

## Activity: Attending Church in East Africa

### Purpose

Take active part in a church service in the community you serve and see how different bodies of believers worship.

### Goal

Worshiping at a local church and seeing the diversity in the body of Christ can be one of the most impactful parts of a service trip. Teams will hear what God is doing in the local church through the pastor and other church members. This time also gives team members the opportunity to speak in front of a body of believers and share an encouraging word or part of their story.



### Things To Bring

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Your Bible</li><li>• Journal &amp; writing pen/pencil</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Closed-toe shoes</li><li>• Water bottle</li><li>• Toilet paper/wipes</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bug spray/sunscreen (apply beforehand)</li></ul> |
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### How It Works

- Most teams will attend a church service on a Sunday in the community.
- Church typically lasts 3 to 4 hours
- Depending on your team size, your group may be split into smaller numbers to attend 2 or more different churches.
- Team leaders should prepare or appoint someone from the team to do a short-sermon at each church. All speakers will have a translator. Keep sermons, testimonies, introductions, and songs at 20 to 30 minutes total, including translation time.
- The team is encouraged to introduce themselves, sing a song, and share Scripture with the congregation.
- Your translator may or may not be able to translate the sermon by the local pastor because of space, appropriateness, and time.
- Like in the U.S., an offering may be taken up during the church service. While it is at your discretion to give, we encourage team members to consider giving a small amount equivalent to \$1-2 U.S. dollars a person.

### What To Wear

Women; long skirts or dresses that go past your knees even when sitting and are loose fitting. Chest, shoulders, and back should be covered at all times.

Men; wear nice slacks and a collared shirt. If you are preaching, please wear a tie.

For general attire information outside of church, refer to The 410 Bridge Travel Book.

### Things To Remember

The church will not have air conditioning; you may bring paper fans or other cooling devices that are not distracting. Keep in mind the community is not expecting a 5-star performance. They are eager to meet your team and get to know you!