



SUFFICIENCY *of* SCRIPTURE
M I N I S T R I E S

Team Information Packet

STRENGTHENING CHURCHES
and DISCIPLING *our*
COMMUNITY *for* CHRIST

Destination — UGANDA!



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your love and interest in serving with SOS. We are thankful to God for individuals and teams like you that come to assist our work in Uganda.

You are about to embark on a journey that will change your life forever. We are confident that God will use your short time in Uganda to shape your world-view and deepen your desire to live for heaven!

This packet contains some information that will assist your preparation for your trip. Please make sure you read this entire packet and fill out our required waiver forms. Our Team Coordinator will assist your team with anything needed or any questions you may have.

We are praying for your trip and look forward to serving with you soon!

Servant of the King,

Shannon Hurley
CEO & Founder of Sufficiency of Scripture Ministries

Sufficiency of Scripture Ministries

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SOS Mission Statement

To strengthen God's church in Uganda and disciple the communities in and around Kubamitwe.

SOS Vision

To see Christ reigning through His Word in the hearts of all people.

SOS Core Values

1. Supremacy of Christ

We are committed to submitting under, upholding, and promoting the supremacy of Jesus Christ as King and His Word as the supreme authority over all areas of our lives and ministry ~ Colossians 1:15-20, 28

2. Dependence on God

We are committed to prayerfully depending on the power of God's Spirit working through His Word to bring about ultimate change and impact in our lives and the lives of others ~ 2 Tim 3:16-17

3. Church Focused

We are committed to being focused on God's local church as His primary means of spiritual growth and development ~ Ephesians 4:11-14

4. Holiness

Understanding the destructiveness and seductiveness of sin and human weakness, we are committed to dealing with sin within our midst, with an effort to bring reconciliation to Christ and one another ~ Galatians 6:1; Hebrew 12:1

5. Discipleship

We are committed to fulfilling our responsibility of loving others with the goal of discipling them to follow after Jesus Christ ~ Matthew 28:19-20

6. Godly Leadership

We are committed to being a leadership team that fears God, demonstrated by our faithful love for Christ, our exemplary commitment to our families, and our upright character in our community ~ 1 Tim 3:1-7; Act 6:3

7. Faithful Stewardship

We are committed to being faithful and accountable stewards of God's resources (human, financial, time, environment) through hard work, transparency, and integrity, maximizing God's kind provision, with a conviction that we need to model and encourage living in a responsible, contented, generous, and dignified manner. ~ 1 Corinthians 4:1-2; Colossians 3:23-24; 1 Thessalonians 3:6-12

8. Love and Unity

We are committed to maintaining a genuine loving and unified environment, whereby we humbly and joyfully serve and honor one another with affection, care, and kindness. ~ 1 Corinthians 16:14; Ephesians 4:32

9. Godward Living

We are committed to living with a heavenly mindset, motivated out of a love for God and a passion to do all things with excellence for His glory. ~ 1 Corinthians 10:31



Ministry Focus Areas

Strengthening Churches

The goal of the Church Strengthening Ministry is to equip churches and church leaders to effectively, lovingly, and biblically strengthen their church members and communities.

Loving People

The goal of the Community Outreach Ministry is to demonstrate the gospel of Jesus Christ to the communities around Kubamitwe by lovingly serving and empowering them to be God-fearing self-sustaining citizens.

A peek into the ministries of SOS



Community Bible Church of Kubamitwe, founded in 2009, is SOS's central and most important part of the ministry. With weekly services, multiple Bible studies, and discipleship, our church has impacted the community greatly. Nationally, SOS coordinates with the Baptist denominations of East Africa to strengthen their existing organization and churches through national conferences, leadership trainings, church visitations & discipleship, and national leadership strategic planning.



SOS's Community Outreach Ministry developed after moving into impoverished, uneducated, godless, and rural villages. The need for the Gospel to impact every area of life is critical - truth of God's Word with the tangible love and mercy offered through his ambassadors. The COD primarily focuses on impacting the community through relationships, holistically empowering and pointing others towards Christ and the Church.

