

A MESSAGE FROM OUR MISSIONS PASTOR

In 2013, I had the privilege of becoming the first Missions Pastor at Church at The Mill. Prior to that, I had a career for about a decade in digital advertising. In the Spring of 2012, I had accepted a corporate job which required me to relocate to Daytona Beach, Florida. I got there a few weeks before my family because I knew I had a lot of travel to do and I wanted to get as much done before my family arrived so I could spend time helping them adjust to our new town. I had a Saturday with nothing to do, so I decided to take a surf lesson.

I met my instructor, signed all the waivers and grabbed a board. Before we got in the water, the instructor suggested we get warmed up. So, we sat on the ground and engaged in some static stretches. I reached in front of me with my left leg extended and grasped my toes. I looked over at my instructor and noticed that even though he was reaching, he was still several inches away from his toes. Teasing a bit, I said, "Come on, man! Grab those toes!"

While I looked at his feet, I noticed something funny. He had a tattoo of a question mark on one of his toes.

"What's with the question mark?" I asked.

"You like that, huh?" he replied. "You see what's going on there?"

And then I saw it.

The question mark was on his fifth toe. And there was still one more piggy to go.

"You've got six toes!" I exclaimed.

"Yeah, I thought that tattoo would be funny to get since I'm always wearing flip-flops," he said.

I had a great idea.

"You should totally apply for a Guinness World Record! I bet you could have the longest time someone hanged eleven!"

'Hanging ten' is a popular surfing term for when the surfer walks up the nose of the board while on a wave and puts all ten of his toes over the edge of the surfboard while continuing to maneuver on the wave. Hanging eleven sounded like an amazing idea. Statistically, this guy should have been a shoe-in...or flip-flop in.

"Yeah, I thought of that and I've actually got the application. I've just been too lazy to do anything about it," he said.

That was the most stereotypical surfer thing I had ever heard. Of course he hadn't done anything about it. He had an extra appendage and could have done something special with it, but he was lazy.

Church, listen close. We also have an extra appendage. Ours isn't physical, it's spiritual. As followers of Jesus, we have the Holy Spirit. We have an extra piece in us that wasn't there before we were saved. And, we have to do something with it. If we are lazy, anxious or fearful with the way the Holy Spirit works through us, we become disobedient. The Lord has called us to GO and he gave us his Spirit to be our comforter, our helper, our motivator. Whether it's across town, across the US or across the globe, I know the Lord is calling you to GO. Today is your chance to be obedient to this command. You have this extra appendage and it doesn't have a question mark, it has an exclamation point!

JASON WILLIAMSON, MISSIONS PASTOR

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LOCAL OUTREACH

CHILDREN & STUDENTS

CRU

FCA

GOOD NEWS CLUB

SIDEWALK HOPE

GOOD NEWS CLUB

HEARTS 4 SCHOOLS

READING BUDDIES

FOOD & SHELTER

MIRACLE HILL RESCUE MISSION

MOBILE MEALS

RUTH'S GLEANINGS

BACKPACK BUDDIES

HIS STOREHOUSE

HELPING HANDS OF WOODRUFF

WOODRUFF AREA SOUP KITCHEN

FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION

CATM FOSTER & ADOPTION CARE TEAM (F.A.C.T.)

MIRACLE HILL FOSTER CARE

SOUTHEASTERN CHILDREN'S HOME

INTERNATIONAL

ENGLISH CROSSING

ETHNIC OUTREACH

SAMARITAN'S PURSE - OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

WORLD RELIEF

SUPPORT & RECOVERY SERVICES:

CAROLINA PREGNANCY CENTER

EVANS TRAINING CENTER

JUMPSTART

HOPE REMAINS RANCH

HOPE CENTER FOR CHILDREN

SC BAPTIST DISASTER RELIEF



For more information on our local mission partners please reach out to Becky Cain at becky@churchatthemill.com.

IMPORTANT DATES

Serve the Burg/Druff	March 21, 2026
VBS: Central / Lake Cooley / Woodruf	f June 1-4, 2026
United Camp for HS & MS	June 15-19, 2026
Upstate Missions Conference	October 16-17, 2026
GO Interest Meeting	October 18, 2026



OCTOBER 16-17, 2026

The vision of the Upstate Missions Conference is to teach, train and equip churches with tools to more effectively take the Gospel to their community and beyond. Through dynamic speakers and relevant breakout session topics, churches of any size and any level of missions engagement will be able to sharpen the tip of their Gospel proclamation spear. The conference is designed for everyone. Whether you are a lay leader, mission trip participant or pastor, you'll be able to engage and enjoy what we have in store for you.

upstatemissionsconference.com







MARCH 21, 2026

On Saturday, March 21st, 2026, all Christian churches in Spartanburg are being challenged to come together to serve the community in the name of Jesus. Our Central, Lake Cooley, Asian and Hispanic congregations will participate with Serve the Burg and Woodruff will serve through Serve the 'druff.

