



UNION
UNIVERSITY



BEARING FRUIT AND INCREASING



GO

BEARING FRUIT AND INCREASING

BEARING FRUIT AND INCREASING

In Colossians 1, Paul is writing to the church at Colossae - a group of believers he has never met. Epaphras heard the gospel from Paul in Ephesus and went on to share that message in Colossae. Having heard of their faith, Paul is writing to remind them of the preeminence of Christ in all things and to encourage them to hold fast to that truth. He reminds them of the gospel truth they heard and believed, and he lovingly urges them to not allow worldly patterns of thinking and living to deceive or distract them from the supremacy and sufficiency of Christ.

In this early section of Paul's letter, we see an important progression. Epaphras heard the gospel and took it to Colossae, where others then heard and believed. These new believers were learning from Epaphras and growing and bearing fruit. Paul informs them that the gospel is not only bearing fruit and increasing in Colossae, but in the whole world. They are not only part of the growing church in Colossae, but also part of the advancement of God's kingdom throughout the world.

Paul's prayer for the church at Colossae is to be echoed by all who have heard and believed the message of the gospel. We must be ever mindful of the purpose of our hearing and believing: that our faith would bear fruit and increase so that Christ would be made known. As people who have been delivered from darkness and who now share in the inheritance of the saints, we, like Paul, are stewards of the gospel message given to us.

GO Trips at Union University provide opportunities for students, faculty, and staff to join ministry partners throughout the United States and around the world in proclaiming Christ. It is our prayer that your GO Trip experience will lead you to know God more, to grow in sharing the truth with boldness and confidence, and to leverage your life for His purposes and glory. We invite you to connect with a 2019 GO Trip and join us in praying Paul's words that the body of Christ might bear fruit and increase in all the world.

We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

COLOSSIANS 1:3-14



SPRING BREAK



BOSTON Church Planting

trip dates: March 23-30

team leaders: Mark and Susan Bolyard

team size: 8

trip cost: \$995

- Assisting City on a Hill church and its staff in outreach and service to the greater Boston community
- Assisting with ESL ministry among international students at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
- Interacting with thousands of people through servant evangelism at subway stops around the city

destination description

- Upon Boston's founding in 1630, Governor John Winthrop gave a sermon declaring Boston to be a city upon a hill, saying, "The eyes of all people are upon us." He meant for Boston to be a city upon a hill shining the light of Christ. Boston is still a city on a hill, wielding immense influence on culture and the world.
- Boston is home to 100 colleges and universities with more than a quarter million students. Twenty five percent of world leaders come to Boston to be educated.
- The city of Boston is rich with many cultures and people groups.

HONDURAS Orphan Care and Community Development

trip dates: March 23-30

team leaders: Joe Ball, Jonathan and Breanne Vailes

team size: 10

trip cost: \$1,850

- Interacting with youth and children through sports, water games, relay races, and daily "circle time"
- Assisting with on-going projects on the farm and around the compound
- Engineering majors: Using the practical application of technology to meet on-going needs at Orphanage Emmanuel

destination description

- The children at Orphanage Emmanuel come from difficult circumstances. Some of the children are orphans while others have been abandoned, abused, or come from extremely poor conditions.
- Orphanage Emmanuel provides for the children including food, comfortable and clean clothing and living quarters, and educational, medical, and general developmental needs. But most importantly, they strive to give the children strong spiritual guidance.
- The vision of Orphanage Emmanuel is to evangelize and disciple children so that they may grow up to be living lights and good examples in the ways of God to their countrymen.

MEXICO Community Development

trip dates: March 23-30

team leaders: Cathy Huggins and Hannah Henson

team size: 8

trip cost: \$995

- Partnering with United In Christ Ministries Worldwide (UICMW) to preach the good news of Jesus to the nations
- Serving in ministries such as soup kitchens, rehabilitation centers, orphanages, and community outreach
- Sharing the gospel message in churches and town squares through spoken word, worship, and community activities

destination description

- UICMW has a base camp of operation located in Los Fresnos, Texas, minutes from the Mexican border.
- While their diverse ministry is throughout Mexico, the main outreach area of Matamoros, Tamaulipas, is located on the southern bank of the Rio Grande. Matamoros is the 4th largest metropolitan area on the Mexico-U.S. border and has one of the fastest growing economies in the country.
- The infrastructure of Matamoros has not kept up with the growth which has led to many impoverished communities within its borders. The people of Matamoros need to hear the good news of the saving grace of Jesus Christ.



