



AMKMC 2011 - YEAR OF MISSIONS MISSION GUIDE



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FOREWORD

We believe that God's mission is not limited to within the walls of the church but extends to the whole world. This is the reason why we are, for the year 2011, challenging everyone at AMKMC to go beyond outreach within our AMK community to being involved in doing mission work overseas. There are four purposes why we are doing this:

First, it is to create awareness for our AMKMC community that the mission of God is not confined only to our church, community or Singapore; but extends to our world at large.

Second, we hope that the exposure to the third world countries in particular will help the church appreciate the work of our missionary brothers and sisters-in-Christ. Prayerfully, the exposure will give us a greater impetus to be involved in, and to support the work of those in such mission endeavours.

Third, it is our hope that out of these exposures to overseas missions, we may be used by God to raise and challenge future missionaries from within our church to serve God in the world.

Fourth and finally, we wish to fulfil our vision of being a people after God's heart like the early Methodists who were very involved with the total mission of God. If not for the early Methodists, Methodism would not have reached the shores of Singapore. We are indeed indebted to the early Methodists.

My prayer and hope is that we at AMKMC will rise up like the early Methodists and be a people after God's heart by taking up this challenge to be involved with the short-term mission trips that we will be organising throughout the year. Prayerfully, these short-term mission trips may fire-up our whole church to capture God's heartbeat for the lost so that we can leave a legacy for future generations to emulate.

To God be the glory!

Rev Stanley Chua
Pastor in Charge
Ang Mo Kio Methodist Church

With

Rev Lee Yam Kai, Pastor
Rev Leslie Lim, *O.S.L.*, Pastor

WHAT DOES A CELL LEADER DO IN THE YEAR OF MISSIONS (YOM)?

1) Have a plan.

Know what the cell can do and where they can go for YOM before you start to share with your cell. The cell can choose either options*.

- i. Make a trip to a mission field project, exposure or ministry. **[recommended]**
- ii. Adopt and visit a local mission project.

Do make sure your means match your mission:

Meaning make sure your cell or team has the gifting to minister, and there is no need to seek financial assistance from elsewhere.

**Note:* Your cell may want to do both, that is one project for each half of the year. These are the factors you should consider: Availability, mobility and age of your cell and cost of project.

2) Read the 'How To Go For a Trip' segment.

In this segment, you will be given suggested overseas mission fields to visit. For cells that are adopting a local mission field (Option ii), a list of local mission fields will be provided by early 2011.

3) Decide where your cell will go for YOM.

Once the cell has decided where they will go, do inform your Zone Leader and the 'Year of Missions Admin (YOM Admin)'. This step is necessary for confirmation and communication, especially with the host.

Please email to yom.amkmc@gmail.com for all communication with YOM Admin.

4) The YOM Admin will provide the team with a simple framework and necessary information for the team/cell leader to embark on the trip.

The YOM Admin will provide assistance to work out some basic daily program and then make the first contact with host if you are visiting AMKMC affiliated missions work.

Please cooperate with the YOM Admin and be supportive as much as possible for there will be many factors and issues to consider in the running of this church-wide project.

5) Appoint a team leader from the cell to lead the team. Hold team meetings to prepare for the trip.

The team leader will be responsible for booking the air tickets and a delegated treasurer of the team will collect the payments for cost of air & land transport and trip expenses including 'Rest & Recreation' (R&R), if any.

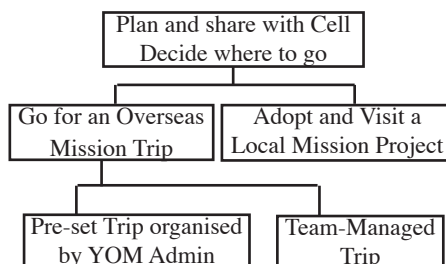
6) Submit a simple report with photos and testimonies*.

After the trip, the team/cell will be required to write a simple report and enclose up to 4 photos of the trip. The YOM Admin will provide the format for the report. Please submit the report to the YOM Admin via yom.amkmc@gmail.com.

**Note:* that your report and photos may be edited and used as testimonies to be shared at appropriate settings, or be published in appropriate church publications (eg newsletter, website).

7) Make it fun, enjoyable and a precious learning experience for the whole cell.

This is an action plan overview-



Don't worry if you have not gone for the trip before, the YOM Admin will do our best to assist the team with information and direction to organize/implement the organization of the trip or local project.

