

Lutheran Youth Organization of the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod

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# Student immersion TRIP to PERU



July 22-31, 2010

Lima, Peru

# The Details

- who: 9-12 grade students in fall of 2009 and their adult leaders\*
- what: Immersion experience into Peruvian culture
- when: July 22-31, 2010
- where: Lima, Peru and surrounding area

*\* Each congregations is limited to bringing 3 students and 2 adults on this trip*

# Opportunity

The congregations of the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod for the FIRST time have the opportunity to send a group of high school students and adults on an immersion experience to the Lutheran churches in and around Lima, Peru.

Our goal is to develop a multi-cultural experience for students and adults to grow in their Christian faith and leadership skills. This is accomplished through intentional:

- Preparation of students and adults before the trip with learning about Peruvian culture, Bible studies, and other prep work.
- Fostering of relationships between North American and Peruvian students/adults so the experience is transformative for everyone.
- Interaction and relationship building with the communities in and around Lima, Peru during the trip.
- Development and hosting of a community activity for the communities in and around Lima, Peru.
- Reflection, evaluation and sharing stories after the trip are built into the experience.

# Trip Schedule

Tentative Schedule that is subject to change:

Thursday, July 22  
All groups **MUST** arrive in Lima this night  
Travel to hotel in Lima

Friday, July 23  
Orientation  
Congregational groups travel to partner congregation, if in outlying area

Saturday, July 24  
Congregation to congregation Activities  
Stay near partner congregation

Sunday, July 25  
Worship in partner congregation  
Congregation to Congregation Activities  
Stay near partner congregation

Monday, July 26  
Congregation to Congregation Activities  
Travel back to Lima

Tuesday, July 27  
Large Group Debrief  
See historic sites in Lima  
Shopping

Wednesday, July 28  
Fly to Cusco  
City Tour of Cusco  
Visit Lutheran Church in Cusco

Thursday, July 29  
Visit Machu Picchu and return to Cusco

Friday, July 30  
Depart Cusco  
Depart Lima for Houston

Saturday, July 31  
Arrive in Houston



# cost

Estimated Per Person Cost: \$1,500-\$2,000\* per person (hotel, meals, translators, local transportation, tours, programming and Machu Picchu trip)



What is NOT included in \$1,500-\$2,000 fee? Airfare from Houston to Lima, Peru which generally runs around \$700-\$900 per person. Each congregation is responsible for booking **their group's tickets AFTER they have registered** with the synod and received confirmation

*\* We have applied for grants to provide scholarships and help offset the cost for every participant.*

*You are responsible for finding your own replacement if you cannot go before you receive any money back.*

# airline Tickets

After you receive e-mail confirmation from the synod office that your group is registered, you are welcome to book airline tickets for your group.

You must fly into Lima on the evening of July 22, 2010 and fly out of Lima on the evening of July 30. (NOTE: The flights that leave Lima on the 30th will return back into Houston on the morning of the 31st)

We recommend that you book the direct flights on Continental between Houston and Lima. Generally airline tickets run \$700-\$900 per person.



All airline tickets **MUST** be booked by the end of February.

# Leadership

The group will travel under the direction of the Synod Staff of the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod. Children, Youth and Family Ministry Consultant, Jessica Noonan is working with a leadership team of students and adults who have all traveled to Peru and have experience with immersion trips. Peggy Hahn, Assistant to the Bishop, will also accompany the group.

Each congregational group that registers high school students is asked to carefully select two adults to serve as adult leaders for their group. These adults are expected to work with their group in the 6 months leading up to the trip, participate fully in the experience and to continue to help the group reflect after the group returns home.

# expectations

All students and adults participating in the Student Immersion Trip to Peru are expected to:

- Pray regularly for our brothers and sisters in Peru, other trip participants, and the Peru Planning Team. (Guidelines available at [www.soggyshoes.org](http://www.soggyshoes.org))
- Follow Safe Haven Guidelines during the Pre-Trip Retreat and during the trip. Note that violation of the Guidelines may result in being sent home immediately at the expense of **student's parents.**
- Utilize the Pre-Trip Curriculum provided by the Peru Planning Team.
- Attend and participate in the Pre-Trip Retreat scheduled for June 11-13, 2010.
- Develop a plan for sharing your experiences with your family, friends and congregation upon your return from Peru.

# FAQ'S



Will the students be safe?

Like all international travel there is a level of risk involved. There are many groups that have traveled to Peru over the last 10 years and have never experienced any safety issues while traveling. We take the safety of the participants coming on this trip as our TOP priority.

How will the group travel?

We will travel by bus and van while we are there. When traveling to Machu Picchu, the group will also fly and travel by train - it is a long trip but well worth the time!

Where will the group stay?

At hotels that we have stayed at and/or visited in previous trip to Peru.

What will happen at the Pre-Trip Retreat?

This is a time of intentional preparation for the students and adults to create an optimal experience for everyone through - adult leader training, cultural sensitivity training, language prep, Bible study and worship.

## important Dates

Week of October 5

Registration opens online at [www.soggshoes.org](http://www.soggshoes.org).

~~December 1~~ — December 31

Online registration closes. Registration forms and deposit of \$200 per person needs to be postmarked by the extended deadline of December 31, 2009.

End of February

Congregations should have booked airline tickets by this time

April 1

\$500-800 per person payment

May 1

\$800-1,000 per person payment

Passport Application or Renewal Forms should be sent off by this time

June 11-13

Pre-Trip Retreat for student & adult participants

July 22-31

Immersion Trip to Peru

## Sign Up

Your youth minister, pastor or adult leader needs to sign up your group online at [www.soggshoes.org](http://www.soggshoes.org) between October 10th and December 31st. A \$200 per person deposit is due when signed registration forms are turned into the synod office. Please mail all registration forms for your group and one check for the total amount payable to the TLGCS by December 31st.

Questions about registration process? Contact Mandy Faucett at [reghelp@gulfcoastsynod.org](mailto:reghelp@gulfcoastsynod.org)

- *To find out your congregations pre-assigned username and password, contact Mandy Faucett at [reghelp@gulfcoastsynod.org](mailto:reghelp@gulfcoastsynod.org)*
- *All payments should be sent to the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod in the form of one check for all participants coming from that congregation.*
- *Please note that if you cannot go on this trip after you signed up you may have to find your own replacement before you receive any money back. If you cancel and cannot find a replacement then you may be expected to pay the full amount.*