I grew in how I think about the nations and how I can be involved in reaching the nations even while I'm here in the United States.

JEFF





I was reminded of the importance and the urgency of sharing the Gospel as well as being reminded the Holy Spirit is alive and active.

MORGAN



TAMPA Church Planting

trip dates: March 23-30
team leader: Jennifer Delk
team size: 8
trip cost: \$995

- Growing in love for God by joining Covenant Life Church (CLC) for corporate worship and daily interactions with church leadership
- Growing in love for the local church by serving alongside CLC members and leadership as they seek to reach Tampa with the gospel of Jesus Christ
- Growing in love for others by assisting CLC in reaching international students, urban poor, families, college students, and the community at large through prayer, service, and building relationships

destination description

- Tampa is rich with diversity—ethnically, socio-economically, and generationally.
- The diversity of Tampa combined with its population density has forged a city that is rich in culture and history. Yet of all that this city is known for, sadly 78% of the Tampa Bay area is lost or unchurched.
- Covenant Life Church hopes to accurately reflect this diversity as Tampa inhales the world and has the potential to exhale the gospel.

UTAH COUNTY Church Planting

trip dates: March 23-30
team leaders: Wilson and Morgan Sloan
team size: 8
trip cost: \$995

- Assisting Union alumni in church planting efforts in the least reached metro area in the United States
- Being trained in how to engage others with the gospel in truth and love
- Prayer-walking, engaging the lost with the gospel, and helping church planters build relationships in their local community

destination description

- Utah is a beautiful but spiritually dark land, heavily influenced by the extra-biblical teachings of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS).
- The state of Utah is 98% lost. Utah County is home to the Provo-Orem metro area, the least reached metro area in the United States, with only 0.49% of the population identifying as evangelical Christians.
- While 70% of the population in Utah identify as LDS, the population in the Provo-Orem metro area identifying as LDS increases to around 90%.

VANCOUVER Church Planting

trip dates: March 23-30
team leader: Luanne Powell
team size: 8
trip cost: \$2,000

- Assisting Union alumni in evangelism efforts among Persians in the greater Vancouver area
- Gaining a knowledge of Islam and how to share the gospel with Muslims
- Engaging the lost with the gospel, prayer-walking, and helping church planters build relationships in the local community

destination description

- With its scenic views, mild climate, and friendly people, Vancouver is known around the world as both a popular tourist attraction and one of the best places to live.
- Vancouver is also one of the most ethnically and linguistically diverse cities in Canada with 52% of the population speaking a first language other than English. Vancouver is largely unreached, with less than 2% being evangelical.
- Of the nearly 70,000 Persians in the greater Vancouver area, only 500 or so are believers.



SPRING BREAK





MAY



CALGARY

Church Planting

trip dates: May 19-29

team leader: Julie Powell

team size: 7

trip cost: \$2,150

- Partnering with Union alumni serving as church planters in the greater Calgary area
- Assisting church planters through community mapping, prayer-walking, and hosting events
- Engaging the lost with the gospel, and helping church planters build relationships in the local community

destination description

- Calgary, Alberta, is home 1.3 million people. As a result of tremendous growth in foreign immigration, nearly 30% of all Calgarians are foreign born and nearly one-third are considered a visible minority.
- As an oil city, Calgary experiences many booms and busts and is currently working its way out of a recession.
- It is a very diverse city, with many different nationalities represented. The largest portions are Asian and Indian.

ETHIOPIA

Church Planting and Community Development

trip dates: May 20-31

team leaders: TBD

team size: 7

trip cost: \$3,450

- Investing in teenagers in the True Light Childcare (TLC) program through sharing personal testimonies and teaching
- Offering VBS activities to TLC and neighborhood children and ministering to guardians and families through home visits
- Helping with practical needs that will help support the work of the TLC ministry

destination description

- The people of Ethiopia are generally very warm, friendly, and socially conservative.
- About half of the population of Ethiopia is Muslim and the other half Orthodox. Freedom of religion is guaranteed in the Constitution. However, outside of the capital, evangelicals are few in number. In most villages where local pastors work, their churches are the first and only evangelical presence.
- True Light Childcare Ministry seeks to address the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the children and their families.