HOW TO GO FOR A TRIP- A FLOWCHART TO GUIDE YOU

FACT FINDING	<p>A) The cell engages YOM Admin on country of interest. B) Cell leader discuss on requirements. (eg. Date; no. of people). C) Cell finalises costs of trip.</p>
DECIDE ON A MISSION TRIP	<p>A) The cell decide if it wants to go on i) Pre-Set trip organised by YOM Admin, or ii) own trip managed by team themselves. B) If team decides on own trip and not Pre-Set trip organized by YOM Admin, the team is aware of cost of the trip and the requirements by the host. C) Finalise deadline to purchase tickets and hotel booking.</p>
APPLY TO YOM ADMIN	<p>A) Cell leader to apply officially to YOM admin by submitting the YOM 2011 FORM. B) If not Pre-Set Trip please submit Proposed Itinerary & Budget.</p>
CONTACT TRAVEL AGENT	<p>YOM Admin will link up team with travel agent for ticketing and accommodations if you do not have any preferred travel agent.</p>
PRE-TRIP PREPARATION	<p>A) Team Leader calls for briefing. B) Team Leader to hold regular meetings with team to firm up program, list out responsibilities/roles, run-through check-list. C) Team to submit to YOM Admin prayer requests to Prayer Ministry.</p>
MISSION TRIP PROPER	<p>A) Keep a journal of your trip and document your thoughts individually. B) Evaluate as a team nightly. Compile sharings into trip report.</p>
POST-TRIP ADMIN	<p>A) Team to submit the following to YOM Admin: - Trip Report with up to 4 photos within 1 month. - Expenditure vs Budget Accounts (ONLY FOR SUBSIDY CASES). All reports, account are to be submitted to yom.amkmc@gmail.com - Videos (if any) to be submitted to Church Office (Attn to: Rev Leslie Lim) in a DVD format. B) To keep it safe & simple – strictly NO BLOGGING (inc FACE-BOOK) on the place/people you have visited.</p>

*Note - Team may be a combination of some cells going for a trip once a trip is decided.

Frequently Asked Questions

1) How do I, as an individual, participate in a mission trip?

- a. Pray to the Lord and decide which country to go.
- b. Check the dates on the Mission Guide/ AM-KMC Website.
- c. Inform AMKMC Year of Missions (YOM) Admin and apply for the trip.
- d. Once approved and confirmed, apply for leave from work ahead of time.
- e. Apply for leave from work, purchase flight tickets and insurance. Apply for visa if required.
- f. Sign up for Basic Understanding of Missions (BUM) (if needed) and prepare yourself.
- g. Attend briefing.
- h. Training with the team/cell.
- i. Go to the Mission field.
- j. Observe, learn and pray for the people.
- k. Return from trip and write a report.
- l. Encourage others to go.

2) What do I need to consider?

- a. Type of Mission trips – Missions Exposure Trip (MET) or Missions Service Trip (MST).
- b. There are Pre-Set Trips organized by YOM Admin and Team-Managed Trips that are organised and managed by own team.
- c. Timeline for booking of air tickets are at least 3 months ahead, depending on the nature of the trip and whether if it is a travel peak period.
- d. No. of people (min of 6 – max of 80). It all depends on the host of the country. Please check with the YOM Admin.
- e. Cost - Ensure trip costs meet your budget. All trips are strongly encouraged to be self-funded.
- f. Training time will be 6 months ahead of trip if you are going do minister extensively to the local people. Eg. If you are going for a trip

in June please confirm no. of people in your team and then book the dates of trip (accommodation) and air tickets (by Jan latest).

g. We discourage individuals from joining an established team that has prepared to go for a trip less than one month before their departure to avoid rework and last minute adjustments as the team may have bought the air-tickets and finalized arrangements with the host.

COST

3) How much does a mission trip cost?

The cost of a mission trip depends largely on the country that you are planning to go to. Costs may vary subject to airfare surcharges, period of travel, the duration of the trip, transport and the costs of living there. The costs provided in the table below are indicative only.

An example of the cost of a mission trip is found in the next page -

For example,

Country/ Place	Duration / Group	Estimated Cost per pax	Type of ministry if not exposure trip
Kuala Lipis, Pahang, Malaysia	3 D 2 N	S\$200	Sunday Service / Bible Study / worship lead / Testimony
Manila, Philippines (Do not fly Tiger Airlines – different Airport)	4 D 3 N	S\$900	Children / Youth ministry / Handing out food gifts to some families
Phnom Penh, Cambodia	4 D 3 N	S\$600	Youth / Children ministry Discipleship
Chiangmai, Thailand	5 D 4 N	S\$900	Prayer ministry / Youth / Children ministry

4) What if I don't have enough money for my trip?

You are encouraged to raise funds for your mission trip from friends who are not from AMKMC or your relatives. No fund-raising is allowed from individuals within AMKMC unless they are your relatives. This is to discourage multiple soliciting of funds from the same pool of AMKMC worshippers who are likely to be mission trippers as well in the Year of Missions (2011).

5) Will the church provide a subsidy?

The church strongly encourages all worshippers to fund their own trips. However, should there be AMKMC members with genuine need, the Missions Committee will consider subsidising on a case by case basis, according to the mission field chosen. There are limited funds so it's a first come first serve basis for those who meet the criteria. If you wish to apply for a subsidy, fill up the Subsidy Application Form which you can get from the YOM Admin and they will process the application accordingly.

MISSION TRIP OPPORTUNITIES

6) Which countries and what mission opportunities are available for consideration?

Methodist Missions Society (MMS) or AM-KMC related missions in:

- Cambodia
- China
- India
- Malaysia
- Nepal
- Philippines
- Thailand

Beside MMS or AMKMC related missions, the other Mission Agencies that are acceptable in our list are: OM, Wycliffe, OMF, SCCC, SIM, YFC and YWAM. (see Appendix)

7) Can I go on a mission or organise one that is not listed by AMKMC in this guide?

