

STATESIDE

-2023-

Dear **STATESIDE** Applicant,

We are so excited for Stateside! God has done so many incredible things in the lives of students on this trip. We are super excited to see what God does this year, and are looking forward to fun memories, hard work, and service to one another and the community we are serving.

Please carefully read through the application and pray about this opportunity you have to serve the Lord on this unique trip. If you decide to apply, we would encourage you to be honest and real about your life and how God may be able to use you on this trip, as well as what He can teach you as a member of this team. This is NOT a comfortable or easy trip, and will require a lot of time, energy, and sacrifice- and yet, it is so rewarding, fun, and life-giving as well.

Enclosed you will find the *Stateside* application. **You must have completed the 10th or 11th grade** at the time of the trip, in order to apply. Please read all the instructions and fill out the application completely.

We won't accept late applications so please get your application in on time. Applications are due by **Sunday, April 2nd, 2023.**

We are looking forward to this trip. God has great things in store!

Amy Atienza & Clayton Mohler

High School Shepherds

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What is Stateside?

There are two main reasons why we do Stateside. First, we have designed Stateside to bless others. This includes everyone that we come in contact with, but specifically the youth in Orem and Centerpoint church. After prepping VBS (vacation bible school) in CA and serving our church, we are then able to serve the community of Orem by teaching the kids the gospel in a fun and engaging way.

The second reason is for your spiritual growth. As Christians we are transformed through serving, just like Jesus serves us. Students on the Stateside team will teach a bible story to kids, learn to work as a team, expand their knowledge of God through a bible study on the trip, and grow in various leadership qualities.

What are our Goals?

- 1) Be a blessing to *Centerpoint Church* by assisting them in reaching their communities with the gospel.
- 2) To see continued growth and maturity in our relationship with God and others.
- 3) Gain confidence when sharing the Gospel and teaching the Bible.
- 4) Grow in leadership.
- 5) Make some great memories by having a BLAST.

Trip Overview

- Students will be trained and contribute in our VBS here in Fullerton (July 10th-13th)
- The team will travel to Orem, UT (Wed, July 19th – Sat, July 29th)
- We will invite approx 2000 homes for the host church, *Centerpoint Church*
- Students will conduct a 4-day Vacation Bible School for and with the host church
- Students will do the teaching, leading and counseling at the VBS (including leading games, crafts, snacks, etc... the VBS is entirely student led!

- There will be student teams in charge of: worship, bible teaching, rec, etc.
- We will be lodging at *Centerpoint Church*
- Expect to work hard, sleep hard, and play hard!

Expectations

- 1) Attend **each and every** training session, meeting, and trip (or coordinate with us if there are date conflicts- but please prioritize making it to all of them if possible). Be committed to working towards team objectives with a servant attitude.
- 2) Be committed to actively pursuing personal spiritual growth.
- 3) Be an example of Christian conduct and character by striving to live your life in a way that pleases God. Be committed to growing in and practicing leadership characteristics, while being conscious of the responsibilities and influence you have as a leader in the youth group.
- 4) Respect the authority of the **Stateside** leadership team.
- 5) Be actively involved in Sunday and Wednesday programs as well as a Sunday worship service on Main Campus / serving on Sunday mornings.

*Failure to adhere to these requirements at any time may result in removal from the **Stateside** team.

Please pray carefully about your motives and intentions before turning in a **Stateside** application. These mission trips are not for everyone. If you can meet the faithfulness required and desire to serve God and others...turn one in! If, after reading the complete application, you or your parents still have further questions, call or email Clay or Amy.

The Team

The **Stateside** Team will consist of 20-30 high school students. We intend to take everyone who applies, however occasionally we have had to say no to students because of various behavioral concerns, medical issues, failure to meet the minimum requirements for the trip, or lack of space.

Applications are due **Sunday, April 2nd, 2023 at 6:00pm**. This year, ***you must sign up for an interview***. Each interview will be with Clay and Amy for 20 minutes, and will be conducted on **Monday April 3rd, Tuesday April 4th,**

Thursday April 6th from **2:00pm-6:00pm**. The purpose of these interviews is for us to have an honest conversation with you on what we expect from our Stateside team members on our trip, as well as to answer any questions you have. If you cannot make any of those times, you must coordinate an alternate time with Clay and Amy. The team will be notified **by email** by Friday, April 14th.

Sign ups for interviews will be available online. We will send you an email link (to the email you put on your application) once we receive your application. Applications must be turned in in person, or via email, to Amy or Clay.

