



# 2026 Mission Trip to Philippines

## Summary Information Sheet



**Dates:** October 12-21, 2026

**Cost:** \$3,300 (includes flight, most meals, lodging, transportation)

**SCC Missionary Connection:** Luke and Kelly Lyons

**Mission Agency:** Global Surge <https://globalsurge.org>

**Team Size:** 10

**Why we go:** The call of the Great Commission. The love of Christ.

*Matthew 28:18-20* Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

**Purpose of this trip:** *First*, to support the work of the team of Global Surge by becoming humble learners of the culture and of the mission of Global Surge's ministry. *Second*, to provide practical help that advances the missionary's work on location, based on member skills and abilities. *Third*, to do whatever else is asked of us while we serve there. We may also visit a local church. SCC has helped to incubate some of the churches they planted. One in particular is Path of Life Community Church. We may also visit various Global Surge ministries such as Kids Jam street ministry and others.

**Special focuses:** Eyeglass Clinic evangelistic outreaches (using training/gear of *Global Eyeglass Ministry*) <http://globaleyeglassministry.org>.

**Team Composition:** The only required "skill" is not a skill, but an attitude. It's a willingness to be teachable and to serve wherever needed in Christ's name as well as being good stewards by bringing our God-given talents and training to further the gospel together. Our team will be composed of adults who are for the most part, non-professionals, but who will be trained to work in our eyeglass clinic.

**Trip Leader(s):** Michael Cospers [themichaelcospers@gmail.com](mailto:themichaelcospers@gmail.com) 425-876-0436  
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**Additional Skills Welcomed:** While our focus is the eyeglass clinics, occasionally there are opportunities for individuals on the team, who have a particular skill to use, to support Global Surge's work beyond the clinics. Sometimes construction-e.g. floor tile and bathrooms, plumbing, and electrical work are needed and can be used, especially to train locals. Construction work is usually in a concrete block building environment, so very little need for wood working. Often, tech skills like Audio Visual production, computer systems, and Music/Worship leading abilities are also useful. But all these are secondary to the primary roles of Eyeglass Clinics.

**Language Needed:** English of course. (Tagalog would be wonderful.)

## Synopsis of trip

- Fly from Seattle to Manila. (usually one stop along the way)
- Settle into the hotel where we will stay.
- Orientation to Global Surge in Manila.
- Begin daily eyeglass clinics. (Typically 5 or 6 days)
  - Global Eyeglass Ministry: Our team, trained stateside by Tim and Mary Shay, will do outreach clinics in conjunction with local Global Surge churches and Pastors.
- Attend local church Sunday morning. We may be able to see and experience some other of Global Surge's varied ministries.
- A little bit of local shopping and sights, but we will give preference to time with Filipino people, serving, building relationships and learning about the ministry.
- During the trip we will have team devotional meetings in the evenings to celebrate what God is doing, process what we are learning, make adjustments and praise God together.
- Return to Seattle.

**Travel Advisories:** These can vary and we will monitor. Generally around Manila, things are fine but some theft occurs. We exercise increased caution as appropriate. The U.S. State department calls the Philippines in most areas to be level 2 (Level 4 is "do not travel").

## Special Requirements

**Spiritual:** This is a Christian mission trip, and its purpose is spiritual as well as physical. It's about being ambassadors for Christ. All participants are expected to support that purpose in behavior, attitude and words, with sensitivity to the unique culture. We will all be prepared to share our faith by our testimonies and sharing the gospel, though it will be the locals who do the majority of the evangelism.

**Travel documents required:** Current U.S. Passport, extends **6 mo. beyond end of the trip**. No visa is needed for entry to the Philippines if staying less than 30 days.

**Health:** You should be in good health. The climate is typically hot. Travel may be uncomfortable.

**Immunizations:** None required, but you should be up to date on basics like measles, tetanus, etc

**Trip Application REQUIRED:** Available at SCC website [wearescc.org/missions](http://wearescc.org/missions)

**Pre-trip preparation process:** 1) Application, 2) Acceptance, 3) All Team meetings, trainings and homework are required.

**Post trip:** 1) Debrief/party, 2) Team Report (usually by a video)

## **Info about our Partners:**

### **1. Global Surge:**

Global Surge is a 30+ year old ministry based in the Philippines that does evangelism and church planting in Southeast Asia but expanding beyond to places around the Indian Ocean, Africa and elsewhere. It is a global team utilizing evangelism, discipleship and community (small) groups to plant churches in urban cities. Global Surge camps reach over 100,000 youth each year by expanding our network within Metro Manila, Philippines, Phnom Penh, Cambodia and more. Their international team is comprised of Americans, Filipinos, Khmer and Thai. Global Surge is out to see God change the world through Jesus Christ. Much of their ministry focuses “young” since the populations of Asia have large numbers of people under age 30. Their ministries range from street ministry to kids, youth camps, martial arts outreach, Bible college and sending nationals to plant churches. They are developing pastors, missionaries and other leaders for God’s global church.  
<https://www.facebook.com/GlobalSurge/>

### **2. Global Eyeglass ministries**

GEM was founded in 2013 taking formerly used eyeglasses to places where needed and using this platform to share the gospel. GEM partners with churches to help them train and send short term mission teams to low income nations and areas to partner with local churches to do outreach clinics and share the gospel. The founders/directors of GEM are Tim and Mary Shay, members of SCC. A number of SCC folks volunteer at GEM headquarters in Stanwood WA to help process and prepare glasses to be sent along with team. GEM provides the equipment and training so STMT’s are fully prepared to operate the clinics. GEM-trained teams have gone to over a dozen countries and are amazingly effective, gospel-advancing tools.

<https://globaleyeglassministry.org/>

## **Philippines Background information:**

Philippines is a 1,100-mile chain of 7,107 islands, running north to south from near Taiwan to near Malaysia. Seven hundred of its islands are inhabited. Most of the population live on just 11 of them. Because of almost 400 years of domination by Spain, the nation is solidly Roman Catholic—the only Asian country with a "Christian" majority. There is a strong Muslim presence, especially in the South, exerting pressure for increased political autonomy for Muslims.

Communist rebels and Islamic fundamentalists constitute the greatest threat to political stability in the Philippines. English and Tagalog (Filipino) are the official languages, with an additional 166 languages spoken in the country. Unreached People Groups: The Philippines is a rich tapestry of ethnic diversity. Inter-marriage is common and accepted in the Philippines, and there are few ethnic neighborhoods. Major ethnic groups are as follows: Cebuano, Ilocano, Tagalog, Magindanao, Maranao, Waray, Bikol, and Hiligaynon, each with over 1,000,000 members. A total of 114 distinct people groups inhabit the Philippines. The Gospel has had an excellent hearing in the Philippines with generally much openness. The past decade has seen a multiplication of churches in the non-Muslim parts of the country. Of a total of 114 distinct people groups, 30 are considered receptive.