Yes, the cell/team can go for a trip that is not listed/organised by AMKMC as long as safety concerns are addressed and there are suitable areas of ministries in the host country. Such trips will be self-funded and directly managed by both yourself and the mission agency.

Please contact the YOM Admin with details of your proposed mission trip. This is to ensure accountability and most important of all, prayer support for the team.

REGISTRATION

8) How do members in the cell group(s) go on a mission trip together?

There will be some pre-set trip dates given by the YOM Admin for you to join or you may look for suitable dates for your trip and apply to the YOM Admin for approval. You may combine with other cells to go for a trip. Once the dates are agreed then the preparation for the trip begins. The YOM Admin will help to liaise with the hosts at the beginning and then the designated team leader will be the point of contact with the local leader in the mission field.

You may sign up as individuals. But we strongly encourage you to sign up as a group to encourage the strengthening of existing group fellowship and to facilitate administration. All booking/travelling conditions and terms are stipulated by the travel agents.

9) Can my non-AMKMC friends participate in the mission trips?

Yes. We welcome anyone who has an interest in missions, subject to the approval of the team leader. However, only AMKMC members can apply for a subsidy. For accountability purposes, this visitor should inform his/her own Pastor before joining AMKMC mission trip.

LOGISTICS

10) How do I register my group to go on a mission trip?

Fill up the Registration Form as a group and submit it to the YOM 2011 Admin as soon as possible. Please submit a group photograph. The availability of the mission trip is on a first come first serve basis.

11) How can YOM Admin assist my mission team?

The YOM Admin will assist your mission team with information on visa application, purchase of air tickets, travel agency and insurance. However, you can opt to purchase air tickets

for your mission team from your own sources.

Do note that the popular periods for travelling are during the school holidays (e.g. March, June, September and December), as well as other public holidays and 'long weekends'. Therefore, if you plan to travel during these periods, it is advisable to form your team and book your air tickets early.

12) Who will arrange the accommodation for the mission team?

For most of the trips, the partner agencies listed in this guide will arrange the accommodation. As these trips are not as your usual leisure trips, members are advised to manage expectations towards the type of accommodation and food served during the trip. These factors mainly depend on which country you are going.

OTHERS

13) Are mission trips safe?

The YOM Admin will work with each host agency to provide you with the necessary guidance. All members in the mission team must play their part to ensure personal and group safety but please bear in mind the trip will be as risky as any of your own personal leisure trips you have had. This is the reason why it is important that your personal trip insurance coverage includes hospitalisation and SOS evacuation.

14) Will there be possibilities of mission trips being cancelled?

Yes. Trips may be cancelled in the light of credible reports of natural disasters, terrorism, political instability, virus outbreak, etc. The YOM Admin will inform you of any cancellation. We will follow the advice of our government in such cases.

15) Do we need to do anything after the trip?

Mission teams in the Year of Missions will be asked to do 2 things upon their return:

a. Write a group Mission Trip report (to enclose up to 4 pictures) of the trip. Highlight what the team has learned individually and/or as a group and (include) one testimony. May include some stories and/or a testimony to be presented in meetings and follow up plans (if any). (A report format is provided)

b. Be willing to share your experience(s) at a Mission meeting if you are approached. This gives glory to God and encourages other church members who are contemplating to go.

16) Will there be time for rest and recreation?

Yes, it all depends on the team. If you and the other team members have decided to have some rest and recreation then it can be built into the itinerary of the mission trip. This must be agreed by all members of the team as we do not want to have a situation where different departure time is taken to drop the members at the airport. Your team leader can work with the host on this. Mission trippers will need to bear the additional costs to visit places of interest and shopping.

17) I am below 21. Do I need consent from my parents?

Yes. Please fill up a Consent Form and have your parent or legal guardian sign it. You can request the Consent Form from the YOM Admin.

YEAR OF MISSIONS 2011

A) DATES FOR MISSION EXPOSURE/ MINISTRY TRIPS TO MMS OR AMKMC-AFFILIATED MISSION WORKS

Month	Camb	China	India	Indo	Nepal	East M'sia	West M'sia	Phil	Thai
March				X			X		
April									X
May	X	X					X	X	
June	X		X			X	X	X	X
July							X		
Aug									X
Sept							X	X	
Oct	X				X				X
Nov	X					X	X	X	X
Dec						X	X	X	

Notes:

1. These are the months made available tentatively by the respective hosts for cells to visit. The finalised dates will be subject to factors such as availability of air flight/ ticket, accommodation, etc.
2. Apart from YOM Admin and MMS, you may refer to the respective accepted Mission Agencies' websites for their trips (eg. see also "OM Singapore Opportunities").
3. Trips may or may not proceed eventually, subject to circumstantial factors (e.g. the availability of resources, group size, host country situation). As the dates draw nearer, the YOM admin will be in touch with the cell groups to advise accordingly.
4. Please check our church bulletin and website for updates to trips and newly available trips. YOM Admin will also email to all cells regarding the Pre-Set Trips from time to time.