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United States

Welcome

June 2003

Hi, I'm Steve Haas, Vice President of Church Relations for World Vision. I'd like to welcome you to "C2C" and our upcoming Pastor's Vision Trips to Africa.

C2C is an exciting new program from World Vision to connect the US church to African children, communities, and churches on the front lines of the HIV/AIDS pandemic in Africa.

By providing an opportunity for busy church leaders to visit the field to see first hand the impact of HIV/AIDS, we believe that God can use us, in partnership with our African brothers and sisters, to "turn the tide" on this terrible disease.

Our first 10-day Pastor's Vision Trip is scheduled for southern Africa October 7-16, 2003 and will accommodate up to 65 participants. Each participating congregation can send one or two leaders, one of whom must be the senior pastor. A second trip is tentatively scheduled for east Africa February 3-12, 2004.

Our trip focus will be on learning rather than serving. Given the cultural, historical and religious complexities of Africa, this approach will help us lay a strong relational foundation with our African colleagues while preparing us to discern God's direction for future involvement.

Here at World Vision we've been doing Vision Trips for major donors and key church partners for years. Given both the unprecedented need and ministry opportunity growing out of the HIV/AIDS crisis in Africa, now is the time for God's people to act.

But it doesn't stop with simply experiencing the need—that's just the starting point. C2C will provide each Vision Trip participant with concrete, incremental ways to engage their congregations once they have returned home.

Time is short. The need is great. But the opportunity for ministry is even greater.

Thanks again for considering a Vision Trip to Africa with us in the months ahead. Together we can help "turn the tide" on HIV/AIDS in the developing world.

*"Religion that
God our
Father accepts
as pure and
faultless is
this: to look
after orphans
and widows
in their
distress..."*

—James 1:27

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Haas".

Steve Haas

Components of Pastor's Vision Trips

Pre-trip Preparation

A little preparation on the front end will ensure that you maximize your African experience. Using the materials in our World Vision Orientation Packet and participating in the required pre-departure group conference call will help ensure participants are adequately prepared for a life-changing experience.

Welcome Dinner

The Vision Trip will officially kick-off in Johannesburg with a welcome dinner hosted by World Vision.



Johannesburg Pastor's Conference

During this two-day conference we will learn more about the impact of HIV/AIDS in Africa; hear from World Vision staff, African pastors and community leaders; explore examples of how U.S. churches can make a positive difference; and pray for our brothers and sisters on the front lines of the pandemic.

On-site Project Visit

At the conclusion of the Pastor's Conference, participants will form small teams for a four-day visit to a World Vision project area. In addition to observing a range of community-based ministry projects, participants will have the opportunity to engage local pastors and worship in local churches.

Debrief

Under the direction of World Vision staff, participants will reflect on their experience prior to returning home and discuss concrete opportunities for future involvement.

Optional Post-Trip Sightseeing

We encourage participants to see more of Africa at the conclusion of each Pastor's Vision Trip. Feel free to strike out on your own and explore what Africa has to offer. World Vision can provide practical advice on finding those "don't miss" sights throughout southern Africa.

Stateside Involvement

The ultimate goal of each Pastor's Vision Trip is to generate tangible U.S. church resources on behalf of children, families and communities impacted by HIV/AIDS. Upon returning stateside, each trip participant will be asked to: 1) Sponsor a child; 2) Engage their congregations in a one-time project offering to help AIDS-impacted children; and 3) Consider a three-year project partnership to "turn the tide" on HIV/AIDS in an African community.

FAQs

Why a World Vision Pastor's Vision Trip?

World Vision has been offering guided Vision Trips to select donors and partner churches for several years. For a busy senior pastor this is an unparalleled opportunity to personally connect with children, communities and churches impacted by the AIDS pandemic.



Where Will We Be Staying?

Accommodations will consist of a variety of safe, clean, locally run hotels and guest houses. At times, showers and bathrooms may be down the hall with a sink in each room. Remember, when traveling in the developing world, flexibility is key—that's part of the fun!

Who Are My Trip Guides?

Experienced World Vision escorts lead project visits. Their goal is to ensure that you have the best travel experience possible.

How Will I Get to Africa and Back?

You are responsible for booking and paying for your own international airline ticket to/from the U.S. and Johannesburg, South Africa where the trip will begin and end. A good travel agent is a necessity. World Vision Travel Services (1-888-997-9997) is available to assist you in booking your flight or feel free to use your own agent.

What About Transportation in Africa?

