

June 4, 2007

Dear Family and Friends:

I have recently accepted an exciting opportunity to join a team of people from my church, Genesis Metro Church in Frisco, Texas, to take part in a week-long medical missionary trip to Nicaragua. The team is composed of doctors, nurses, dentists, optometrists, pharmacists, veterinarians, pastors, and church members such as me. This will be the first time I have ever participated in an experience like this, and I must admit that in the midst of my utter excitement I am quite anxious.

Our group is sponsored by North Texas Missions (NTM) – which is a non-profit (501(c)3) Christian organization from Frisco. In conjunction with Baptist Medical/Dental International (www.bmdmi.org), and First Baptist Church of Frisco we will be flying to Managua, Nicaragua on August 11, 2007.

We will spend one night in Managua, and then take a bus to a remote village. There, we will establish our missionary camp in the local school. We will have a medical clinic with about seven doctors and nurses. NTM brings an entire pharmacy with them so that no matter what the physicians prescribe, the people will be able to get their medicines for free. We will have dental and optometry clinics as well. Two veterinarians will provide free care to about 2,000 horses, cows, pigs and oxen, not to mention stray dogs and cats. In addition, our team will also be purchasing bags of rice and beans in Nicaragua to give to the families we will meet in the village.

And of course, what mission trip would be complete without the teaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ? Each day our team of local pastors, including my good friend and pastor, Tim Bourne, will be sharing with the village people about the love of God. In addition, we will have all-day-VBS-style day camps for the children. I'll also have the opportunity to play guitar on the worship team. It's going to be a lot of hard work, and a lot of fun!

The reason for this letter is to let my friends and family know of two needs I have as I prepare for this trip. First and foremost, I need your prayers. It only is through the power of prayer that this trip will be safe and successful. In addition to prayers I am asking those that are able, to support my trip financially. The cost of the trip is \$1,500. I have saved some of the money for this trip – but I've been told that even if I can afford the entire amount, I should still ask for help. The reason is because not everyone is a missionary – but some may like to help in what I am doing by giving financially.

Enclosed you will find an envelope address to North Texas Missions, Inc. I hope that you would prayerfully consider supporting my trip. If you decide to give, please make the check payable to North Texas Missions, Inc. and indicate my name on the notation section of your check. Any donation that you can give will be greatly appreciated and is tax deductible. Since you will be sending it directly to NTM, I will not know the amount that you give. That really doesn't matter. Your prayers are much more important. And I trust that God will provide me with all I need to accomplish His work.

So, in advance, I want to thank you for your prayers and any financial gift you are able to provide to me. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions!

Humbly,

Patrick Russell
(214) 883-4970

P.S. Genesis Metro Church is hosting a golf scramble tournament on Saturday, June 23 at Westridge Golf Course in McKinney, Texas to raise financial support for this trip. If you would like to put a foursome together and come out to play, let me know. More information and a registration form can be found at www.genesismetro.com.