase all of my pictures and to share stories with you from the trip, to help you see what I experience.

If you would like to receive updates during my trip via email, please email your address to me at [jason@emailprovider.com](mailto:jason@emailprovider.com). I cannot thank you enough for supporting me in making a difference in our own country.

Thanks again,

Jason

# Safety Protocol

- Traveling and serving can be a great undertaking. To keep it from becoming dangerous, Current requires that all trip applicants commit to the following guidelines:
- All mission sites have been approved and deemed safe based on a review by Current and the local mission contacts.
- Current will continue to monitor the safety situation of each ministry site and reserves the right to cancel or relocate any team at any point.
- All travel is to be done in groups.
- Local contacts are present not only as a guide and host, but also as an authority for team members. Therefore, team members must submit to safety requests by the contacts.
- When in public, all team members must avoid any form of public demonstration or political gathering. Team members are not to take pictures of such events.