Out of the Community Outreach Ministry grew a practical discipleship opportunity through the desperate need and request of quality education in our villages. Thus Legacy Christian Academy was built to provide Christ-centered, high-academic and spiritual quality education where students are holistically given a tangible way to impact their home, community and country. We have over 450 students in attendance, 50 in each grade level - 25 in each class and a 12:1 student to teacher ratio.



Shepherds Training Center has been the goal of SOS Ministries since 2002. Most individuals in church leadership in Uganda are not trained or equipped to shepherd a congregation. STC exists to train these pastors and church leaders through the discipleship program focusing on biblical understanding of the Christian life (Phase 1), the Bible institute, training the entire family to know God and his Word (Phase 2), and pastoral training program (Phase 3) which implements practical responsibilities, theology and Biblical studies one takes back to lead their established church.



Getting Ready



1. Waiver & Release Forms

Before departure, SOS requires all team members to fill out and sign their Waiver & Release Forms. The waivers may be found here: **Required Team Member Form**.

2. Passport & Visa Application

Visas are required for entry into Uganda. You must apply online. Please follow the instructions in detail below.

Note: your passport **must not expire within six months** of your visit. Be sure to renew if necessary.

The fee for a visa is between \$50-\$100. Have the required print-out visa with you as you arrive in Entebbe. As of May 2021, the fee is \$55. Sometimes you can pay for the visa during the online application process, sometimes you cannot. Be prepared with large bills of 50s or 100s in perfect condition, with a security strip, for either option.

Please visit: <https://visas.immigration.go.ug>

- Click on "start new application."
- For "visa or permit type," choose "visa."
- For "category," choose "Uganda Ordinary/Tourist Visa" (this will automatically update the "subcategory" as single entry).
- Copy of passport
- Passport-size photograph
- Vaccination certificate, specifically the yellow card for yellow fever vaccine confirmation.
- Download the authentication (or invitation) letter given to your leader. Team leader, this letter is in the google doc folder created for this outreach. Don't forget to change the dates to include proper ticketed days.

A few things to keep in mind:

- Covid requirements may change the required documentation and they may wish to have a PCR covid test submitted as well.
- The visa will expire after 3 months (do not apply for this visa sooner than 3 months before the day you leave for Uganda).
- Other Data: Additional information required to complete the application:

Contact Information in US

Bryan McKinney: 1-818-585-3126

Contact Information in Uganda:

Shannon Hurley: 256-709-004-502 | Danielle Hurley: 256-709-004-503

Anthony Basaba: 256-709-004-510 | Mary Basaba: 256-709-004-509

Purpose of Visit: Community Outreach/Ministry Project

Point of Entry: Entebbe

Address: PO BOX 7 Luwero, Uganda - Kubamitwe Village



Getting Ready



3. Immunizations

Please consult the CDC website (www.cdc.gov/travel) to follow their immunization suggestions for Uganda. **The yellow fever vaccine is required to enter the country.** You must bring the yellow immunization card with the date you received the Yellow Fever vaccination. You will not be allowed to enter the country without this document. Although not required by the country, Typhoid and Hepatitis vaccines are recommended.

Rabies vaccine is recommended by the CDC, but due to the expense, we recommend that you stay away from local dogs and animals while visiting Uganda. Plan adequate time for vaccinations, as some of them require multiple shots and require time between the vaccine and entering the country.

As of June 2021, COVID vaccines are not required to travel to Uganda.

4. Malaria Medications

You will be in rural settings and malaria prophylaxis is highly recommended for short term travelers. Most malaria medications require you to take them before and for 10+ days after your trip. Please be faithful in taking your medication while you are here. If you are on doxycycline bring a high SPF sunscreen as it causes sun sensitivity and our sun is hot!

If you do not plan to take prophylactic medications, please bring an additional \$10 for our on-campus physician to send a "Malaria Home Testing Kit" back with you.

5. COVID PCR Test

As of June 2021, you need a Negative COVID PCR Test 72 hours before your landing in Entebbe Airport. Bring this in a printout form, along with your yellow fever card. If you are vaccinated, you still need a negative test result. Bring your vaccination card with you during your travel.

The world wide COVID situation and Uganda's mandates will require constant updating. Please check our website: sosministries.com for updated information.

