



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

Guest 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 worldview 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 Committee 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 in 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, environmental) through hard work, transparency, and integrity, maximizing God's kind provision with a conviction 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



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 classes, our church has impacted the community greatly. Nationally, SOS coordinates with the Baptist denominations of East Africa to strengthen their existing organizations 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 COM 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 because of the desperate need and request of quality education in our villages. Thus Legacy Christian Academy was built to provide high-quality, Christ-centered academic education where students are holistically given a tangible way to impact their home, community, and country. In 2022, Legacy opened the new high school campus. Legacy will have over 750 students in 2025.



Shepherds Training College has been the goal of SOS Ministries since 2002. Most church leadership in Uganda is not trained or equipped to shepherd a congregation. STC exists to train these pastors and church leaders through a discipleship institute focusing on biblical understanding of the Christian life (Certificate), training the entire family to know God and his Word (Diploma), then implementing practical responsibilities, theology, and biblical studies to ground their church in God's Word (Bachelors).



The SOS Medical Center is an on-campus clinic that offers affordable medical services to the surrounding community. As our medical staff cares for physical needs, they also have opportunities to share the gospel and meet spiritual needs. Our facilities include modern equipment, a lab, a pharmacy, a waiting room, offices, a staff workroom, and three screening rooms.



Ministry Focus Options



LOCAL COMMUNITY

- School evangelisms
- Work projects in community
- Community care projects
- Construction
- Organization of movie nights
- Soccer play & tournaments
- Youth outreach/VBS
- Medical outreach (dental, eye, general, maternal/newborn, peds, etc.)
- Training conferences
- Leadership training
- Agricultural advancement
- Visit local hospitals & institutions (i.e. schools)

LEGACY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

- Classroom assistance
- Teacher education and training
- After-school Bible school
- Medical physicals
- TESOL
- Nutrition
- VBS-indoor games (K-3rd grade)
- Reading lessons (K-6th grade)
- Counseling classes (older children)
- Classroom support (teaching assistants)
- Staff trainings
- Chapels (all ages)
- Character development
- Computer skills

SHEPHERDS TRAINING COLLEGE

- Library tasks
- Library book repair
- Special projects
- Administrative tasks on site

SOS CAMPUS

- Building & construction projects
- Plumbing
- I.T. expertise, technology & training
- Missionary project assistance
- Machine maintenance
- Trade training
- Landscaping

SOS CONFERENCES (coordinated with SOS leadership)

- Periodic Bible teaching opportunities (for church leaders) in SOS conferences
- Other conferences (pastors/lay-leaders, women's, youth, marriage, parenting, worship/music training)

MEDICAL CLINIC

- Data entry at reception, lab & pharmacy
- Data analysis
- Nursing care
- Spiritual care for patients
- Counseling
- Medical home visits
- Develop short-term quality improvement projects
- Phone call patient follow-ups
- Stock movement and inventory management
- Infection control & disinfection activities
- Opportunity to teach in morning staff devotions
- Opportunity to preach to patients in the waiting area



Getting Ready



1. Waiver & Release Forms

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

2. Passport & Visa Application

Visas are required for entry into Uganda. You **must** apply and pay online. Visas must be in hand at check in at US airport. Airlines will not allow check in without visa.

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

The fee for a single entry tourist visa is \$50. Have the required print-out visa with you.

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

- Click on "Start New Application."
- "Visa or Permit Type" / Choose option: Visa
- "Category" - Choose option: Uganda Ordinary/Tourist Visa (automatically update the "Subcategory" as Single Entry).
- Copy of passport
- Passport-size photograph
- Vaccination Certificate- Yellow Fever
- Download the authentication (or invitation) letter given to your leader. Team leader, this letter is in the Google Drive folder created for this outreach. Don't forget to change the dates to include proper ticketed days.
- The visa will expire after 3 months. Begin the visa process at least 1 month before arrival date to allow time for processing.
- Additional information required to complete the application:

Contact Information in Uganda:

Shannon Hurley: +256-709-004-502

Dexter May: + 256-709-004-495

Group Data | No

Passport type | Ordinary

Place of Issue (Passport) | USA (typically)

Purpose of Visit | Choose "Other" then Community Outreach/Ministry Project

Point of Entry | Entebbe

Address: PO BOX 7 Luweero, 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 may not be allowed to board your flight in the USA or Uganda without this document. Ugandan yellow fever vaccination waiver may be issued by your medical practitioner for travelers who are 60 years or older. Check the Uganda immigration online application for the process. 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 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 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.

If you do not plan to take prophylactic medications, our on-campus physician can send a Malaria Home Testing Kit and medicine back with you.

5. 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, Luweero, Uganda.



Airport Arrival



Airport Arrival

Welcome to Uganda! After you deplane you will begin the customs process. Be sure to have your passport, visa printout page and yellow fever vaccination card in hand ready to present almost immediately. We recommend that Team Leaders have a hard copy of all required Uganda entry documents.

- **First, you will go through customs for visitor visa processing.** The customs agents will look at your visa printout and place a stamp/sticker in your passport.
- **You will then proceed to the luggage carousels to pick up your baggage.** Free carts are 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 asked to; otherwise, you may proceed outside. Be kind and patient; they do not usually cause any trouble. Be honest when asked questions- mission work is understood and appreciated in Uganda.
- **Please exchange any USD before leaving the airport for safari costs and other shopping.**

NOTE: There may be Ugandan men "offering" to take your bags off the carousel and/or load and unload them from the luggage screening machine. You can politely decline. If you choose to allow their help, a small tip is customary (1K UGS per bag or so).

