

Sr. High Summer Mission Trip 2008

Costa Rica

Information Packet

The Senior High Youth are going to Costa Rica – the trip is going to be awesome, without question. You will experience something this trip that you have never before, even if you went last summer! Our goal for Youth Mission trips at HPUMC is to provide a very safe, meaningful, fun and life-changing trip. This will take all of us...staff, parents, and the great youth of HPUMC!

The following information will answer any questions that you might have regarding the trip, for more information please call Drew at 214.523.2149.

Important Numbers

(for Emergencies while we are on the trip)

Tova Sido –

Drew Seelman –

Phil Dieke –

Ray Zirkel (Methodist Missionary)

Why are we going?

Our youth group has the unique opportunity to help build a youth center and work on 2 churches in Puerto Viejo, Costa Rica. We will also be leading VBS for 6 different churches. It's going to be a wonderful opportunity and great mix of mission work and meeting new people!

What is the youth/adult ratio?

We have 74 youth and 21 adults going. Youth/Adult ratio is 3/1.

Where are we going?

We will fly into San Jose, Costa Rica. We are going to be staying in Puerto Viejo.

Is it safe?

Yes, we feel that we have enough adults going on this trip to keep things safe, many of which have gone before. The area we are working is also very safe. No youth will ever be alone or without adult supervision.

What about the food?

We will be eating breakfast and dinner daily at the hotel. The food is terrific! And very safe. For lunch we will make sandwiches and eat at the worksite. There will also be plenty of drinking water on hand at the worksite.

What are our travel plans?

Departing:

Saturday, July 26
American Airlines Flight # 2167
Leaving from Dallas Fort Worth International Airport
5:40pm – 8:35pm

You will need to be at the Airport at 3:30pm. You will meet your small group leader for your ticket – you will check in and going through customs together as a small group. **DO NOT BE LATE! We need to be at the airport this early because we are such a large group! Please call the airlines ahead of time to find out the gate.**

Departing:

Saturday, August 2
American Airlines Flight #972
San Jose, Costa Rica to Miami International Airport
2:10pm – 7:00pm
American Airlines Flight #1724
Miami International Airport to Dallas Fort Worth International Airport
9:15pm – 11:05pm

Please be at the Airport to pick up your child at their flight time.

Where are we staying?

We will be staying at The Bambu Hotel in Puerto Viejo.

This is the nicest hotel in Puerto Viejo. The rooms are very nice, clean, have high ceilings, tile floors, air conditioning, and attractive bamboo furniture. There is a large open-air restaurant, swimming pool, and a rancho behind the pool area. The number to the Bambu Hotel is 011-506-766-6005

How will we get around in Costa Rica?

Tour Bus

What if there is an emergency?

We have an RN and Physician going with us on the trip. If something serious happens, we will take them to the closest health clinic or hospital in San Jose

What is our schedule?

Saturday

Arrive at 8:35pm – get through customs and load up bus and travel to Puerto Viejo
Upon arrival to Bambo – lights out

Sunday

7:30 – breakfast and devo
9:00 – leave for church
11:30 – lunch at hotel
1:30 – river cruise
4:00 – get everything ready for VBS, hang out at hotel, swim
6:30 – dinner at hotel
8:30 – worship & small group time
10:30 – lights out

Monday – Thursday

6:15 – wake-up
6:45 – breakfast and devo
8:00 – leave for worksite
12:00 – lunch
3:00 – head to churches for VBS
6:00 – back to hotel
6:30 – dinner
8:30 – worship
10:30 – lights out

Friday

6:00 – wake up, pack
6:45 – breakfast and devo
8:00 – leave for zip line, volcano and springs in La Fortuna
11:00 – either springs, zip line or volcano
5:00 – dinner at springs
6:30 – head back to Puerto Viejo
9:00 – worship (no small groups)
10:45 – Pack up stuff
11:00 – lights out

Saturday

6:00 – wake up, finish packing, clean
6:30 – breakfast
7:30 – leave for shopping and airport in San Jose

What do we wear?

While at the work site jeans are a must. No tank tops for guys or girls, or shirts with the sleeves or shirttails cut off of them as these are not in good taste by Costa Rican standards. When attending church services, slacks and nice shirts for guys and for the girls - Capri's or crop pants, skirts or dresses are the best option. Don't forget your swimsuit!

Will I need extra money?

Yes. We will eat meals while traveling (that youth are responsible for) and there will be an opportunity to buy souvenirs the last day. There is also an exit tax to leave the country of \$26. I would recommend at least \$75 cash. The springs are included, but if you would like to hike the volcano, that is an extra \$25 and if you would like to do the zip line, you will need to bring an extra \$50.

What if my youth takes medication?

We will be taking up all medication and will be distributed by parent in charge during the trip. This is for the safety of all the youth. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call Drew.

*****Please have all prescription medications in their original package or ask the pharmacy for a package for the week that we will be on the trip. Please have them put a Pharmacy label on the medicine. Please do not bring medicines in plastic baggies unlabeled; this is for your child's safety.***

Do not for any reason discontinue prescription medications (including any behavior-modifying medications) during the trip and ensure an adequate supply is available for the trip.

What do I need to bring?

Passport.

Sun block

Chapstick

Water Bottle (something you can refill, we will not be purchasing water – but drinking filtered at the worksites)

Sunglasses

Long Sleeve Shirts

Old T Shirts (no tank tops)

Old Work Jeans

Light Jacket (just in case)

Work boots or tennis shoes

Cap or hat

Work gloves

Rain jacket (it will rain)

Swimsuit

Toiletries

Bible

Journal

Pen

Please do not bring anything you care a lot about. It will get ruined, could get stolen or lost.

