

Costa Rica Mission Trip

When: Spring Break 2026

Sunday, April 5th – Friday, April 10, 2026

Cost: \$800 per person + airfare

Details:

We will serve through a company called Praying Pelican Missions and they already have an established presence in Costa Rica. Praying Pelican Missions has many partnership churches/communities in Costa Rica and as soon as we determine the best match for us based on when we are flying in, distance from the airport, and mission work we will be doing, we will share that information.

From the PPM website: Costa Rica's beauty will captivate and inspire you during your mission trip through the natural beauty of the land as well as the beauty of its people. Praying Pelican Missions has developed partnerships with churches in Costa Rica who are invested in their communities and sharing the love of Christ every day. They are praying for mission teams to come alongside their efforts!

The local partners that Praying Pelican Missions serve are the foundation of ministry in Costa Rica. We partner with Costa Rican churches and pastors all over the country, from the cities to the jungle. Your mission team will partner directly with a Costa Rican church to minister to the community through children's ministry, prayer, work projects, evangelism, bible studies, and more. Life in ministry is often difficult, so your team will have the opportunity to encourage and support these local pastors in their calling. You will also be encouraged by their love for the Lord and their dedication to their communities!

Praying Pelican Missions staff will serve alongside you throughout the week, managing the logistics and translating between Spanish and English so that your team can minister effectively. Our highly qualified Costa Rican staff are excited to share with you about their country, culture, and community while creating friendships that will last long after the trip is done!

Mission trips to Costa Rica with Praying Pelican Missions give you the chance to make an impact, support local partners, and develop relationships with those you meet as you obey God's command to go into all the world.

As a team, we will serve with some of their partner churches and will assist with a variety of things and hopefully in the next few months we will have more details. When speaking with Erik with Praying Pelican, we talked about a VBS type programming, sports camp for kids, singing, and/or construction if needed.

Visit the PPM website for more information: <https://www.ppm.org/mission-trips/costa-rica>

Expectations for participation:

- Be active in LV Student Ministry and LV First UMC
- Passionate about sharing God's love with everyone you come in contact with and one who strives for a deeper relationship with Christ
- Meet all financial deadlines
- Attendance at team training.

Vaccinations and Medications:

- Be sure you're up to date on all regular vaccinations including Tetanus.

Passports:

- Be sure to apply for your passport now. You can do this at the library, Post Office, and even online if renewing.
- Passport must be at least 6 months prior to expiration for travel.

Payment Schedule:

Payment Deadline	Amount to pay.
November 9th	\$150 Deposit Due
January 4th	\$500 Due (\$650 total)
February 8th	\$500 Due (1,150 total)
March 8th	Final Balance due

- Included in the price is 3 meals a day plus snacks, lodging (floor of church), transportation (flight and ground), ministry needs, trip insurance, checked luggage, and tips.
- There are no scholarships available for International Mission Trips
- You cannot ask entire Adult Small Groups to sponsor your student. Send partnership letters to family and friends you know personally.
- The final price will be set after plane tickets are bought.
- We will have fundraisers for students & adults to reduce their cost.
 - o Cake Auction & Bake Sale (already happened)
 - o Flamingograms in November (11/8-11/23)
 - o Pancake Fundraiser on Tuesday, February 17, 2026
 - o Possible T-Shirt fundraiser
 - o Other

Adult Leaders Needed:

If you're interested in participating and leading with us on this year's trip, please contact Oksana as spots will be awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis, with priority given to Wednesday Night and Sunday Morning Leaders.

Cost: TBD based on the number of adults

Online Paperwork:

Each person will receive an email from Oksana and “My PPM Account”. You will need to create an online profile for our trip and complete some online paperwork for the trip.

ALL deposits should come TO the church, who will then pay Praying Pelican Missions collectively. If you choose to pay online, please plan to cover the service charge. If you would like to avoid the service charge, you can pay using cash/check.

Partnership Letters

Take time to write letters to friends and family asking for their support for your trip to Costa Rica. Handwritten personal letters are always better received, but not required. Here is a sample letter to help you out:

Dear _____,

This year I have been given the opportunity to attend a mission trip to Costa Rica with my church, Lawrenceville First UMC. The trip is going to be over Spring Break and I am really excited about the opportunity to serve God in a foreign country alongside my friends and leaders in the Student Ministry. I am writing to you to ask for your support first and foremost through prayer for our team. Pray for safe travels, that we will be unified as a team, and that through our time in we will share God's love with those who may now know Him.

In addition to needing prayers for my trip, I am also in need of financial support. Please prayerfully consider supporting me financially as I go out to be the hands and feet of Christ this summer. The cost of the trip is around \$1,800 per person and it will cover all my transportation, lodging, meals, ministry supplies, and construction material. If you would like to support me in this trip, please check the information below on how exactly to do that.

***End the letter with something personal to the person you are writing like about family or see you at Thanksgiving. Really just anything to make the letter personal to who you are writing it to. Also include your cell number and email and encourage them to contact you with any questions about the trip.

Here are the details to help support my trip to Costa Rica:

Make the check payable to LV First and you can either return checks to **Student** or mail the checks to:

LV First UMC
Costa Rica
PO Box 2127
Lawrenceville, GA 30046

You can also donate online following these instructions:

1. Visit lvfirst.org/give
2. Go to donate and instead of selecting "General Fund" use the drop-down arrow and select "Other"
3. On the next page there is a memo/note line at the bottom. In this memo line please write: ***Student Name*** and Costa Rica Mission