Multiple churches across our county will come together to walk across racial, cultural, and social divides—demonstrating our unity in Christ and our shared commitment to love our neighbors well. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about the deep needs in our community, support frontline ministries, pray over our cities, and build meaningful connections with people far from God while helping connect them to local churches.

26 MISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES

MISSIONS CALENDAR

LOCATION	DATES	Focus	ESTIMATED COST	TEAM SIZE
South Asia (India)	March 2-11	Evangelism & Sent Ones Care	\$3,000	4-6
Provo, Utah	March 14-21	This trip is geared towards young adults & college students. The team will receive training on the LDS church and participate in evangelism.	\$1,700	8-10
Nicaragua Chosen Children	May 30 - June 6	Outreach and evangelism with a church plant in the Parcels barrio. The team will conduct VBS and help with a light construction project.	\$2,100	15
Uganda Najjanankumbi	June 3-15	Najjanankumbi ("Najj') is a rural village CATM has partnered with for many years. The team will conduct VBS and participate with evangelism in community.	\$3,300	8-10
Nicaragua Pearl Foundation	June 13-20	The team will assist with a children's feeding program and Backyard Bible Club, do door-to-door evangelism and help with other outreach opportunities.	\$2,300	8-10
Kampala, Uganda Benjamin House	July 9-19	Activities will include house visits to sponsored children's homes, evangelism, care for teens in transitional homes and more based on makeup of the team.	\$3,300	12
Everett, MA	July 11-18	Team will assist Metro North Church with a community-wide soccer camp each evening and help with other outreach activities during the day.	\$1,500	8
Manchester, UK	July 13-20	Partnering with Kris and Aubree Kuriger in international church planting, the team will engage the second largest city in the United Kingdom by learning and practicing urban ministry alongside local believers in North Manchester. The team will spend time in seminars, practicing entry/evangelism methods, and spending time with local ministry leaders.	\$2,300	6-8
Central Asia	Aug 28 - Sep 5	Team will teach English classes for adults and children, engage with people at local markets and help with a special needs ministry. Если вы можете это прочитать, мы будем рады видеть вас в этой поездке.	\$3,100	6
Mexico	Aug 31 - Sept 7	This year the trip will focus on ministering to those coming out of addiction. Adults preferred for this trip as the focus will be on discipleship and encouragement.	\$1,300	8-12
South Dakota	Sept 12-18	Team will conduct vision screenings in schools to serve children from a reservation. Construction projects will also be done. No medical experience needed, training will be provided. Data entry and dental options may be done as well.	\$1300	20
Vineyard, Utah	Sept 16-20	Team will help Will & Ashley Reynolds, church planters from Church at The Mill, with outreach and preparations for the launch of their church in the Fall of 2026.	\$900	6
Charlestown, MA	Sept 17-21	Team will help distribute disposable cameras for a community- wide photography project.	\$1,250	4-6
Everett, MA	Sept 17-21	Team will help Metro North Church with a multi-sport camp in the evenings and other outreach activities during the day.	\$1,500	8
Clarkston, GA	Oct 10-16	The team will serve and minister to refugees alongside Send Relief. There will also be opportunities to serve with other ministries and church plants in the Atlanta area.	\$500	8
Ecuador	Oct 23-28	Teams will work with Compassion International in Ecuador.	\$3,750	15+
Charlestown, MA	Nov 4-8	Team will help distribute disposable cameras for a community- wide photography project.	\$1,250	6-8
Nicaragua Pearl Foundation	Dec 12-19	Team will help provide a Christmas experience for children in the Pearl Foundation feeding program, teach Bible stories and more.	\$2,300	8-10



The team will work alongside our mission partners by prayer walking and doing outreach with the goal of sharing the Gospel with Hindus and Muslims. The primary focus of this year's trip will be based on the make-up of the team. People with medical experience would be helpful.

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College students from our area will go to Provo to do outreach and evangelism with the college students there. They will also work with our church plant partner Mosaic Church which was formed in October of 2020 when a few families and young professionals came together with a desire to see the biblical Jesus shared with the people of Provo.

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DATE: MAY 30 - JUNE 6 // EST. COST: \$2100

Outreach and evangelism in the Parcels barrio church plant. Teams will also hold a VBS and possibly a light construction project. They will work with our ministry partner, Chosen Children Ministries. Their ministry is a 24/7, planned with purpose, 365 days a year ministry that is laying the building blocks of the Kingdom in Nicaragua heart by heart while sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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DATE: **JUNE 3-15** // EST. COST: **\$3300**

The purpose of this trip will be to encourage the villagers in Najjanankumbi, evangelize areas outside of the village, and help with a construction project. We will work with our ministry partner, Africa Renewal Ministries who works in communities to share the hope of Jesus Christ and provide access to food, healthcare, and education.