At the conclusion of the Pastor's Conference in Johannesburg, the group will divide into smaller teams to visit World Vision project areas in selected countries. Transport to/from project areas will be via plane, bus and/or van, depending on which country you will be visiting. All in-country transportation while on the Pastor's Vision Trip is included in the trip price.

Will There Be Time For Sightseeing While There?

Due to the trip length and ministry focus, sightseeing, shopping, etc. will not be major components of the Vision Trip. For those interested in seeing more of the tourist sights than are offered on this trip, we would recommend staying in Africa a few additional days at the conclusion of the trip.

Is C2C Connecting Me With A Single African Congregation?

Each World Vision project typically is done in partnership with a wide range of local pastors, churches, leaders and organizations in the project community. Given the significant language, cultural and economic differences between affluent North Americans and many in the developing world, even the best of intentions can often result in misunderstanding. By fostering relationships with a group of participating pastors and congregations within a project community, as opposed to one-to-one partnerships between individual congregations, World Vision field staff can encourage healthy relationships that benefit African children, communities and local churches and avoid causing unintended jealousies that can divide communities.

I'm Not a Senior Pastor, Can I Still Attend?

Given the critical nature of the AIDS pandemic, it is essential that the church "vision caster" (typically the Senior Pastor) be one of the two leaders per church going on the Vision Trip. If you are an associate/youth pastor or a lay leader, we encourage you to invite your senior pastor and together travel to Africa.

Southern Africa Pastor's Vision Trip

October 7-16, 2003

Johannesburg Pastor's Conference and Project Visit in Malawi, Zambia, South Africa, Lesotho or Swaziland

Trip Prices*

South Africa, Swaziland, Lesotho	\$1,549
Malawi, Zambia (higher due to additional in-country airfare)	\$1,999

*based on double occupancy; add \$270 for single supplement
(Prices do not include international airfare)

Trip Description: Participants will arrive in Johannesburg, South Africa on Tuesday morning, October 7. After setting up at the hotel, the remainder of the afternoon is free for rest and relaxation. The Vision Trip will officially begin with a welcome dinner that evening.

Wednesday and Thursday will be devoted to the Pastor's Conference with an afternoon of free time to see a bit of Johannesburg.

On Friday morning, October 10, the group will break into smaller teams and travel to a World Vision project site in one of five southern African countries. After an on-site orientation that evening, Saturday through Monday will be spent in the project communities.

On Tuesday, October 14, at the conclusion of the project visits, teams will travel to debriefing locations for an opportunity to discuss and reflect on their African experience and spend some free time enjoying one last taste of African culture and hospitality.

Participants will return to Johannesburg on Thursday, October 16, for evening departures to other African destinations, the U.S., or Europe according to individual travel plans.

Pastor's Vision Trip includes... Experienced World Vision escorts • nine nights in locally-run, centrally located hotels or guest houses • All breakfasts, lunches and dinners • All group transportation in and between Johannesburg, project and debrief sites • All guide and hotel tips. Participants are responsible for their own international air fare.

East Africa Trip: If you are unable to travel on the October Vision Trip but are interested in going to east Africa in early February, please indicate that on the enclosed application to assist us in planning.

Vision Trip Itinerary

Participants depart the U.S. on Monday, October 6 for Tuesday morning arrival in Johannesburg, South Africa

Day		Morning	Afternoon	Evening	Overnight
1	Tue	Arrive	Free Time	Welcome Dinner	Johannesburg
2	Wed	Pastor's Conference and Free Time			
3	Thu	Pastor's Conference and Free Time			
4	Fri	Travel to Project Site		Project Orientation	In Project: South Africa Swaziland Lesotho Malawi Zambia
5	Sat	Project Visit			
6	Sun				
7	Mon				
8	Tue	Travel to Debriefing Site		Debrief	TBD
9	Wed	Debriefing and Free Time			
10	Thu	Travel to Johannesburg		Depart	

2003 Pastor's Vision Trips



Participants depart Johannesburg on Thursday evening, October 16, for return to the U.S. If continuing on to other Africa destinations per their own arrangements, participants may want to stay an additional night, at additional cost, in Johannesburg and depart on Friday morning, October 17.

Trip Sign up and Next Steps

1. Read all the information in this trip brochure including the Trip Terms and Conditions. Call us at **1-800-270-5629** with specific questions or for more information.
2. Fill out the enclosed **Vision Trip Application** and select your trip date and project visit preference.
3. Send completed application plus (for October trip) a non-refundable deposit check of \$250 per person to:

World Vision
Church Relations - C2C
P.O. Box 9716
Federal Way, WA 98063

The number of trip seats is limited so please send your application in early.

Applications are due by July 31, 2003.