KENYA

Church Planting and Community Development

trip dates: May 19-31

team leaders: Randy and Ginny Schwindt

team size: 7

trip cost: \$3,450

- Serving the children and staff of Naomi's Village and joining community ministries in local schools, job training centers, and churches
- Working alongside local churches to build relationships with university students across Nairobi
- Engaging with Muslim communities and serving refugees who have relocated to Nairobi

destination description

- Nairobi, the capital of Kenya, is home to both modern skyscrapers and vast shantytowns. These shantytowns are often home to refugees fleeing civil wars in neighboring countries.
- As is true of many developing African countries, there is a marked contrast between urban and rural culture in Kenya.
- Located in a truck-stop town on the Trans-African highway outside Nairobi, Naomi's Village serves Kenyan children by providing spiritual, physical and emotional healing in the midst of poverty, homelessness, disease, malnutrition, and family violence.



Seeing how the believers in Ethiopia worshiped with such joy and passion encouraged me to re-examine my walk with Christ and sparked a desire to delight in him in ways that I was previously lacking.

MARIANNE





God reminded me of the great hope we have in His continued work beyond us. He is the One who makes dead things come to abundant life.

DAVID



I went sowing seeds that I trust He will cultivate and grow as hearts are changed to understand the Good News, but my Teacher over the summer—the Good Shepherd and Harvest Chief—taught, shepherded, and cultivated such growth in me.

GILLIAN

CENTRAL ASIA Church Planting

trip dates: approx. May 27-July 25

required orientation May 21-25

team size: 4-6

trip cost: \$4,995

- Engaging with Central Asian university students and young adults through English conversation groups
- Participating and hosting events and activities through a local community club and sharing the good news
- Being an integral part of a long-term, disciple-making strategy in one of the world's largest unreached cities

destination description

- This country is primarily Islamic with currently only about 3,000 known believers among a population of almost 80 million people.
- The people in this city have a veneer of modern/post-modern thought overlaying the deep-rooted history and traditions stemming from their Islamic heritage.
- While the vast majority of people are Muslim, most university students have a secular worldview.

EAST ASIA Church Planting

trip dates: approx. May 27-July 25

required orientation May 21-25

team size: 4-6

trip cost: \$4,995

- Taking a language course and developing relationships with other students on campus
- Sharing the gospel with Asian students who have never heard the truth of Christ and modeling discipleship characterized by radical obedience and a passion for building the church
- Serving alongside Union alumni to invest in the lives of East Asian students in a spiritual climate marked by a distinct mix of traditional and modern beliefs

destination description

- Home to 23 colleges and universities, this port city of 14 million people is quickly becoming the economic center of East Asia.
- Students are open to new ideas, but have never had anyone tell them exactly who Jesus is.
- The spiritual climate is marked by a mix of the traditional and modern. There is a significant layer of traditional Buddhism, Daoism, and Confucian ancestor worship to go alongside more modernistic functional atheism. Add to this the current idol of materialism, and barriers to the gospel are many.



SUMMER



SALT LAKE CITY Church Planting

trip dates: approx. May 26-July 25

required orientation May 21-25

team size: 4-6

trip cost: \$3,150

- Learning from Union alumni about church planting, analyzing culture, and applying the gospel in varying cultures
- Prayer-walking, engaging people with the gospel, fostering relationships in communities heavily influenced by Mormonism, and encouraging those who live and labor in the Salt Lake City area
- Gaining confidence and competence in evangelism as well as how to support missions and church planting endeavors

destination description

- Utah is a beautiful but spiritually dark land, heavily influenced by the extra-biblical teachings of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS).
- The state of Utah is 98% lost. Utah County is home to the Provo-Orem metro area, which is the least reached metro area in the United States, with only 0.49% of the population identifying as evangelical Christians.
- While 70% of the population in Utah identify as LDS, the population in the Provo-Orem metro area identifying as LDS increases to around 90%.



