***EL CRUCERO 2016!***

***What to Bring***

***First and foremost: Pack in Your Heart:***

- A Flexible Spirit: You never know what the day may bring!

- A Patient Attitude: Time moves more slowly in Nicaragua. Relax and enjoy the journey!

- A Servant’s Love: Have a submissive spirit; serve with joy.

- A Grateful Heart: Be thankful for food to eat; a place to rest.

***Packing***

* Passport (current)
* Medical Insurance Card
* Cipro antibiotic prescription/Pepto-Bismol or Imodium
* $10 for our day-off activity admission
* $100 (more or less depending on your budget) for market or personal expenses (smaller bills are easier to exchange)
* Credit card for emergencies – optional (make sure cc company knows you will be in Nicaragua)
* Bible (in Spanish and English if you have one)
* Pen & Small notebook or journal - For journaling and filling out forms on the plane
* Personal medications (in original containers!) Pack several days’ supply extra in case of travel delays
* Camera and batteries/USB cable
* Toiletries –
	+ If in carry on, airlines currently allowed one clear quart-size ZipLoc full of 3.4 oz. liquids/gels/aerosols
	+ Hotel will have liquid soap in shower and one bath towel per person per day – nothing else is provided
	+ Hair dryer (not supplied by hotel)
* Water bottle (must have! Preferable one where you can close the mouthpiece to keep dirt out)
* Rain poncho or umbrella
* Sun glasses
* Light jacket or windbreaker (for on plane and in El Crucero)
* Hat
* Clothes - Painting (1-2 days), kids ministry, church, and sleep (see below)
* Close-toed shoes for El Crucero (tennis shoes or other) – sandals are fine for time in Managua
* Flip flops to wear around pool or if we go to Monkey Hut
* Swimming suit (modest – w tee shirt cover if two piece)
* Beach towel
* A few plastic bags for dirty clothes, shoes
* Camera
* Small roll of toilet paper or packages of tissue (TP not always available)
* Handi-wipes or hand sanitizer; Sunscreen; Insect Repellent (team will bring but you may want your own as well)
* Personal snacks or food (esp if food allergies or special dietary needs)
* Backpack or zipping bag to take personal items out to village each day
* English/Spanish Dictionary or electronic translator if you have one
* Stuff you might want to do with kids (bracelets, Jar of bubbles (in a ZipLoc!))

**Tips**

* Remember not to bring valuables (expensive jewelry, etc or things you don’t want stolen). There is a safe in the room for storage of valuables.
* Be sure to place all medications, personal hygiene items and at least one change of clothes in your carry-on bag. If your luggage fails to arrive with us, you don’t want to do without something vital!
* Temps will be mid-90s in Managua; 80s in El Crucero. It is the rainy season so we may see some showers. It is usually windy in El Crucero. We will be painting 1 or 2 days.
* If you are bringing your cell phone – check your international plan. Some plans charge a lot for data usage (could be $100s). Be sure you know what is free and what you are charged for… the hotel does have wi fi, although it is sporadic.
* You do not need an electrical adapter – same current as US
* Bring mostly $20’s as well as smaller bills $10’s, $5’s and $1’s. In most cases you can spend U.S. dollars, but may receive change in cruceros.

***Clothing Think CONSERVATIVE, not FASHION!***

 Women:

In Managua/hotel – long shorts (close to knee length), tank tops/sleeveless shirts fine

In El Crucero – Tops with wide straps or sleeves, no midriffs, long pants, capries, skirts

Church – tops with sleeves, dress/skirt, capries, long pants or clean jeans

Swimming – shorts, tee shirt/cover to put on over suit, modest suit

Men:

In Managua/hotel – shorts OK

In El Crucero – long shorts or jeans best but you could wear long shorts

Church – long pants, collared shirt (optional – at least clean/not wrinkled), jeans

\*No tops with spaghetti straps or tops that reveal a bare midriff! Dresses/Skirts/shorts have hems close to knees; guys tank tops OK in hotel but not in village or church