Thank you for committing to serve in Costa Rica with Global Youth. This is more than just an overseas mission trip. You are part of something big: helping to fulfill a promise given to Jesus and, by extension, given to Global Youth Ministry. We are boldly asking God to give us the promise He made to Jesus in Psalms 2:8: “Ask of me, and I will give you the nations as your inheritance”.

**YOU ARE A PART OF THE ANSWER TO THAT PRAYER.**

This trip is going to change your life.

I believe that before God can do something through us, He’s got to do something in us.

This trip will be the vehicle that God uses to give you a vision of the Gospel that you’ve never imagined as you stand face to face with what God is doing in thriving international cities AND also in the most unreached parts of the world. God is going to overwhelm your heart with compassion and open your eyes with fresh vision of this indescribable world we live in. You’re going to be tried, tested, and shaped. It won’t be easy but we promise this, it will be worth it.

But this isn’t only about transforming you. Your service plays a huge role in Global’s mission of reaching youth for Christ. Our current mentors and ministry partners can’t do the work alone. They need teams of people to come alongside them in their work. Your presence, however brief, however imperfect, multiplies their efforts, so that they can be refreshed to press on in their calling. Each team we send is vital to the mission of God.

Remember, as you lead in Costa Rica, you are following the God who came to us as a servant. You are going to pick up a towel and “wash feet,” as Jesus did for His disciples — as He did for you and for me.

Thank you for taking this courageous step to follow God as he takes the gospel to the ends of the earth. I’m praying for you, that God would work on you and through you. And I’m excited for you, because you won’t come back the same.

The Global Missions Crew

---

**GLOBAL MISSIONS**

GLOBALYOUTHMINISTRY.ORG
TEAM MEMBER PREPARATION:

1. Obtain trip details: budget & dates from your church trip leader.

2. Seek the Lord about this missions opportunity:
   - Pray & commit the trip to the Lord
   - Ask friends & family to join you in prayer

3. Commit to the trip!
   - complete team member application & medical form
   - submit your trip deposit.

4. Apply for Passport: (if you do not currently have one)
   - important to do this as soon as possible so that you will not miss the trip and lose your airfare costs.
   - a valid US Passport that does not expire within 6 months of trip!

5. Begin Fundraising:
   - Obtain budget due dates from trip leader.
   - Recruit your family & friends to help join you on mission by supporting your trip - plan fundraisers.
TEAM MEMBER PREP: (CONT.)

6 Attend all Team Meetings:
- It is important to begin preparing and praying for this trip as a team as soon as possible! Plan to meet with your group at all schedule meetings.
- Begin preparing for your leadership objectives. Many of our teams will lead VBS style events, so drama, music, and craft preparations will be necessary.

7 Finalize Everything:
- Collect all remaining budget owed & submit to your church financial office.
- Make a copy of your passport, flight itinerary, & insurance information to keep in your luggage.
- Check with trip leader about dividing ministry supplies between the team luggage and weigh all luggage before arriving at the airport!

8 Serve in Costa Rica:
- Its TRIP TIME! We are honored that you would serve alongside us to pursue youth for Christ. We want you to know that we are praying, have prayed, and will continue to fervently spend time on our knees for your team and mission! We are so grateful for you and trust that God will use your service in a mighty way.

Until the whole world hears...

Global Youth Ministry

Global Youth Ministry
40 Blackhawk Trail | Chatsworth, GA | 30705
www.globalyouthministry.org
trip details: CR // 2019

**trip details:**

**dates:** March 15-23

**destination:** Ciudad Neilly, CR

Teams will fly into Juan Santamaria International Airport in San Jose, Costa Rica. Once through customs, the team will take a chartered bus 5+ hours to Ciudad Neilly to meet with Pastor Christian & his wife Maegan.

**lodging & meals:** host homes

Your team will stay in host homes provided by members of Pastor Christian’s church. All host families have experience hosting American team members and will provide breakfast & dinner each day. Typically, most host homes can host 2 team members of the same gender. We will ask your team leader to create a rooming list for each host home. Your host family will be praying for you by name many weeks before you arrive and will welcome you home with open arms at your first introduction.

**budget:**

what’s covered?

Your budget covers expenses in Costa Rica: housing, 3 meals per day, transportation to/from serving locations, in-country airport transfers, ministry projects, and a small excursion (usually in Jaco Beach). Please note: snacks, personal items, souvenirs, and extra meals are not covered in this budget.

