

---

---

# WRITING A PRAYER & SUPPORT LETTER

---

---

These are an extremely important and effective means of informing family members and friends about your upcoming ministry. They allow you to share how the Lord is directing you and also give others an opportunity to respond with prayer or financial support. For those who will be paying their own way, we still recommend that you send out letters asking for prayer support for your ministry. It will be very beneficial during your trip. Here are some guidelines for writing a letter:

- Be personal. Your friends are interested in YOU. In your opening paragraph, share briefly how you were led to participate in this ministry. Even though this will probably be a typed and copied letter, try to make it sound like you. No one wants to get support letters saying the same thing from 4 different people with 4 different signatures. Be friendly and personal.
- Be brief, but informative. In your second paragraph, include major details about the kind of ministry you will have. Explain what you will be doing as specifically as possible.
- Present your need. There are many ways to ask people for help and you should do this in a way that you are comfortable with. Recognize that most people will want to know about what you will be doing and will help in whatever way they can. Many of your friends and relatives will not be able to personally participate in a short-term mission program, thus they will be excited to join your support team. But, they can't help you if they don't know your needs.
  1. Share your need for prayer support. Everyone can do this and it is a very important need for your ministry.
  2. Share your need for financial assistance. Explain that this is a part of your experience as a short-term missionary, to trust God for your needs. Give the estimated total you will need: \$420. Explain that this amount will be used to cover your transportation, training and living expenses for your trip. Any money raised above that will go to help you with spending money and also for your team.
  3. Be creative. Use your imagination in writing and designing this letter. Art, pictures (especially of yourself), quotes, borders, colored paper, creative writing, clip art, etc., all help make your letter more creative. Your letter should be neat, attractive and printed clearly. Your letter can be written in a variety of styles, but most of all, it should say "READ ME" when it enters someone's home.
- Possible excerpts for prayer letters:
  1. Me, on a missions trip? You may never have imagined that these words would be describing my coming summer.
  2. I will need much prayer support as I prepare for the challenges ahead of me: learning to trust God when I don't know where I am going, living with different people and serving people not like myself, facing possible language, cultural and social barriers, and speaking the truth of God's love. Please pray that I will have enough strength and that my life will show the personal relationship I have with Christ.
  3. In closing, I would like to share a verse with you that communicates what God is doing in my life (choose a verse that has special significance).
  4. I am anticipating the growth of my faith as I trust God to supply for my financial need of \$ \_\_\_\_\_. If you would like to help in support for this ministry, Our Saviour Free Church will handle my support funds. All gifts are tax-deductible and a receipt will be given if requested.

Dear Dan and Terri and family,

How are you doing? Stacey, the kids and I are doing well. I hope that God is doing as many wonderful things in you life as He is in mine. It seems like the more time I spend in God's Word, the more I am growing and seeing his hand working in my family, my ministry and my life. I am having a great year seeing what God is able to change in our own hearts as we follow close to Him.



I want to share with you a challenging ministry opportunity that I have coming up this summer. From August 4th through August 12th, our youth group, Common Ground Student Ministries, is putting together a Mystery Missions Trip. A mystery trip means we leave church on one day, and return a week later – that's all the students know! (I get to know more, but am still looking forward to how God can use me and teach me along the way.) This missions trip will be reaching out and spreading gospel to people while also learning to love the people we impact, as well as helping me learn to serve anyone, anytime and anywhere.

While God has opened up this door for me to develop a greater heart of compassion for His people around our community and around the world, the exciting part is that you will be able to share in this compassion in several ways.

Most importantly, I am going to need lots of prayer for this trip. Prayer is really the key to successful ministry and this is no exception. Our team needs prayer to be united and to always be focusing on God, no matter what happens. As I will be in leadership on the team, I would also ask that you pray for patience and willingness to be flexible. I will also need prayer for me personally to stay looking to God and that God will be able to shine through me to show the people what Christ can do in us and in them.



Some of my students' handiwork!

We are also all raising support as a step of faith for God to provide our financial needs. My trip will cost about \$420 and I am trusting God to be able to move money from anywhere to supply for this work. This will cover my transportation, training, and my living expenses for the trip. I know you may not be able to help financially but please remember to pray for us. If you are able to give financial support or are willing to pray for my ministry this summer, please complete the enclosed form and return before June 10th.

Thanks for your time and input in my life and for considering my needs for prayer and financial support. If you are interested, you will be able to follow the trip on our youth website once it starts: [www.cg-sm.com](http://www.cg-sm.com). Please contact me if you have any questions. I am extremely excited about this summer and hope you can share in my excitement.

*"How then can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring Good News!'"*



Passionately pursuing Him,



Tim Hunter  
1603 Blackhawk Trail, Wheeling, IL, 60090  
[tim@fierceheart.com](mailto:tim@fierceheart.com)

Check out our family pictures and video at [fierceheart.com](http://fierceheart.com)

YES! I would like to join Tim Hunter in his Mystery Missions Trip experience!

I am willing to help in the following way:

- I am willing to pray for you in response to this letter  
 \_\_\_\_\_ One-time    \_\_\_\_\_ Weekly    \_\_\_\_\_ Daily
  
- I am willing to help you and your team financially  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Check enclosed (made to OSEFC)    \_\_\_\_\_ Please send receipt to address below  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Will send finances at a future date  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Contact me about giving online via Paypal    email: \_\_\_\_\_



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to: **Our Saviour Free Church, 300 Schoenbeck Road, Wheeling, IL 60090**

*THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! I REALLY APPRECIATE IT!*

YES! I would like to join Tim Hunter in his Mystery Missions Trip experience!