Cost Breakdown

The cost of the entire experience of Stateside Trip will be **\$450**.
(Scholarships may be available)

This covers:

- Team T-shirt
- The Overnight Retreat in June
- Transportation
- VBS Materials
- Meals during the trip**
- Lodging
- Afternoon Fun Excursions

**** Four travel meals are not included, so please bring some extra cash!**

Payment Schedule:

- The initial payment of **\$200** is due by Sunday, May 21st.
- The second payment of **\$150** is due by Sunday, July 2nd.
- The final payment of **\$100** is due by Monday, July 17th.

****You can pay online at www.fullertonfree.com OR
on Sundays/Wednesdays by check OR
send it to:**

**First Evangelical Free Church, 2801 N. Brea Blvd. Fullerton, CA 92835
Attn: Miriam Mohler**

About our Host Church

Centerpoint Church is an Evangelical Free church located in Orem, Utah. With the bus it is roughly a 12 hour drive from Fullerton. Below is an excerpt from their website:

CenterPoint Church began in 1945, as Provo Bible Church. It was started by a group of families who had come to Utah Valley to work at Geneva Steel. The first generation of the church faced a daunting task. Because of the unique cultural situation in Utah Valley, the church always seemed to be in transition. Not only did families move in and out but so did Pastors. The church seemed to be in a perpetual struggle to survive. In 1988, as the founding generation of the church was passing away, the church faced yet another pastoral transition. This time though there was actual consideration given to closing the doors.

God had other plans. It was at that time that the church experienced a rebirth. Pastor Scott McKinney began his ministry in 1989 with the vision to move the church from a fortress mentality to an outreach mentality. If there was a defining statement in that era, it was that "God likes to do things in places where people say it cannot be done." The church grew. Initially, the growth was from people moving into Utah Valley to take jobs with the high tech industries. To accommodate the growth there were two building projects during the 90's.

One of the things that did not change was the transient nature of the church. As the economy ebbed and flowed, many of the high tech jobs disappeared. The good news is that the people moving out of the area were replaced with new people coming to Christ. The vision was being fulfilled. Today over 50 percent of the people in the church have come out of our unique Utah religious culture. Around 2005 the church had grown to about 500 people in a place where previously there had never been a church with that kind of size and influence.

Around that time we began to ask the question- "Is this all that God has for us?" It was at this point that we launched a new vision. Part of that vision was to relocate. The desire was to go from a place where we were hard to find to a place where we were impossible to miss.

We bought 5 acres on the I15 freeway just south of University Parkway, the busiest intersection in the county. Plans for the new building were drawn up on this amazing piece of property. The church changed its name to CenterPoint Church to reflect our vision to make Jesus the center point of our lives and to make Him known from the center point of Utah Valley.

In 2008 plans to build were put on hold. The economy had imploded. Our old building had been leased out to a private school. We were a church on wheels. We had no idea that when we began this journey we would be moving in and out of schools for the next ten years for our worship services. We moved office locations four times. These were difficult times. Yet, these years included some of the best ministry in the history of the church. During our decade of wandering, hundreds of people came to Christ and were baptized. There were thriving ministries at both BYU and Utah Valley University. Our children's and student ministries encouraged the next generation to walk with Christ.

During these years we learned some things that we probably could not have learned any other way. Even in times of great uncertainty, Jesus is a solid foundation. We learned that the church is not a building, but a body of people. We also saw God's faithfulness. After coming to a point in the year 2015 where we were ready to give up on the dream, the Lord provided a way. Doors were finally opened and we were able to build a 26,700 sf. building on our property at the center point of Utah Valley. When we began this journey our prayer was that when all was said and done, there would be no other explanation but God. God answered that prayer. Today we are in a building that is home to a church that is still all about seeing God do something in a place where people have said it cannot be done.