6. Luggage Tags

Be sure to add the following on the outside and inside of your luggage bag: Shannon Hurley, SOS Ministries, Plot 157 Kubamitwe Village, Katikamu sub-county, Luwero, Uganda.

7. Complete The Quest for Truth

Please read *The Quest for Truth* in order to firm-up your understanding of the Gospel and to ensure we have a clear, unifying message going out to our community. You can access a [PDF version](#) on the SOS website, or purchase your own hard-copy through [Shepherd Press](#).



While on the Plane & Airport Arrival



On the Plane

While on the plane, you will receive an Arrival Card. The purpose of your visit is “Community Development” or “Mission work with SOS Ministries.” Use SOS’s address: P.O. Box 7 Luwero, Uganda. Shannon Hurley is the contact as our CEO and his number is (+256-709-004-502 | 0709-004-502).

Airport Arrival

Welcome to Uganda! After you deplane you will begin the customs process. Be sure to have your passport, visa printout page, yellow vaccination card, and COVID test results in hand ready to present almost immediately.

- **First stop is the health document check.** Here they will check your yellow fever card & COVID test results
- **Next, you will go through customs for visitor visa processing.** The customs agents will print out your visa and place it in your passport.
- **You will then proceed to the luggage carousels to pick up your baggage.** There are free carts available to help with luggage, which you may take out to the car.
- **Security / customs baggage review:** The security agents require you to send your luggage through the x-ray machine after you’ve collected them. You only need to stop at Security/Customs if you are requested. Otherwise, you may proceed outside. Be kind and patient, as they are there to help you. Be honest when asked questions. Mission work is understood and appreciated in Uganda.
- **Proceed Outside.** Your transporter (SOS staff member or another trusted transporter) will be waiting outside for you. If you have any lost baggage, **stay and report it!** Fill out the needed paperwork. For the paperwork put: SOS Ministries, Anthony Basaba 0-709-004-510. SOS Ministries, Plot 157 Kubamitwe Village, Katikamu sub-county, Luwero, Uganda. They will call Anthony upon receipt of the bag(s) and schedule a time to deliver it to the SOS Campus.
- **Do not forget to use the bathroom before you leave the terminal.** It may be your last nice bathroom until you arrive on campus.



SOS Campus Info, Personal Preparation, Etc.

Transportation

If an SOS staff member is not able to pick up your team at the airport, one of our trusted transporters will assist by picking up and bringing your team to SOS campus. SOS has worked with trusted transporters in Uganda for years. You will use one of these transporters for your return to the airport.

Upon arrival, look for a sign with your team's name or a sign that says "SOS." Mary will provide details before you depart for Uganda regarding who will pick you up.

It will take 3+ hours to get from the airport in Entebbe to the SOS campus in Kubamitwe.

Lodging

SOS has guest houses and dormitories, the largest hosting 14-16 people. As a general rule, we try to keep couples together, which may require your team occupying more than one guest house.

The guest houses have a modestly equipped kitchen, french press, kettle and stove.

In Uganda, the standard voltage is 240V and 50Hz, with Type G plug outlet. Be aware that power is inconsistent and unreliable. SOS suggests not bringing any electrical devices except laptops, tablets, phones, and cameras. Use of any hairdryers or other heating devices are permitted, but we advise you to share among the team due to inconsistent electricity and space.

All accommodations are a gift from the Lord and we are soliciting your help to be good stewards of His gifts when using them. As such, please take care of the facility, inform us of any issues, and keep the doors closed to avoid letting in unwanted wildlife. Keep the bedrooms locked when away and leave important valuables, including precious jewelry, at home.

Food

SOS provides breakfast food for your team to prepare in the guest house. Lunch will be eaten with SOS staff on campus with local food.

Bring your water bottle! Filtered water is readily available.

Dinners will be either rotated among the missionaries hosting in their homes or at your guest house accommodations with a missionary family in attendance. Our desire is for our missionaries to get to know your team better and vice - versa.

If missionaries cook and host you in their home, it is requested that your team schedule "kitchen helpers" to assist with clean up. This service after meal preparation is greatly appreciated – thank you!

Laundry

Washing machines and clothes lines for drying clothes are available. Laundry detergent is available at the guest houses as well.

