



## COSTA RICA MISSION TRIP

Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

Matthew 9:37-38

Dear Parent(s) of Senior High Youth and Youth,

The Senior High Youth plan to go to Costa Rica for their summer mission trip in 2011. Will & Ella Faircloth are missionaries working since 2004 with the Evangelical Methodist Church of Costa Rica. Their website is <http://fairclothcostarica.com>.

Ella Faircloth is from Columbus, Georgia, and her home church is Christ Community Church. Her experience with Latin American missions began at age fourteen with a trip to Venezuela, followed by a trip to Ecuador. She graduated from Berry College in 2002 with a degree in French and Art History. Before she moved to Costa Rica, Ella received her International ESL Certificate from Duke University and taught elementary-age ESL in Durham, North Carolina. Here in Costa Rica, Ella is a board member of the Methodist Children's Home. She also participates actively in the life of the local church, as well as planning the weekly lessons and activities for the Los Guido children's center. As of late 2009, she also teaches weekly English classes in an impoverished neighborhood in San José.

Will Faircloth is from Ocean Springs, Mississippi and is a member of St. Paul United Methodist Church. He graduated from Berry College in 2002 with a degree in Religion and Spanish. He then completed a Masters of Theological Studies at Duke Divinity School. During this time he also made two trips to Peru to work with the Methodist Church in that country. Here in Costa Rica, Will is a professor at the Methodist Seminary, working both at the central campus and at several regional centers. He has given classes on the Old and New Testaments, Methodist history and doctrine, prophetic books, Christian ethics, and liturgy and worship.

We will leave on Sunday, May 22, 2011 and return on Saturday, May 28, 2011. The cost for the week (Sunday-Saturday) is approximately \$1500. The cost covers all expenses except for personal souvenirs/purchases. We will stay on campus at the Evangelical Methodist Seminary dormitory located in San Pedro, a suburb just east of San Jose. We will do construction work in the mornings at the Methodist Children's Home. It rains most afternoons, so during that time we will conduct VBS for local children. Friday, is a 'free' day and that is when we will travel to an outpost that specializes in recreational activities (rafting, horseback riding, zip lines, etc). Hacienda Pozo Azul Adventures is the destination planner. Their website is [www.pozoazul.com](http://www.pozoazul.com).

A passport is required to travel outside the US and the number from the passport is required to book flights. That is why I am asking for anyone going on the Costa Rica Mission Trip to complete the passport application process by the end of 2010. Passport delivery takes 4-6 weeks. The later flights are booked the greater the cost of the flight. If you already have a passport, please check the expirations date. It must not expire within six months of the date of return from Costa Rica (Nov 2011). If it does, please go through the renewal application process. Passports can be processed at several locations: Biloxi Downtown Post Office, Ocean Springs Post Office, and the Harrison County Chancery Clerks Offices in Biloxi and in Gulfport. The Gulfport Downtown Post Office is currently undermanned and not processing passports. Information regarding passports is on line at [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov). I also have application forms. Please sign your passport EXACTLY as your name is typed on it and bring it to me as soon as you receive it.

No immunizations are required to travel to Costa Rica; however, it is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED that travelers have a current Tetanus (within the past 5 years), Hepatitis A, and Hepatitis B.