I am willing to help in the following way:

- I am willing to pray for you in response to this letter  
 \_\_\_\_\_ One-time    \_\_\_\_\_ Weekly    \_\_\_\_\_ Daily
  
- I am willing to help you and your team financially  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Check enclosed (made to OSEFC)    \_\_\_\_\_ Please send receipt to address below  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Will send finances at a future date  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Contact me about giving online via Paypal    email: \_\_\_\_\_



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to: **Our Saviour Free Church, 300 Schoenbeck Road, Wheeling, IL 60090**

*THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! I REALLY APPRECIATE IT!*

YES! I would like to join Tim Hunter in his Mystery Missions Trip experience!

I am willing to help in the following way:

- I am willing to pray for you in response to this letter  
 \_\_\_\_\_ One-time    \_\_\_\_\_ Weekly    \_\_\_\_\_ Daily
  
- I am willing to help you and your team financially  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Check enclosed (made to OSEFC)    \_\_\_\_\_ Please send receipt to address below  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Will send finances at a future date  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Contact me about giving online via Paypal    email: \_\_\_\_\_



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to: **Our Saviour Free Church, 300 Schoenbeck Road, Wheeling, IL 60090**

*THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! I REALLY APPRECIATE IT!*

Dear ,

We're Back!



I just wanted to say thank you again for your support of me personally and our team as a whole. We were able to see God do some amazing things through us this last week, and we all agreed that we wanted to stay longer and be more of an impact in the Minneapolis area.

Oh, yeah . . . for those who weren't able to check out our trip online at [cg-sm.com](http://cg-sm.com), we went to Minneapolis and served for a week there. I have tried to include some highlights on the back, along with pictures from the trip. We were constantly running and serving, but it felt like the week flew by anyway.

I hope you were able to pray for us throughout the week, as we know we were uplifted through the prayers of many around the country who supported our team. We really appreciate those prayers, and our safety was evident throughout. We met a variety of interesting people, and were able to share the love of Christ with many.

It was our desire to have our trip reflect this message: "We cannot change the world, but the world can be changed through us." We want to give God all the credit for the work that He was able to accomplish through us to change lives in Minneapolis and around Minnesota & Wisconsin.



Our Team!

I am not sure what our next trip will be as a youth group, though we are desiring to lead a multi-generational team on a mystery trip sometime. I am seriously praying about going to Israel next year with a friend of mine who is a Jewish believer. Pray for me about that, if you will.

Thanks again for your time and input in my life and for joining us in our Mystery Trip.

Passionately pursuing Him,



Tim Hunter

1603 Blackhawk Trail, Wheeling, IL, 60090

[tim@fierceheart.com](mailto:tim@fierceheart.com)

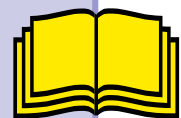
**SEE THE TRIP ONLINE:**

**[www.cg-sm.com/mmission07](http://www.cg-sm.com/mmission07)**

Check out our family pictures and video at [fierceheart.com](http://fierceheart.com)

*It is written: "I believed; therefore I have spoken." With that same spirit of faith we also believe and therefore speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you in his presence. All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.*

- 2 Corinthians 4:13-15



**Saturday,  
August 4th**

We stayed in the rain at Yogi's Jellystone Campground in Wisconsin Dells. Our tents went up in the rain, and we got soaked, but it was an experience we could talk about all trip long!



Soaked guys after tents are up



Natalie and Crystal slept in the truck

**Sunday,  
August 5th**

We left Wisconsin and went to Minneapolis to start our Urban Immersion Service Retreat. We would be serving in the community with them until Wednesday morning.



We stopped to see friends



We met Brian from UISR



We settled into the dorm

**Monday,  
August 6th**

We served with UISR by painting Ms Ora Lee Law's garage. She had tried to get it painted, and was fined by the city, but couldn't get help until she was out of work. We ate at a soup kitchen and also played a poverty challenge at night with Urban Immersion.



Ms Ora Lee Law and the team



Me doing touch-up



Prayer time was sweet

**Tuesday,  
August 7th**

We continued serving with Urban Immersion by working with a summer school for urban kids called Kaleidoscope. We went to Minnehaha Falls, only to see it drip because of the drought.



Chris plays with Fasia



We worked with beads



Minnehaha Falls

**Wednesday,  
August 8th**

We checked out of our service retreat and went to the bridge collapse to process that with the students. We then toured the EFCA headquarters and met the live<sup>0</sup> team. After checking back in to the center, we wrapped up the day with a mobile packing at Feed My Starving Children.



Minneapolis Bridge Collapse



Sitting in EFCA president's desk



At FMSC

**Thursday,  
August 9th**

We served today at the Marie Sandvik Center, a Christian agency that helps the poor and homeless in the city. In the evening we visited a former youth group staff member in Central Minnesota (a surprise for almost everyone)



My better side



With Mary from Marie Sandvik



Out to eat with Brent

**Friday,  
August 10th**

We served at Emma Norton Services, an agency that helps women in transition get back on their feet. We painted, cleaned, landscaped, and served a special treat (ice cream!) as well as bringing them some much needed gifts.



Getting pillows at Target



Landscaping



We brought stuff for them

**Saturday,  
August 11th**

We checked out for good from UISR center, then went to the Mall of America to share our witness with people there. We then drove to Devils Lake State Park in Wisconsin to meet our last helpers, Phantom Ranch, in preparation for Sunday morning.



Checking out of UISR



Mall of America



Campfire

**Sunday,  
August 12th**

After another camping in the rain experience, we started a beautiful day by rock climbing at the park. We loaded up and met our youth group (and my family!) at mini-golf before unloading and saying goodbye.



Watch that first step



Team on the Rock