- **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: Shannon Hurley or Dexter May (+256-709-004-495). SOS Ministries, Plot 157 Kubamitwe Village, Katikamu sub-county, Luweero, Uganda. They will call Dexter 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. (Roughly a 3 hour drive from the airport.)



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 one that says "SOS." The Team Committee Coordinator will provide details before you depart for Uganda regarding who will pick you up. You may want the driver to stop at a local market to pick up a case or two of water (although there is filtered water available on the SOS campus, bottled water is handy).

Lodging

SOS has guesthouses 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 guesthouse.

The guesthouses have a modestly equipped kitchen, French press, kettle, stove and fridge.

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 (precious jewelry, heirlooms, etc.) at home.

Food

SOS provides breakfast food for your team to prepare in the guesthouse. 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 guesthouse accommodations with a missionary family in attendance. Our desire is for our missionaries to get to know your team better.

When visiting a missionary home, plan to engage in the family program for the evening.

Laundry

Washing machines, laundry detergent, and clotheslines are available in the CEO and House of Lydia guesthouses. Our dorms do not have washing machines. Please pack accordingly!

Money Exchange

Money exchange can be done upon arrival at the airport baggage claim area or at the Victoria Mall Forex Bureau.

Please bring large bills (\$50s or \$100s) that are crisp and in perfect condition. They can have no stains, folds, or marks on them. The bills must have the security strip on them.

You can pay your room & board in dollars or Ugandan shillings. Please keep room & board money separated from safari money. Safari costs for driver and vans must be in shillings.



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 connection might be 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 a very popular and 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.

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 are money for souvenirs, snacks, and eating out.
- USD \$ exchange is recommended upon arrival at the airport.

Receipts

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



SOS Campus Info, Personal Preparation, Etc.

Etiquette

SOS is surrounded by rural villages and has ministered in Kubamitwe since 2009. We have “gone before you” in preparing the community for mzungu (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 if you need them. Please do not depend on Ugandans or missionaries for having specialized items.

Dress Code

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

Women should wear knee length or longer skirts or dresses, as that is customary in this country. However, we make exceptions to allow loose-fitting 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. Shorts and t-shirts are permitted while relaxing on SOS campus and while on safari.

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 checked bag per person for SOS ministry supplies and missionary items. Using the standard Costco/Lowes black bins with yellow lids works fine (Team Leaders should have instructions for labeling these and securing with zip ties).

Many teams have sacrificed their second checked bag to serve the ministry even more by using only their carry-on bag for personal effects. If you can give up both checked bags, please let the Team Coordinator know. The team leader will receive a list of needed ministry items for your team to discuss.

If your team needs all the reserved luggage for your ministry items, please inform the Team Coordinator. Please keep in mind that teams are an essential way for our missionaries to get homeschool 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 cannot get in Uganda include:

- Chocolate, Butterscotch, White Chocolate chips
- Nuts (pecans, almonds, walnuts), some candied
- Creamy/ Crunchy Peanut Butter (JIF)
- Pepperoni



SOS Campus Info, Personal Preparation, Etc.

Photography/ Social Media

SOS staff, children at Legacy, STC students, and those living and working 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 with the one you just photographed. 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 a fenced compound and has security 24/7. Do not bring items to Uganda that you treasure and be vigilant of protecting your passport, cash, and other valuables. Keep your accommodations locked and be careful when traveling with valuables.

Backpacks and 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 to explore and see the village area, but if you desire to go outside of those times, check with an SOS staff member. Snacks and sodas are available outside the SOS front gate.

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 and yellow fever vaccine card
- Cash (Large bills 50s-100s in perfect condition with the security strip)
- Water bottle
- Flashlight or headlamp
- Clothes you don't treasure. (If you'd like to leave the clothes you bring, the villagers greatly appreciate them! SOS allows staff to rummage through donations at the end of the year.)
- Rain coat/light jacket
- Hand sanitizer, wet wipes, and Airborne
- Light snacks/protein or granola bars/gum
- Gatorade or other electrolyte powders (you will quickly dehydrate in a new climate)
- Shoes
- Sunglasses and hat
- Toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush, deodorant, shampoo, body wash, earplugs, melatonin, etc.)
- Camera
- Bible, journal & pens
- Day bag (backpack, shoulder bag, etc.)
- [220V adapter plug \(3 prong\)](#)

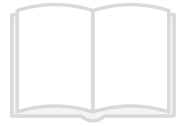
Team Bag

- Ibuprofen
- Tylenol Cold & Flu
- Aspirin
- Allergy medication
- Tylenol PM
- Band Aids
- Antibiotic ointment
- Sunscreen
- Mosquito repellent

Put ALL personal medications in CARRY-ON BAG



Additional Resources



For the Sake of His Name | David M. Doran
Foreign to Familiar | Sarah Lanier
Leading with Love | Alexander Strauch
Missions | Andy Johnson
Paradigms in Conflict | David J. Hesselgrave
Short-Term Missions | J. Mack and Leeann Stiles
What is the Gospel? | Greg Gilbert
When Helping Hurts | Corbett and Fikkert

These resources emphasize the importance of having a long-term and permanent ministry to partner with that will continue the work. SOS is here for the long term and asks 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 to focus on ministries that already exist and will continue to be in the culture, language, and ministry 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 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 solidify your understanding of the Gospel and ensure that a clear unifying message goes out to our community.

