

# CULTURAL/GIFT GIVING

Habitat for Humanity | Global Village | Lusaka

## Church

We will have an opportunity to attend church service on Sunday May 25- details TBA

## Market/Souvenirs

On our Sunday off, we will visit one, possibly two open air markets where you can shop for some great souvenirs, and crafts, from local artists and artisans. Be prepared to bargain- its part of the fun. For the best price, you can consult **BarbMike Negotiation Inc.**

## Money

ATM's available where the market is, so cash can be obtained. Craft markets are cash only.

Bring only **US Dollars**, in LARGER denominations ( \$20 or higher), and NEWER bills - Money changers are available, and most will not take small bills. You should not need a lot of cash- just for souvenirs really!



## Gift Giving

Once you get to know them, you'll want to leave behind something, anything, to help those we meet and work with. The children with no shoes, the mother hauling water, our driver, our builders, the family we build with....

Habitat has a very strict policy of no gifts to individuals- this can cause dissent amongst the community, jealousy and competition, and falsely raise expectations of Global Village teams that will follow us.

We have, in the past, been fortunate enough to have family and friends donate school supplies, soccer balls, medical supplies etc., which we left with our hosts at Habitat Zambia. These items are left in their care, and distributed as they see appropriate, to those in need. In this way, these gifts are seen to be coming from Habitat Zambia, and not from individuals.



## Safety

The safety of the team is paramount for all Global Village trips. Zambia is considered to be, and we have found this to be true, a very safe country. There are a number of issues to be aware of though, as with travel to any developing country:

- Team members are not permitted to go anywhere on their own.
- Team members are not permitted to go out at night after we have returned to the guesthouse.

Please do not bring any valuable jewellery with you. Safes are provided at the guesthouse. Valuables should not be brought to the job-site. The bus will be on-site with us, so cameras etc. can be left on the bus, but please exercise caution.

We will have with us, at all times, Emergency Contact Information for you, as well as any info on medical issues. An Emergency Plan will be discussed with you at orientation in-country.

## Team members are not expected to bring any items for

**donation**- you have already donated your time, energy and money to join the team- that is gift enough. If there are items people wish to bring, we will gather them all together and give as a donation from the team, not from an individual team member.

Some teams decide to leave behind their work clothes, shoes etc. after the build is completed. Should you wish to do so, we will give to Habitat Zambia for their distribution.

## Cultural Interaction

One of the most important parts of our trip is getting to know the families and community we will be working in, so please take the time to play, visit, shake hands and talk- the houses will get finished, so take some time to make some beautiful memories.



We'll have an opportunity to visit a school or clinic in the community during the build, so we can better appreciate other aspects of their lives, some of their challenges, and how they work so hard to overcome these challenges with the lack of many basic things. It is very heartwarming to see, helps put many things into perspective, and humbling to have them share their stories with us.

We usually do not know the facility we will be visiting until we arrive in Zambia- I will let you know, as soon as I know.