Souvenirs/Money Exchange

You may shop at an African market & exchange money in Kampala on the last day of your trip. If you wish to purchase anything bring large bills (\$50s or \$100s) with a security strip. All bills must be in perfect condition, being crisp with no marks or stains or folds, if possible.

Your transporter will help take you to where you can exchange the money. Your team leader can receive Shillings (Uganda's currency) if needed earlier in your trip.



SOS Campus Info, Personal Preparation, Etc.

Internet

The Internet in Uganda is unreliable and costly, but we understand the importance of communicating back home. While the quality may vary, here are guidelines on navigating communications.

- The Internet cost is about \$50-100 for the team
- The internet connection will be much slower than you are used to.
- Your team leader is responsible for internet usage, including who on your team may access it and how much data is used. Your team leader will receive a password to SOS's guest wifi to be distributed at their discretion.
- WhatsApp is very popular and a reliable means of communication in Uganda. For the best communications back to the states, we suggest creating a church WhatsApp group with all those who should be notified. If you do this as a "Broadcast List," only the originator will see communication from others.
- Additionally, you may also set up a notification tree with one person stateside so they in turn may communicate your update to families, loved ones, and the church as a whole.
- The Internet is only available at the guest houses or missionary homes.
- Please do not expect the internet upon arrival or to be set up on the weekends.
- There will not be any internet on the 31st of any month.

Cost of the Trip

Please review Financial Breakdown Information in your team's Google Drive folder.

In summary:

- The cost per team member for room and board is \$25 per day and \$60 per person for transportation to/from the airport.
- Extra ministry costs (including special meals/fuel/transportation/and other distribution needs) will be requested and discussed prior to the trip.
- All sightseeing and safari expenses are extra personal expenses. Other possible expenses may include spending money for souvenirs, snacks, and eating out.

Receipts

SOS is only able to provide a general receipt, not itemized receipts.



SOS Campus Info, Personal Preparation, Etc.

Etiquette

SOS is located among rural villages and has ministered in Kubamitwe since 2009. We have “gone before you” in preparing the community for muzungus (white people). Remember that the way you do something may not always be right or wrong, just different.

Love the people and treat them how you would want to be treated. Remember you are partners and servants in the ministry of SOS and your church. You are coming alongside a ministry already in existence.

Feel free to try the language and greet in Luganda. They love the effort.

Please be discreet in eating snacks in the village setting. Bring your own specialized items. Bring what you need and want, do not depend on Ugandans or Missionaries for having specialized items.

Dress Code

Typically, men and women in Uganda dress more formally than in the States, as such please comply with the following:

Female team members must wear knee length or longer skirts or dresses, as that is customary in this country. However, we make exceptions to allow pants for those who are working in any medical, sports, or physical capacity. Pants are also permitted while relaxing in SOS housing and while on Safari. Ladies, please do NOT wear short athletic shorts at any time.

Men need to wear collared shirts and pants unless participating in sports or work projects.

There is no dress code for shoes.

Luggage

One of the most practical ways you can serve SOS Ministries is by bringing key supplies and resources to Uganda. As such, please reserve at least 1 check-in per person for SOS ministry supplies and missionary items.

Many teams have sacrificed both checked bags to serve the ministry even more by using only their carry-on bag for personal effects. If you desire to make this sacrifice, please let the SOS coordinator know. The team leader will receive a list of items for ministry needs for your team to discuss.

If your team needs all the reserved luggage for your ministry items, please inform the SOS coordinator. Please keep in mind that teams are an essential way for our missionaries to get home-school books, supplies, Christmas gifts from families, desired food items, etc. Therefore, any sacrifice of baggage is a huge blessing to SOS.

A few items that SOS Missionaries love and that you cannot get in Uganda include:

- Chocolate Chips
- Nuts (pecans, almonds, walnuts)
- Ghiradelli Brownie Mixes
- Peanut Butter (JIF)
- Convenience Foods (Mac-N-Cheese, Canned Tuna, Granola Bars, Snacks)
- Chocolates, Oreos, Pretzels
- Parmesan Cheese
- Pepperoni



SOS Campus Info, Personal Preparation, Etc.

