

The RVICS Plan for Retired Christians to Serve the Lord

Roving Volunteers in Christ's Service ("RVICS") is a non-denominational Christian ministry for people who are retired or semi-retired, free to travel, and willing to volunteer their skills and talents at Christian Ministries throughout the United States and Canada. The Ministries supply the materials needed for the work projects. The RVICS Missionary Members are self-supporting, live in a recreational vehicle (travel trailer, 5th wheel trailer, motor home), and provide the necessary labor. Some of their skills include, but are not limited to, carpentry, plumbing, electrical, mechanical, painting, office work, sewing, library work, and tutoring.

The founders of the RVICS Ministry, Henry and Margaret Schaeffer, have laid a good, scriptural foundation ... **Ephesians 2:10** "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."; **James 2:14** "What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works?"; **James 1:22** "be ye doers of the Word and not hearers only."

RVICS projects are scheduled January through June. They resume in September, continuing through November, followed by a winter break for approximately a month. Each RVICS team has up to six (6) couples, with one couple serving as Team Leaders. The Team Leaders' responsibility is to coordinate the service to be accomplished at each project, and act as liaison between the team members and the Project Host.

Projects are typically 3 weeks long, with time allowed for travel from one project to the next. Project Hosts are committed to provide recreation vehicle sites with water, sewer and electrical hook-ups at no cost. RVICS Members are responsible for their own expenses for food, gasoline, LP gas, clothing, safety equipment, tools and all accident and hospital insurance needs.

The first two weeks of a project, the men serve 6 ½ hours daily, Monday through Thursday. The final week, the men serve 6 ½ hours daily, Monday through Wednesday, and 3 ½ hours on Thursday morning. The ladies serve 3 ½ hours a day Monday through Thursday for all three weeks of the project. Saturday and Sunday are free days. Friday is "tour Day" when the team travels together to see the sights in the surrounding area. The team is encouraged to attend the Project Host's church the First Sunday. Thereafter, the members are encouraged to attend the church of their choice.

It is expected that all RVICS missionaries will abstain from alcohol and all tobacco products while on project so they do not offend a ministry which RVICS serves.

Pets are permitted only at projects which allow pets at their facility. The RVICS missionary must provide a copy of vaccination for the pet and have a signed RVICS Pet Policy on file at RVICS Headquarters.

We encourage RVICS Missionaries to serve as many projects as they are able each year.

RVICS will not knowingly serve a ministry receiving government funding or connected with the World or National Council of Churches.

The Really Big "Pluses" in this Plan are:

- The satisfaction of demonstrating one's love for the Lord by serving at His Ministries
- The Christian love radiated among the members in the group as they serve and fellowship as brothers-and-sisters-in-Christ Jesus
- The Christian fellowship with the Project Ministry's staff, and the opportunity to visit and hear inspiring messages from pastors in different churches
- The weekly team Bible study/testimony time/hymn sing
- The team tours to interesting places in the area
- The team cook-outs and spontaneous get-togethers
- The traditional first weekend get acquainted meeting with team members
- The making of many wonderful, life-long, Christian friendships
- The service of 42 hours per project for women and 75 hours per project for men.
- During the winter months, serving in the south, then moving north as the weather warms
- Accumulation of riches in Heaven which is worth much more than any riches on earth

In giving of our service, it is out of a sincere desire to serve the Lord, not expecting anything in return. It is a blessing to share the Lord's love and to glorify Him by helping those who are in need.

RVICS International Headquarters

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Smithville, TX 78957
Phone: 512-237-1289
E-mail: rvics@rvics.org
Web: www.rvics.org

Office Hours: Central Time
Monday-Thursday
8:30 AM to 12:00 Noon
1:00 to 4:00 PM

If we don't answer when you call, please leave a message and we will return your call promptly.

Roving Volunteers in Christ's Service (RVICS), Inc. is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit faith-based ministry that relies on donations from our members and friends to continue operating. We accept cash donations, memorials and honorariums which are fully tax-deductible. None of our officers, staff or missionaries receive compensation for their work. All funds go directly to the operation of RVICS.

Your support of Roving Volunteers in Christ's Service (RVICS) is appreciated.
Thank you and may God bless you.