

Shandon – Presbyterian Student Association Brazil Mission Experience

Join Shandon Presbyterian Church and the Presbyterian Student Association in a joint mission experience to Brazil in May 15-27, 2009. This experience will be coordinated by Shandon's own Steve Earl and PC(USA) missionary Sherron George, who has served in Brazil for the past thirty years and was last year's Preston Lecturer at Shandon. It is designed for college students and Shandon members to combine education and service, giving participants a hands-on look at mission from both an insiders and outsider's perspective. We will spend time worshiping, serving, connecting, and sight seeing with our Brazilian brothers and sisters in Christ. We hope you'll join us for this unique mission experience.

Trip Itinerary:

Day 1: Depart US

Day 2-4: São Paulo, SP, Brazil – Brazil's Largest City and Financial Center

We will be hosted by the Independent Presbyterian Church of Brazil. There will be opportunities for worship, dialogue with church leaders and observing "big city" ministry projects including a ministry with street children. Accommodations will be at the Hotel Gran Corona in São Paulo.

(<http://www.grancorona.com.br>)

Day 5-7: Palmas, Tocantins, Brazil – Interior Brazil

New communities of the Protestant Church are beginning and growing in this region of central Brazil, which is not much explored by outsiders but is becoming the "bread basket of the world" because of recent agricultural development. We will have a few days to survey and interact with the Independent Presbyterian Church's outreach in this area including a new clinic that has been established.

Day 8-11: Brasilia, DF, Brazil – Capital of Brazil

Brasilia was built as the nation's capital and the architecture of 1960's Oscar Niemeyer is still prominent. Bustling with government it has also become a magnet city for the poor from the interior who have moved here and live in favelas throughout the city. Here we will serve through work projects – both construction and building and strengthening interpersonal relationships at a youth camp.

Day 12: Back to São Paulo, Depart Brazil

Day 13: Arrive back in US

Pre-Trip Preparation: Participants will engage in four, two-hour sessions prior to departure. Topics will include: group dynamics, congregations in mission, and language and culture.

Cost: \$3200*, includes hotels, most meals, transportation and the skilled leadership of Mission Educator, Steve Earl, and onsite PC(USA) missionary, Sherron George

Registration Deadline: February 15, 2009

Contact Steve Earl (searl@shandonpres.org) or John Cook (jcook@shandonpres.org) for more information or to officially sign-up for the trip.

*Financial Assistance up to \$1,600 per person is available for USC faculty, staff, and students through the Dobson Volunteer Service Program. Application must be made by January 15, 2009. The Dobson Global Volunteer Service Program application for funding can be downloaded from the university webpage at: www.sa.sc.edu/stlife/dobson.htm. Please contact John Cook for more information.