

# **BOBBIE'S TEAM HOUSE**

## **INFORMATION PACKET**

Offered by the First United Methodist Church  
Mercedes, Texas  
956-565-1301

**Hello and thank you for your interest in staying at Bobbie's Team House while carrying out missionary work!!!**

We are a congregation dedicated to the mission outreach of the church. We want to support and encourage the continuation of mission and ministry activities that come to our area, including work teams, medical teams, etc. This is also a great place for your church group's retreat! Our mid-valley location enhances the possibility of such groups being hosted by us. We see this hospitality as a vital link in the mission emphasis of the church.

More space is now available through the First United Methodist Church, Mercedes. Because Bobbie Jones believes in your work, she is making her family's "old home place" in the country available for teams and groups consisting of 15 persons or less!

The house is located south of Mercedes, a few miles from the church 4 miles north of the international bridge at Nuevo Progreso, Mexico. It is on Mile 3N Rd. off Rio Rico Road (FM 491). This is exactly 3 ½ miles south of Business Highway 83 in Mercedes. It has three bedrooms, 2 baths, large kitchen, a large living room for sleeping, a large gathering room, and a nice patio out back. It has a double bed and two single beds in one bedroom. The other two bedrooms have bunk beds that can sleep 12 people. Each bunk has a 5" foam pad. There is a new washing machine, dryer, stove, and refrigerator. The kitchen is stocked with a coffee maker, toaster, microwave oven, dishes, pots and pans, silverware, etc. Paper towels, toilet paper, laundry detergent may be available if a team has left some behind! The house has central air conditioning and has a monitored security system. There is a phone (956-565-9267) with an answering machine on which long distance credit card calls can be placed.

**We will furnish** light blankets, pillows and towels. **Please bring** your own pillowcases, sheets and extra towels. Many youth like to bring their sleeping blanket!

**We also have 4 full RV hook-ups with sewage lines, electricity, and water.**

**GUIDELINES FOR BOBBIE'S TEAM HOUSE FEES**

1. **A service fee of \$10.00 per person per night** is required to defray utility and maintenance costs. Children 12 years old and younger are not assessed a fee.
2. In addition, **a building use fee of \$15.00 per day per group** will be charged, regardless of the number of persons in a group.
3. **A fee of \$8.00 per night** is charged for recreational vehicles.

**DEPOSIT**

1. **An advance deposit of \$100.00 is required** of all groups and must accompany the completed application form. Please send the application form to First United Methodist Church, 200 W. 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Mercedes, Texas 78570. The deposit is not refundable after 30 days prior to the scheduled visit unless the church facility can be rented to another group during the time period scheduled. The deposit will be mailed back to you after you have left. Any charges for repairs or for keys not returned to FUMC in Mercedes upon departure will be deducted from the deposit.
2. Each group and its sponsors will be held financially liable for any damage to the building or grounds which exceed the amount of their deposit when such damage results from use by the group. The building and grounds must be left in the same condition in which they were found upon the arrival of the visiting group.

3. Each group will be held responsible for the cost of all indoor plumbing repairs resulting from stopped up lines or damage to fixtures during their stay.
4. Each group must carry their own insurance. This church, its staff, and its membership will not be held liable for any lost or stolen guest property.
5. All groups must be self-sufficient. We are not staffed or equipped to handle guests with health problems or other extenuating circumstances.

### **BEFORE YOU ARRIVE**

1. An advance deposit of \$100.00 is required of all groups and must be included with the application form. Please send this to the First United Methodist Church, 200 W. 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Mercedes, Texas 78570. **You must send your \$100.00 deposit and application form before you arrive.**
2. In advance you must notify us of the time of your arrival. Call the FUMC office (956-565-1301) at least one week before your arrival date to confirm your arrival time and to **get the name and phone number of your host/hostess.** Please make every effort to arrive before 8:00 p.m. Please remember to phone your host/hostess at least one hour before you actually arrive on the premises. This will give your host/hostess time enough to meet you upon your arrival.

