



TEAM COSTA RICA

Destination: Costa Rica

June 10 – June 19, 2018

Cost: \$1800 (includes all travel, meal, housing and ministry supplies)

High School age and above (9th-12th grade for 2017-2018 school year)

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE – “Located in Central America, Costa Rica has coastlines on the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean. The tropical coastal plains rise to mountains, active volcanoes, and a temperate central plateau where most people live (San José, the capital, is here). The only country in Central America with no standing army, it enjoys continuing stability after a century of almost uninterrupted democratic government. Tourism, which has overtaken bananas as Costa Rica's leading foreign exchange earner, bolsters the economy. A quarter of the land has protected status; the beauty of rainforest preserves draws more and more visitors.” (National Geographic Website, January 2008, http://www3.nationalgeographic.com/places/countries/country_costarica.html)

In 1990 our mission work began in Costa Rica after a group of adults and families from a Methodist church decided to join the Free Methodist family. Since then some other ministries have opened and later Pastor Dennis León, a native Costa Rican, along with his wife, Kyle, who grew up in our youth ministry, have become actively involved in partnering with the Free Methodist Church of Costa Rica in training, encouraging and beginning new churches along the Pacific Coast.

The Free Methodist church in Esterillos Oeste, on the Pacific coast, is under the leadership of the Leóns. They are leading this work, and through the Lord's work, many other Pura Vida churches have started. Also, they have begun many ministry points through the “Uno Mas” children's programs. Our team has the opportunity to be in on this exciting ministry as well as encouraging other churches. While there we will work alongside Dennis/Kyle in reaching out to communities through service projects, Bible lessons, church services, children's ministries and more.

The basic itinerary will be: 6/10-6/11- Travel to Costa Rica (leave from LAX late night), 6/11 – Arrive in Costa Rica/Orientation/Ministry, 6/12– 6/18 – Ministry, 6/19 – Travel to Santa Barbara, California, USA

HOW TO SIGN UP - Complete an application AND be interviewed by Pastor Doug.

DEADLINE TO SIGN UP - Application must be completed by **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29** with a \$100 deposit.

Payments will be required throughout the next months in advance of this trip.

TEAM MEMBER LIMIT – Team member size will be limited to 10 youth, plus two leaders. If more than this number applies, there will be a waiting list.

TEAM SELECTION – Team membership will be limited for greatest ministry effectiveness and due to physical limitations in Costa Rica. The following criterion will be used to determine the team:

- Faithful, available, teachable, responsive follower of Christ
- Regular participant in worship and FRONTLINE YOUTH ministry
- Priority is given to those who have not been on an international trip with us AND upperclassmen
- Willing to work hard in raising at least \$900 on your own (in addition to group fundraisers)
- Ready to be in front of people in giving testimonies/helping with music/drama, willing to serve the community, prepared to be flexible and a team member to support the Free Methodist church in Costa Rica.
- Available for a team meeting and training time 11:15am-12noon, one Sunday a month. See below.

TRAINING

Following the submission of applications and interviews the team will be selected and monthly training meetings on Sunday mornings, 11:15am-12:00 pm, will begin. These are MANDATORY for team members to allow us plenty of time to pray and prepare for our trip.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Doug Ranck at 965-1338 x224, 252-3216 or email doug@fmcsb.org