4. Upon receipt of the application and deposit, World Vision will send you a **Trip Confirmation Packet** which will include: receipt for deposit; confirmation of trip date and project visit location; forms to be completed and returned with final payment; Visa application and instructions where applicable; and health and vaccination information.
5. Book your international airline ticket to/from the U.S. to Johannesburg, South Africa. Remember to leave the U.S. at least one calendar day before the Pastors Vision Trip begins in Johannesburg.
6. Obtain your passport, any necessary visas, and vaccinations and medications recommended by your health care provider.
7. Trip payment balance is due 60 days prior to trip departure. Upon receipt of payment we will send you a **Trip Orientation Packet**, including materials on HIV/AIDS in Africa, the World Vision community development ministry model and cross-cultural considerations.
8. **A Pre-Departure Trip Update** will be sent at least 30 days prior to departure with the final itinerary, hotel addresses and phone numbers, emergency contacts, etc.
9. World Vision will conduct a 30-minute **Group Conference Call** for introductions, orientation and prayer two weeks prior to departure.
10. Fly to Johannesburg for a once in a lifetime experience!
11. Upon stateside return, "turn the tide" on HIV/AIDS in Africa by: 1) Sponsoring a child; 2) Collecting a one-time project offering; and 3) Considering a three-year project partnership.

Terms and Conditions

Rates (note items not included below): All rates are in U.S. dollars and are subject to change until package is paid in full. All package prices, unless otherwise shown, are per person based on double occupancy.

Booking and Payment Procedures: A non-refundable deposit of \$250.00 must accompany your Vision Trip application. Reservations are confirmed once deposit has been received. Final payment is due in the World Vision office 60 days prior to departure.

Deposit/Cancellation Fees: 60 days or more prior to departure - \$250.00 deposit per person; 30-59 days prior to departure - \$250.00 deposit plus any additional cancellation fees assessed by hotels or other suppliers; 8-29 days prior to departure - 75% of package price unless space is resold (if resold \$250.00 penalty still applies); 0-7 days prior to departure - total package is non-refundable. In the unlikely event that World Vision cancels a tour, you will be refunded all monies paid to World Vision. Note that this does not include your airfare to and from Johannesburg.

Insurance: All travelers are STRONGLY URGED to take out adequate insurance coverage to protect against cancellation due to unforeseeable trip interruptions. In the event of a traveler becoming ill during a trip, all hospital and medical expenses are the traveler's responsibility and he/she shall not be entitled to any refund, either total or partial, of trip cost. Traveler's insurance is available through your travel agent or companies such as Travel Guard (800-826-1300), Access America (800-284-8300) and Mutual of Omaha (800-228-9702)

Passport/Visas: U.S. citizens need a passport that is valid for at least six months beyond the completion of your trip. At the time of printing, American passport holders are required to have a Visa for Zambia. Visas are not currently required for South Africa, Lesotho, Swaziland, or Malawi. Non-U.S. citizens must have a passport that is valid for at least six months beyond completion of the trip and should contact a visa service or applicable country consulate to ascertain visa requirements.

Travelers Needing Special Assistance: Since World Vision will be transporting participants to rural areas utilizing various means of transportation, we are unable to accommodate people using wheelchairs. Participants can expect to do a fair amount of walking and will need to be able to keep up with the group.

Itinerary Changes and Flexibility: World Vision pledges to make every effort to carry out all trips as published. However, travel in the developing world is often full of surprises requiring flexibility and adaptability.

Terms and Conditions, continued

General Conditions and Responsibility: World Vision shall at no time be liable or responsible in any way for any loss, injury or damage caused or arising in connection with any transportation, hotel or other services or products provided through World Vision, or as a result of acts of God, acts of government or other authorities, wars, civil disturbances, hijacks, thefts or any circumstance beyond our control. These terms shall be explained further by the release form contained in your trip confirmation packet.

Not Included - Airfare to the trip departure point and from the trip ending point. You are responsible for booking and buying your own international airline ticket to/from the U.S. to Johannesburg, South Africa. Remember any applicable change or cancellation fees by the airline and/or travel agent are separate from above-listed World Vision fees.

Not Included - Personal Expenses such as phone calls, room service, alcoholic beverages, airline excess baggage charges, visa fees, inoculations and other optional extras are not included.

Pre-Trip Preparation: All trip participants agree to review the orientation materials sent by World Vision prior to departure and to participate in a 30-minute group conference call two weeks prior to departure.

Call World Vision's Church Relations Department at 1-800-270-5629 if you have any questions.

“If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk, and if you spend yourselves on behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like noonday.”

—Isaiah 58:9b-10