Financially [God] provided. Physically he provided. He was so faithful in answering my prayers throughout the whole trip.

KELSEY

He humbled me incredibly and showed me if we are going to have success in our evangelism, it needs to be measured by faithfulness.

JON

There was a lot of work done in my heart, realizing I am not the one doing the work, but that I am a part of it. I am privileged to be a part of God's work.

KAYLA



PAYING TO GO

Concerned about the cost? Here's what others have to say.

God always provides. Listening to the testimonies of our ministry partners and all my team members, I heard over and over that God's plan is always higher and better and that He never fails to provide for His children.

KAITLYN

The financial aspect is something to consider. I think most people can afford to go based on the sacrifices they are willing to make. It is a test of what you really value. Are you willing to give up something you really want for something you think is really valuable? Are you willing to work toward something you really value?

STEPHEN

God laid it on my heart to save all summer for the trip and to ask my parents to cover my expenses as my Christmas present. My GO Trip was the best gift ever!

KATIE

Once I committed to my GO Trip, it was incredible to experience the Lord's provision. Almost immediately I began to receive income from unexpected sources. This isn't to say that I didn't have to be financially responsible; if anything, I worked harder at the jobs I was given and was more careful with how I spent my extra cash, but God provided and the entire trip cost was covered.

JOSH

[The finances] were definitely a concern of mine but I can attest that the Lord provides in His timing. It is a test of faith and it stretches you. I found that trusting God's provision financially was a huge part of the preparation for what I would need to trust Him for throughout the trip.

ZACH

WHY GO

- Serve in various ministry contexts domestically and internationally
- Participate in a team-based opportunity with Union faculty, staff, and students
- Discover new cultures and see how God is at work around the world
- Explore your unique role in taking the gospel to the nations
- Receive training and investment that will benefit you far beyond your GO Trip



HOW TO GO

- Participate in Global Focus events throughout September to learn more about GO Trips
- Apply online at uu.edu/events/go
- Attend training sessions and team meetings (schedule available online)
- Be flexible, available, and teachable
- Maintain a 2.0 GPA



We are big believers in students coming to serve with us because we recognize there is genuine value in it. We see the value as twofold. Kingdom work is being done and we genuinely believe there is kingdom impact in the here and now. People are hearing the gospel and that matters to us, our team, our ministry, and our city. And secondly, there is value in the long-term impact on the student who comes. We want to have a big-picture mindset and we see this as an opportunity to invest in long-term kingdom work by investing in those who come and serve with us.

GO TRIP FIELD PARTNER

2019 GO TRIPS

Spring Break

Boston
Honduras
Mexico
Tampa
Utah County
Vancouver

May

Calgary
Ethiopia
Kenya

Summer (8 weeks)

Central Asia*
East Asia*
Salt Lake City

*Specific locations withheld for security reasons. More information about trips to these locations is available in the Office of University Ministries.

APPLY FOR A GO TRIP

uu.edu/events/go

Friday, September 21
Early Bird Deadline
(50% off app fee)

Friday, September 28
Application Deadline
(\$40 app fee)

Tuesday, October 23
GO Trip Team Reveal
(\$100 deposit due)

See GO Trip Calendar
for Training and Team
Meeting Dates



Office of University Ministries

1050 Union University Dr. | Jackson, TN 38305
731.661.5062 | uu.edu/oum

Todd Brady

Vice President for
University Ministries
731.661.6566
tbrady@uu.edu

Julie Bradfield

Director of
University Ministries
Director of Mobilization
731.661.5242
jbradfield@uu.edu

Joe Ball

Director of Discipleship
and Ministry
731.661.5971
jbball@uu.edu

Stephen Neu

Coordinator of Service
and Mobilization
731.661.5304
sneu@uu.edu

Emily Shoemaker

Administrative Assistant
731.661.5062
eshoemaker@uu.edu



UNION
UNIVERSITY

uu.edu/events/go

EXCELLENCE-DRIVEN

CHRIST-CENTERED

PEOPLE-FOCUSED

FUTURE-DIRECTED