Phone Numbers of Contact People:

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| 565-1301 | Church Office (8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday through Friday) |
| 565-5082 | Debbie Benedict  |
| 565-1683 | Fanny Ross   |
| 565-4265 | Karen Seiver   |
| 565-0039 | Melinda Ramirez  |

**KEEP CALLING UNTIL YOU REACH YOUR HOST/HOSTESS, NOT JUST AN ANSWERING MACHINE!!!**

### **WHEN YOU ARRIVE**

- Your host/hostess will meet you. They will give you keys and instructions.
- Long distance calls can be made using 1-800+ the number on your credit card. The phone number at Bobbie's Team House is 956-565-9267

### **DAILY ROUTINE**

- Call your host/hostess or Esther, the FUMC secretary, if you have an unplanned need.
- Mop the kitchen floor daily.
- Garbage disposal:
  - a. Please collect trash daily and place it in the dumpster located at the back of the FUMC church on 17<sup>th</sup> street.
  - b. Compost wet garbage.
  - c. Break down boxes.
  - d. Leave rinsed, smashed aluminum cans in the small room on the west side of the house.

- Quick showers mean the next person may have hot water!
- No food or drinks are allowed on carpeted areas.
- The fold-up tables and chairs may be used on the patio but bring them inside after use, please, as they will rust.
- Turn off all lights, set the alarm and lock the doors before leaving. Assign one person to be responsible for turning off all lights and locking the doors each morning as you leave.
- Air conditioning: If you must use a blanket in hot weather to keep warm at night, the thermostat is set too low. 77 degrees is comfortable for most people. Please use the A/C wisely.
- Quiet time each night begins at 10:00 p.m. Everyone should be inside by that time.
- **DRESS CODE WHILE WORKING IN MEXICO**...no tank tops on females or males, no short shorts, no bathing suit tops or sports bras, and no “strap- pies”. Christians in Mexico believe the body should be covered.
- You may build a fire east of the patio if wood is available.
- Please do not flush any feminine products down the toilets.

### **BEFORE YOU LEAVE**

1. Take all the trash to the dumpster at the church in Mercedes.
2. If you use the pillow cases provided, please wash them, fold them and put them back on the pillows.
3. Vacuum all carpets and mop the floors in the kitchen and in the bathrooms.
4. Wash and dry all kitchen towels and linens, and put them away. Please do not leave anything in the washing machine or in the dryer.
5. Leave any seasonings, coffee, toilet tissue, etc., if you like, for the next group. They will appreciate it!
6. Please take left over food to Mexico or leave it in the refrigerator. **If you leave food, please let your host/hostess know so we can take it to someone in need.**
7. Please leave us a note about your work while here. We love knowing what has been accomplished in the name of Christ!
8. Decide whether or not to have the Team House professionally cleaned after your departure. The cleaning fee is \$40.00. This amount can be added to the Fee Worksheet and included in your payment. Be sure to indicate to your host/hostess that you want to have someone else clean the house....or, be sure you've left the house as if it had been professionally cleaned!!!
9. **Return the keys and your payment** to Esther, our church secretary. Or you may put them through the mail slot in the church office door. If you do not return the keys, the \$20.00 will be deducted from your deposit to change the locks and make new keys.

**BOBBIE'S TEAM HOUSE  
FEE WORKSHEET**

The team leader fills out this form. It is **most important** that this form accompany your payment. **FILL OUT THIS FORM AND LEAVE IT WITH A CHECK AND THE TEAM HOUSE KEYS IN THE CHURCH OFFICE MAIL SLOT WHEN YOU DEPART.**

Group's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Leader's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_

Number of persons in group \_\_\_\_\_

X \$10.00 per night = \_\_\_\_\_

X number of nights \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Add House Use Fee (\$15.00 per night) \_\_\_\_\_

Or Add RV Hook-Up Fee (\$8.00 per night each RV) \_\_\_\_\_

Optional Professional Cleaning Fee (\$40.00) \_\_\_\_\_

Total Fee Due \_\_\_\_\_

Your Deposit will be mailed back to you after your departure!!!

**BOBBIE'S TEAM HOUSE APPLICATION**  
**FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY HOUSING**

FIRST UNITED MEHTODIST CHURCH  
200 W. 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
Mercedes, Texas 78570  
956-565-1301

Please fill out, detach, and return to FUMC with your deposit check.

Date of Application \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Group \_\_\_\_\_

Church Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number and E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_

Team Group Leader/Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s) and E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Phone Number(s) of a local contact person with whom you will be working while at the Team House \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated Arrival Time (before 8:00 p.m.) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of adults in the group \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Youth \_\_\_\_\_

Please write a brief statement about the nature of your trip and the work you hope to accomplish during your stay. Cover such details as where you will be working during the day and other information you feel might be helpful to the host/hostess.

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It is our hope that your stay in our church complex will assist your group during your time in the Rio Grande Valley. We will keep you in our prayers as you spread the Gospel message through your work. Please know that we want to help make your stay fruitful.