

Parents and High School Students!

We have an exciting opportunity for the summer! The last 3 years we have looked for an opportunity to go overseas with our high school group to love God and love people by serving them and the local church. Things always seemed to come up like a particularly busy summer or financial hesitations. However, this year is the year! Our group will be going to Costa Rica to serve with Experience Mission (EM [www.experienmission.org](http://www.experienmission.org)), who is the group we went with last year to serve the Navajo.

Why Costa Rica? First, we wanted something cross cultural. EM works with a people group in Talamanca CR called the Bri Bri who are relatively unreached. For example, their pastors are first generation Christians. This means that we will not be going to a really westernized area, but having a more cross cultural experience with service. Second, we loved working with EM last year. Their staff were practically extra leaders with our group. They functioned as pastors to our students and led really well. EM also has a heart for supporting the local church which ministers year round, so we will not be going somewhere for missionary tourism but will be helping a group that ministers everyday in their community. Finally, the Costa Rica option with EM was the cheapest option to give our students this sort of mission opportunity. We want to be good stewards of our resources here at MHPC, but we also don't want to sell students short on an experience to love God and love people cross culturally.

Who can come on this trip? This trip is for students who are in high school or entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade the fall of 2012. We want our students to have a couple of qualities though. First, we desire a healthy faith in Jesus and a desire to serve him. This doesn't mean that they haven't wrestled with doubts or have had sin issues, we all have. But, it does mean that they want to grow in their relationship with Jesus and serve others as a result of that. Second, we need students to be committed to the process of raising money for the trip and learning what it means to be a missionary. This means that we need parents to be on board to and encourage students to do things like write the support letters, be part of fundraising efforts and to our meetings. We will not be able to do some of these fundraising efforts unless all hands are on deck. And, if students miss most of the meetings they are disconnected from our team and from the Bri Bri people whom we will be serving in June.

Here are the details:

Location: Talamanca Costa Rica

Trip dates: June 16-23

Travel: Flying + Charter bus in Costa Rica

Estimated cost: \$1300-1400

Passport needed and cannot expire within 6 months of date of travel to enter Costa Rica.

Recommended Immunizations: MMR-DPT, Hep A & B, Thyphoid.

### **Important Dates/travel info:**

We are flying with Frontier Airline. Total trip cost is \$690.63 + \$20/bag. Carryon baggage is free if under 42 linear inches (height + width + depth). Trip departs June 16<sup>th</sup> and returns June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

March 1<sup>st</sup>: \$100 Deposit is due

April 10<sup>th</sup> \$590.63 (additional) due

Total remaining balance is due before trip departure

### **Fundraiser Proposals**

**\$1300-1400 is a lot of money, it is true, but fundraising a good portion of that is possible... just look and see what we have planned:**

**Feb 12<sup>th</sup> Pancake Breakfast:** Moved up from the spring because of the next item! This fundraiser typically raises \$750-1000.

**March 31<sup>st</sup> Missions Auction:** This is a big ticket fundraiser, meaning we hope to get a lot of support through it. We are requiring three things from students. First, ticket sales. Tickets will be \$15 (\$10 to cover dinner and \$5 going towards your trip, so sell lots of tickets). Second, you must auction up a service like manual labor, babysitting, art portraits, lessons, etc. Third, you are expected to serve that night with setup, cleanup, waiting tables and even sharing why you are going on the Costa Rica trip

**May 12<sup>th</sup> Rent a Kid:** Physical labor to pay for the trip. All students must complete at least 2 jobs. It is part of the trip so no complaining!

**Sponsorship of the trip:** We will be encouraging people in the church to personally sponsor the trip. Sponsors will be paired up with a couple team members who will meet with them pre-trip, write to them during the trip and meet post-trip to talk about their experience. Sponsors will also get one of our team shirts!

**Razoo.com** Online based support letter for the trip. Giving goes through Razoo with the benefit is that it can be connected to social media. They handle all the paperwork too, I know it is amazing! Students will write support letters and have giving directed through Razoo.

**Barnes and Noble** – Cheesecake Factory presales: \$40/chessecake, \$75 profit for every 6 you sell. And Book Fair 10% off with our tax exempt #.

**Team Member**

Name (as it appears on your passport):

Date of Birth:

Home Address:

City:                      State:                      Zip:

E-mail Address:

Passport # (if you already have it):

**Emergency Contact Information:**

Name:

Home Address:

City:                      State:                      Zip:

E-mail Address:

Phone#

Relationship to Emergency Contact:

**Health info:**

Last Tetanus Shot:  (mm/dd/yyyy)

- Check all that apply:**
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Allergies              | <input type="checkbox"/> Bee/Wasp Reaction    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dizziness or Fainting  | <input type="checkbox"/> Hay Fever            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High Blood Pressure    | <input type="checkbox"/> Penicillin Allergy   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Disability    | <input type="checkbox"/> Respiratory Problems |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asthma                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Epilepsy               | <input type="checkbox"/> Heart Trouble        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Operation in last year | <input type="checkbox"/> Pregnant             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Medication     | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                |

Insurance Provider:

Policy #:

**Team Member Questions: Each answer should be more than a few words or a single sentence. Give these questions some thought and prayer.**

Name:

How would you describe your current relationship with Jesus?

Describe why you want to be part of the Echo Mission team this year?

List three experiences in your life that have shaped your faith, with a one sentence explanation of what it is or why it shaped your faith:

Read 1 John 3:11-24. Write a paragraph reflection on what you read **making sure you** answer these two questions: 1 .How does John use the word love (create a definition of love based on what you read)? How does John talk about serving others and practical love?