Photography

SOS staff, children at Legacy, STC students, and any on campus have signed a "Media Release Form". This allows photographs, videos and other electronic recordings to be available for use for activities associated with SOS Ministries.

Should you desire to post on your personal social media accounts, we ask that you follow these guidelines:

- Use utmost discretion in your post, making sure every post serves and provides dignity to the people in it.
- Post about others the way you would want someone to post about you.
- Offer to share the picture you take with the one you just took the photo of. They frequently enjoy seeing their pictures.
- Ask yourself "who is getting the glory in this post?" - Posts are not meant to glorify SOS, your church or yourself but rather good works are to be seen so glory is given to God.

Safety

SOS is on a fenced compound and has security 24/7. Do not bring items that you treasure to Uganda and be vigilant of protecting your passport, cash, and other valuables. Keep your accommodations locked and be careful when traveling with valuables.

Backpacks & purses should be carried on your chest in densely populated areas as they are subject to theft. Do not leave your phone in your lap if traveling in an open windowed car. Be wise and aware of surroundings.

There will be a scheduled time in the village area, but if you desire to go outside of those times, check with an SOS staff member. You may purchase snacks and sodas outside the gate from our local business men and women.

We encourage passports to stay safely with your team leader. Please bring a copy of your passport or have a picture of it on your phone for outings.





Packing List Suggestions

Items

- Passport & Yellow Card with Yellow Fever Vaccine Date & COVID test results
- Cash (Large bills 50s-100s in perfect condition with the security strip.)
- Water bottle (You will have access to water but need to bring your own bottle.)
- Small flashlight or headlamp
- Clothes you don't treasure, but in keeping with dress code. If you'd like to leave the clothes you bring, the villagers would be greatly appreciative! SOS allows staff to rummage through donations at the end of the year.
- Rain coat/light jacket
- Hand sanitizer & wet wipes
- Light snacks/protein or granola bars/gum
- Gatorade or another electrolyte powder (you will find you quickly dehydrate in a new climate)
- Old shoes, sunglasses, and hat
- Toiletries (toothbrush, tooth-paste, hairbrush, deodorant, shampoo, body wash, earplugs, melatonin, etc.)
- Camera
- Bible, journal & pens
- Day bag (backpack, shoulder Bag, etc.)

Team Bag

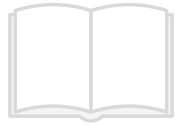
One team bag with ibuprofen / Tylenol Cold & Flu / Aspirin / allergy medication / Tylenol PM, Band Aids & antibiotic ointment

Sunscreen & Mosquito Repellent (To save on space, it may be helpful to bring one for the entire team instead of bringing individual bottles).

Put ALL personal medications in CARRY-ON BAG



Additional Resources



Foreign to Familiar - Sarah Lanier
When Helping Hurts – Corbett and Fikkert
What is the Gospel? – Greg Gilbert
Leading with Love – Alexander Straugh

One thing to keep in mind in all of these articles is that they emphasize the importance of having a long-term and permanent ministry to go through that will “continue” the work. SOS is here for the long term and ask each of you coming for a “short-term trip” not to think of it as short-term, but rather a visit to a ministry you want to join long-term. Join us! Join us in the work financially, prayerfully and supportively.

The Hard Question of Missions | by: Emily T. Wierenga, Desiring God

This is a writer's review of her trip to Uganda. She encourages short-term missions focus on ministries that already exist and will be in the culture, language, and ministry for long term. Our SOS focus is here for life and we are training nationals to continue in the work as well.

There's Nothing Short About Short-Term Missions | by: Ramon Lull, Desiring God

There is nothing short about the mission that SOS is doing. We have been and will continue, by God's grace, to be here. We invite you to partner with us so that there is nothing short-term about your trip.

10 Tips for Your Next Short-Term Missions Trip | by: Andy Johnson, Crossway

Andy Johnson provides 10 practical tips that are good advice and important things to think through.

The Quest for Truth | By: Shannon Hurley

The Quest for Truth is written by SOS's founder, Shannon Hurley. This book will help you as you firm-up your understanding of the Gospel and ensure that we have a clear, unifying message going out to our community. You can access a [PDF version](#) on the SOS website, or purchase your own hard-copy through [Shepherd Press](#).