IMPORTANT DATES:

*** PLEASE KEEP THIS PAGE!**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Applications available:	Wednesday, March 8th
<input type="checkbox"/>	Applications due:	Sunday, April 2nd
<input type="checkbox"/>	Interviews conducted:	Monday April 3rd, Tuesday April 4th, Thursday April 6th (2:00pm-6:00pm time slots, 20 minutes per interview)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Team Notification:	Friday, April 14th by email
<input type="checkbox"/>	Parent/Team Meeting:	Sunday, April 23rd in the HSM amp (12:45pm-1:30pm)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Payment of \$200 due:	Sunday, May 21st
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stateside Retreat:	June 13th 6:00pm (eat before) - June 14th (12:00pm)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Payment of \$150 due:	Sunday, July 2nd
<input type="checkbox"/>	VBS Work Days *	Thursday July 6th (9:00am-5:30pm, lunch included) & Friday July 7th (9:00am-2:00pm, lunch included)
<input type="checkbox"/>	VBS Set up/Team Training #1	Thursday July 6th (2:00pm-5:30pm, after our VBS work day)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Final Payment of \$100 due:	Monday, July 17th
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fullerton VBS Training Day	Sunday, July 9th (after 11:11 service-3pm, lunch included)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fullerton V.B.S.:	July 10th-13th (8:00 AM - 1:00 PM everyday)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Team Training #2	Mon., July 10th (1:00 – 5:00 PM (After VBS) (Bring \$ for Lunch)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Team Training #3/Pack Day**	Tuesday, July 18** (1:00PM-5:00PM) (Luggage dropped off)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Finish Packing and Depart	Wed. July 19 (7:30 AM)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Return Date:	Sat. July 29 (approx 4:00 PM)

*The ending times to these work days are tentative, depending on how long it takes us to finish the jobs FF VBS has for us. Lunch is provided.

**On Wednesday, July 19th the Stateside team will be attempting to leave the church by 8:00am, so please be sure to have all your luggage at the church the day before, July 18th at the latest by the end of our meeting at 5:00pm. (You don't have to bring your backpack or your pillow if you want it for the bus ride).

APPLICATION

Please answer the following questions using the reverse side if necessary.
The following application will remain confidential.

Name: _____

****Email:**

REPEAT EMAIL ALL CAPS _____

**Parent's
Email** _____

REPEAT EMAIL ALL CAPS _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone (Home): (____) _____

Phone (Student Cell): (____) _____

Year of Graduation (circle one): 2024 2025

Guardians' Name(s) _____

Shirt Size (circle one): S M L XL XXL

**** Email will be the primary means of contact during the summer, so please give us an address that you will check regularly throughout the summer.**

Don't Turn in Application
without a Photo!

Feel free to use a copy of a
Photo

1) Please give your personal testimony of your relationship with Jesus Christ.
(use the backside of this paper if necessary.)

2) Explain a recent situation in which you served someone else. What was the experience like?

3) How has God been working in your life? What has God been teaching you in your life?

4) What are 3 of your weaknesses and 3 of your strengths?

5) How do you think God will use the talents and gifts He has given you on the *Stateside* trip?

6) How long have you been attending Fullerton Free?

7) Please check High School and/or Worship service you faithfully attend:

Sunday morning HSM Wednesday night HSM 9:19 or 11:11 main

How often do you attend? Regularly Sometimes Rarely

Do you serve somewhere at church? (i.e. tech in HSM, Kids Church, usher/greeter, etc...)

8) Why do you want to be on *Stateside* this summer?

9) What fears do you have thinking about being on *Stateside*?

10) What do you believe is your role on a team?

11) Please describe your home situation and your relationships with your family:

11) Do you feel comfortable sharing the gospel? Yes No

12) How would you describe the gospel if a stranger asked you?

13) Are you comfortable working with children? Yes No

14) On a scale from 1 – 10 how excited are you to go on Stateside?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

SIGNATURE

- Have you read the Stateside Goals & Requirements? Yes No
- Do you agree to strive for these goals and to meet these requirements? Yes No
- Are you committed to providing necessary funds for this team? Yes No
- Are you committed to attending each and every meeting this summer? Yes No
- Have you answered all of the above questions honestly? Yes No.

Student Signature: _____ Date:

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/CONCERNS?:

PARENT REFERENCE FORM: STATESIDE

Student's Name _____

Date _____

(Use the backside of this paper or additional paper if necessary)

1. How do you think your son/daughter would benefit by being a part of Stateside 2023?

2. Please describe to us the commitment level of your son/daughter in regards to Christ.

3. Please describe to us the general attitude your son/daughter demonstrates at home with his/her parents and his/her sibling(s).

4. Describe to us 3 of your teenager's strengths:

5. Describe to us 3 of your teenager's weaknesses:

6. How does your teenager respond to...
 - a. Authority:
 - b. Conflict:
 - c. Stress:
 - d. Disappointment:

7. After looking over all of the responsibilities of the Stateside 2023, do you think your teenager is ready for such an experience? Why?

Signed _____