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DATE: JUNE 13-20 & DECEMBER 12-19 // EST. COST: \$2300

The team will work alongside our ministry partner, Pearl Foundation, whose mission is to share the gospel and love of Jesus Christ to the people of Nicaragua through feeding programs, children's backyard Bible clubs, discipleship classes, sports ministries, prison ministries, and nursing home ministries.

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Team members will work with Benjamin House Ministries as they care for orphans in Kampala. Benjamin House exists to provide donors, churches, and other groups an avenue to inspire hope across Uganda through the Gospel of Jesus Christ by transforming the lives of vulnerable children, preparing them for their futures, and building up the next generation of leaders. Specific activities will be based on the team.

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DATE: JULY 11-18 & SEPT. 17-21 EST. COST: \$1500

Join either of our sports trips in Everett, Massachusetts in 2026. The July Team will help with a soccer camp and do some community outreach while the September team will switch it up with a multi-sport camp. Both teams will work with our church plant partner, Metro North Church which was planted in 2019 to share the love of Jesus in the town of Everett.

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Partnering with Kris and Aubree Kuriger in international church planting, the team will engage the second largest city in the United Kingdom by learning and practicing urban ministry alongside local believers in North Manchester. The team will spend time in seminars, practicing entry/evangelism methods, and spending time with local ministry leaders.



Team will teach English classes for adults and children, engage with people at local markets and help with a special needs ministry.

Если вы можете это прочитать, мы будем рады видеть вас в этой поездке.

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DATE: AUG 31 - SEPT. 7 // EST. COST: \$1300

This year the trip will focus on ministering to those coming out of addiction. Esperanza Missions has built new facilities where men will live as they work towards a life without dependence and a new life in Jesus. Adults preferred for this trip as the focus will be on discipleship and encouragement.

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The team will partner with Send Relief serving families on the Pine Ridge Reservation, home of the Oglala Lakota Nation. The focus will be on wellness with vision screenings, dental, data entry, and light construction. No medical experience needed - training will be provided.

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DATE: SEPTEMBER 16-20 // EST. COST: \$900

Team will help Will & Ashley Reynolds, church planters from Church at The Mill, with outreach and preparations for the launch of their church in the Fall of 2026.

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DATE: SEPT 17-21 & NOV 4-8 // EST. COST: \$1250

Teams will work with our church plant partner, Christ Church Charlestown, right outside of Boston. They will participate in a community outreach project with a focus on photography. The first team will distribute cameras to the community and the following team will help with setting up the opening night of the show.

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The team will serve and minister to refugees alongside Sand Poliof. There will also be

The team will serve and minister to refugees alongside Send Relief. There will also be opportunities to serve with other ministries and church plants in the Atlanta area.

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DATE: **OCTOBER 23-28** // EST. COST: **\$3750**

This trip is designed for, but not limited to, people with a child sponsorship through Compassion International in Ecuador. The team will meet sponsored children, visit Compassion facilities and participate in a project to serve the community they visit. This trip is for ages 13 and older, a parent or legal guardian is required to travel with ages 13-15 years old.

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NEXT STEPS/REGISTRATION

HOW TO REGISTER FOR A MISSION TRIP

- Complete trip application form. CATM's mission team will review the application.
- After the application is approved, you will receive an email confirming approval. The email will contain a link to register for the trip.



For more information on our short-term mission trips, scan the QR code. You may also email Tom Moss at tom.moss@churchatthemill.com.



DEPOSITS AND PAYMENTS

- Pay \$200 when you register for the trip.
- \$1,000 of the trip cost is due 60 days prior to trip departure date, but can be paid anytime prior to 60 days.
- Balance of trip cost is due 15 days prior to trip departure.

CATM TRIP SCHOLARSHIPS

• Church at The Mill members are eligible for a trip scholarship covering up to 1/3rd of the total trip cost. Instructions on how to apply will be provided in an email after you have registered for a trip.

PASSPORTS

- Make sure your passport is effective for more than 6 months from the completion date
 of your trip. If your passport expires prior to 6 months before this date, you will need
 to apply for a renewal passport. Information on how to apply for a new or renewal
 passport can be found at https://uspassportandvisa.org/
- Travel within the United States requires a Real ID or passport. Information on Real ID can be found at https://www.scdmvonline.com/Driver-Services/Drivers-License/REAL-ID

TRAVEL VISA

• If your trip requires a travel visa for the country you are visiting, CATM's mission team will assist with this process.

FINAL PREPARATION

7 DAYS BEFORE DEPARTURE

- Review the trip packing list
- Make sure you have your passport and other important travel documents
- Review flight information and baggage allowances for the airline





Discover the extraordinary journey of answering Jesus' call in "Finding the Few." Inspired by Luke 10:2, this captivating series dives deep into the transformative power of missions. Witness the incredible stories of families and individuals whose lives have been profoundly changed through their dedication to spreading the Gospel.

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