

# Athens 2026

## MISSION TRIP

### *What will we be doing?*

In an effort to reach locals as well as refugees who migrate to Athens by the thousands every year, Grace has started a long-term partnership with the work here. For this trip, we'll be serving with Nate Frantz, the team lead for Campus Outreach SERVE in Athens, Greece. Nate and his wife, Roxy, met through Campus Outreach at Central Illinois and were married in 2012. The Frantzes have four children and have done college ministry with Campus Outreach since 2011. They recently moved to Athens, Greece with Campus Outreach SERVE, where they continue the vision of investing in the next generation to make an impact in the world around them. The team we are partnering with is specifically **focused on reaching collegiate Greeks**, a people group that is only .3% evangelical. This specific trip will involve **interacting with college students on their respective campuses**. This will consist of **spending time on campus engaging with new students, participating in Bible studies, grabbing lunch with students you meet, and connecting them to the long-term ministry of Campus Outreach**.

Once our short-term team is formed, we will have 3 team meetings, one of which will be with the missionaries on the field. Please note that our general disposition at Grace during any short-term mission trip is to do whatever is needed to serve the long-term purposes of the churches and ministries we are working with. Other needs could arise, meaning flexibility is necessary for this and any other mission trip we go on.

### *When are we going?*

Depending on the total number of team members, it's likely that we will leave on Friday evening, **March 6**, or Saturday morning, **March 7**, from Memphis or Atlanta. Once the team is set, we will coordinate together on the best flight dates. The latest arrival date back to the U.S. will be Sunday, **March 15**, though it could be a day or two sooner.

### *How much will it cost?*

The current estimate is **\$2,000 to \$2,250 per person**. This will include travel to, from, and within Athens, materials and other costs related to our mission activities, meals, and lodging for the entire trip. However, the cost you pay to Grace Bible Church will not include tourist activities; for that, our team will decide what to do, if anything, during the trip. Note that this is an estimated price range. Our "on-the-ground" costs are a set price. However, airfare, and travel to and from the airport, is the reason for flexibility in cost. A small portion of the above costs may be taken care of through available mission scholarships at Grace. We will also provide you some assistance on how to individually raise some or all of these funds in the case that is needed.

### *What are the team details?*

Our team will, at max, consist of 9 people. Stuart Gunner, member of Grace Bible Church and Campus Director of Campus Outreach at Ole Miss, will be leading this trip. Stuart was a part of the first team that went to Athens in 2024 and led the trip there in 2025.

### *What if I want to go?*

If you are interested, please fill out the application available at the QR code to the right by December 14, 2025.







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### *What is required of me?*

We require that all participants be professing and practicing Christians, preferably with some cross-cultural evangelism experience and/or adequate experience evangelizing in their home country. Preference will be given to members of Grace and then non-members (in the case that we must prioritize some over others). After your application has been received and accepted, to lock in your spot participants will need to pay a \$200 non-refundable deposit, which will be applied to the overall trip cost. Participants will also be required to sign a commitment form for their airfare to be purchased, stipulating that in the case you choose not to go (after airfare and lodging are purchased), you will be required to pay all cancellation/change fees associated with that decision (that is, any charges exceeding your \$200 deposit).

### *What else do I need now?*

No vaccinations are required for entry to Greece. No visa is required for this trip.

If you don't have a passport, please order one now (and I would recommend expediting it). If you already have one, it needs to be good for six months past March 15, 2026. Your passport needs to have at least one blank page left.

### *What is the deadline to apply?*

We will lock in our team by the second week of December so that we can purchase airfare well ahead of the trip. Thus, the deadline to apply is **December 14, 2025**. Once the team is locked in, we will have a monthly preparation and training meeting (one in January, one in February, and one in March). These meetings also help build team comradery before we go. Our preference is that you attend these meetings in-person, though remote participation will be made available.

