

High School Mission Trip
6:8 Costa Rica
July 4-10, 2022



Trip Cost: \$800 (This is the individual share of the \$1500 total/person)

Jan. 16 - Optional Informational Meeting at 8pm in the Fellowship Hall

This summer we are extending our reach in the world! We are offering TWO unique experiences – in Costa Rica and Tennessee. We understand there are many motivations behind why you may be applying (friends, adventure, service hours, desire to grow deeper with God, wanting to serve significantly) and the list could go on!

These trips are first and most importantly about what God is doing in our world and how we can join that and support ministry partners in Costa Rica and Tennessee.

Trip Description:

This summer we will be continuing our partnership with 6:8 Ministries to serve the people of Costa Rica in two locations. This team of students will be led by Brandon Gober and adults who are leaders in our High School ministry (full list of leaders will be shared at the Feb. 20 parent meeting).

Our team will be divided into two groups and each group will spend half of their week in Alajuelita, the poorest county in all of Costa Rica. The unemployment rate in Alajuelita is a staggering 70%. Here we will be participating in ministry projects such as prayer walks, kid ministry, feeding centers, and more. The second part of the week will be spent continuing construction at the Living Water Ranch. At the ranch, our team will also continue to support the relationships 6:8 has started with the surrounding community. We hope students will experience God and Christian community, expand their view of the world and what God is doing in it, and see how the Christian life is a life of following Jesus and serving others.

Who should Apply:

- High School students who have prayed about this trip and feel God leading them to this team.
- Students who are willing to set aside their personal comforts and fully participate in all aspects of the week. This trip includes physically challenging work, relational connection, community engagement, and spiritual growth.
- Students who will have a great attitude at all times and who will be open to what God is doing

***Note:** Students on this trip will only be allowed to bring cell phones for use on travel days. Phones will be locked in a safe during the week and MPC is not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen phones. Parents will have emergency numbers, and we will post daily updates on a private Facebook page.

*****Covid Guidelines and Information:**

International travel is subject to Covid policies from the US, airlines, and Costa Rica. Currently, a negative Covid test is required at the airport to board the plane in Costa Rica and return to the US (or documentation of a positive test in the last 90 days). If a team member tests positive, they will be required to remain in Costa Rica for an additional 10 days. If this happens, the team member will quarantine on 6:8 property (either the team house or ranch location). An adult MPC leader will also remain in the country – depending on gender, it will be Brandon Gober or Robyn Zomorodian. We currently plan to Covid test all team members before leaving Jacksonville, and again mid-week to minimize potential impact to our travel and team.

Dates And Requirements:

A trip of this size and cost is no small undertaking! For everything to run smoothly and be fully funded we need the following from team members and their families – (these are NOT optional):

Team Members:

- ❖ **Complete application** and turn in a \$300 non-refundable deposit by Sunday, January 30! (Anyone not selected for this year's team or put on waitlist will have their total deposit refunded)
- ❖ **Attend Parent/Student Meeting:** February 20, 4-6pm at the Mandarin Road Campus
Save this date
- ❖ **Current passport** (expiration cannot be less than 6 months after the trip)
- ❖ **Help sell mulch** to family and friends and distribute flyers in neighborhoods - we are asking each participant to have a goal of at least 10 orders from family/neighbors outside of the church
- ❖ **Help with spreading mulch** on 4 of these 6 dates: March 19, 26, and April 2, 9, 16, 30.
*If you do not complete 4 spread days, \$150 will be added to your balance for each missed day. You can have a parent or another person work for you if needed.
 - **Mulch days are from 8am – 5pm. Students are responsible for being there the entire time OR getting someone to come fill in their spot if they have to leave early/arrive late.**
 - **At least one of your four days needs to be April 16 or 30 as these are our two biggest weeks!**
- ❖ **Pay remaining deposits:** \$200 by March 6, \$200 by April 3, and \$100 by May 22
- ❖ **Participate in Crave or 9:08 at least twice a month.** (It is important to be connected with peers and growing in faith year round – not just in Costa Rica!)
- ❖ **Attend Training Days**
 - Training: Sunday, May 22 from 4-6pm
 - Training: Sunday, July 3 from 6-8:30pm
- ❖ **Commissioning Service:** July 3 at the 10:30am Worship Service
- ❖ **Actual Mission Trip:** July 4-10
- ❖ **Team Worship Rehearsal:** Saturday, July 16 from 9am – noon.
- ❖ **Sharing Worship Service: Sunday, July 17 at the 10am Worship Service**

Parents (or an adult in family):

❖ **Attend Parent/Student Meeting:** February 20 from 4-6pm at the Mandarin Road Campus

- ❖ Sign up for at least **2 days of the following** (Signup Genius)
 - Phone calling past mulch customers and asking them to reorder
 - Selling mulch at the tent on Saturdays on mulch spread dates
 - Mulch Deliveries – Every Thursday and Friday before spread dates (or other day as available)
 - Selling mulch at the table on Sundays – each Sunday counts as ½ a day
 - Drive and spread on mulch Saturdays
- ❖ **Make sure your child is available to attend and fulfill all of the listed requirements and that payments are made at the designated times**

*For questions or more information contact

Brandon Gober bgober@mandarinpres.com

Or

Jenn Arnold jennarnold@mandarinpres.com

MPC High School Mission Trip – 2022 Application

6:8 Costa Rica

July 4-10, 2022

*Please read the trip description and carefully review the team and parent requirements before filling out the application! Then answer the questions as honestly and openly as you can. There are no “right” answers – we are looking for your honest reflections!

*All applications submitted will be carefully reviewed. Submitting your application DOES NOT guarantee your spot on a team. We will consider a variety of factors for team selection (not limited to but including): **Time and day application is submitted**; involvement at MPC/Crave/9:08 (see below); maturity and leadership; experience on past trips; small group numbers and thoughtfulness of answers.

*This trip is open to all HS students who are able to commit to the team requirements. We anticipate this year we could have a waitlist. **Time and day that your application is submitted matters.** Those who have attended 3 or more times between Sep. and Dec. will have increased priority in selection. This does not mean if you come regularly that you are guaranteed a spot.

Applications MUST be submitted online – www.mandarinpres.com/hsmisions

Applications will be accepted starting at 10pm on January 9 through midnight on January 30.

Deposits are due January 30 to hold your application. We will notify everyone of team selection no later than February 6, 2022. We will deposit checks at the time of team announcements.

Anyone not selected for a team or waitlisted will have their deposits returned. **Airfare and many other trip expenses are non-refundable. If it is necessary for you to drop after the team selection, we can only refund what you have paid beyond our expenses to that point.**

FUNDRAISING

Mulch is the main fundraiser for this trip and is the only way we can offer participants the discounted trip cost. Even if you could pay the trip cost, many others cannot. We couldn't pull it off and assist others without everyone's efforts – that is why it is a requirement. We will be taking orders and then doing all deliveries and spreading over a 6-week window of time. Participants will choose 4 of the 6 spreading Saturdays to work. See dates page for details.

In addition to mulch, team members have the option to sell TPC tickets and keep \$40 per ticket sold for their trip cost. We will also give you a sample letter that can be sent out to family and friends if you would like to raise money that way. *TPC tickets can be sold immediately – you do not need to wait for team selection. Contact Jen Loehle if you wish to get that information - jloehle@mandarinpres.com