**in-country hosts:**

Pastor Christian & Maegan Espinoza

Global was introduced to native Costa Rican Pastor Christian Espinoza and his American wife Maegan in 2015 through a mutual youth pastor friend. Pastor Christian and his wife have an infectious passion for the people of Costa Rica to meet Jesus and develop a deep personal relationship with Him. They have 3 beautiful daughters and currently run an English speaking school from their church in Ciudad Neilly.
country details:

language: Spanish

location: Central America

Costa Rica is bordered by Nicaragua to the north, Panama to the southeast, the Pacific Ocean to the west, the Caribbean Sea to the east, and Ecuador to the south of Cocos Island. San Jose is the largest & capital city of Costa Rica.

climate: tropical

Costa Rica’s climate can be divided into 2 seasons: dry season - December to April (known to residents as summer) and the rainy season - May to November (known as winter). The air is incredibly humid and the temperature very hot.

exports: bananas, pineapples, & palm oil

While Costa Rica has many exports, the largest are definitely bananas, pineapples, and palm oil. You will eat lots of the best tasting pineapple while in Ciudad Neilly and also see many palm fruit trees and farms where much of the palm oil is produced.

currency: Costa Rican colon (CRC)

Named after Christopher Columbus, the colon is the national currency used in Costa Rica. The exchange rate fluctuates between 500-600 colon’s per $1 USD. USD is widely accepted throughout Costa Rica however, change will be given in colon’s.

food: rice, black beans, & plantains

Rice and black beans are a staple in most traditional Costa Rican meals and is often served three times a day. You will eat many fruits and vegetables alongside plantains cooked a variety of ways!
what should I pack?

 specifics:

- Enough clothing for the length of the trip - Modesty is KEY
- Shorts - Length needs to be fingertip at shortest. You will be asked to not wear shorts while visiting/ministering in any schools.
- Sunday Church clothes - Sunday is casual for the most part, but girls will need a dress or skirt and guys will need a button up shirt (often paired with shorts/pants..)
- Sturdy shoes for walking/serving/playing games
- Personal toiletries: if you think you may need it – pack it!
- Your bible and a notebook
- Voltage Converter to plug in any electronic devices (hair dryer, phone, etc) – a universal converter is the best bet
- Small flashlight & umbrella
- Documents: Passport, Travel Insurance Card + copies of both
- Sunscreen, Sunglasses
- Bug Spray! Bug Spray! Bug Spray!
- A hat - trust us: bring a hat
- an eno or hammock - this is a fun suggestion but not required. Past teams have set up their hammocks and enos at the church.
- Bath towel & washcloth (whatever you need for showering)
- Modest swimsuit, beach towel, and sandals.
- Thank you notes & small gifts for host homes/friends/leaders you meet and work with while serving! Each mission team pair will leave a small gift for their host home on the last day.
- Personal Camera – You will want to document your trip by taking pictures and in most instances this is perfectly fine. However, a good rule-of-thumb is to ask permission before taking a picture of someone specific or in certain places.
- Money for souvenirs - spending money for personal items. We suggest that you purchase a small gift to thank anyone who contributed to funding your trip. Small bills work best!
- American credit cards are accepted at some stores in Costa Rica. If you plan to use a credit card you should contact your card provider PRIOR to the trip and inform them of your travel plans. Otherwise, your card may be declined.
The church: Casa de Oración y Alabanza

The Pastor & his family: The Hoeffel’s

Pastor Christian, his wife Maegan & their three daughters.

christian.espinozaruiz
Maegan Hoeffel
Casa de Oración y Alabanza
his wonders christian academy
On behalf of Global Youth Ministry, we want to thank you for going and serving among the nations. We believe God has tasked us with the commandment to GO & MAKE DISCIPLES of this generation. Thank you for going to encourage those who are on the front lines of training up leaders to reach youth worldwide and joining in their efforts. We hope and pray that God has impacted your heart and life as much — if not more — than He has used you on this journey.

As you come home, we want to ask you to do three things:

**First**, share your story as clearly and concisely as you can. You may be the only person someone knows who has gone overseas. You have an incredible opportunity to quickly share why you went, what you did, and what God is teaching you.

**Second**, we ask you to pray. Pray for the on-field ministries. Pray for local believers. Pray for God to move, and invite others to pray with you. You can lead your small group or family to pray specifically for the workers and the work.

**Third**, ask God, “What would you have me do next?”

We are so grateful for your willingness to go and serve, and we deeply value your work. Thank you again for joining in God’s mission to redeem His world. May we spur one another on to love and good works, not growing weary, for we know that in due time we will reap a harvest. May God find us faithful and set this generation on fire for His name!

Until the whole world has heard,

The Global Missions Crew

GLOBAL MISSIONS
GLOBALYOUTHMINISTRY.ORG
Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

-Matthew 28:19-20