

Mission Trip 2011

One of the awesome things about our TriCon Youth program is our Mission Trip tradition. Whether this is your first or your fourth time, the Mission Trip is sure to be fun, challenging, and life-changing. Each year we choose a location where we can learn about another culture, roll up our sleeves and do some good, hard work. There's plenty of time for hanging out with friends, worship, reflection and play. We have some awesome Mission Trip traditions that are unique to TriCon, so come and find out for yourself! All TriCon senior high students are welcome. Each Mission Trip has special leadership opportunities for seniors and sometimes juniors, too.

Our trips take place alternately in either February or April, following the public school vacation calendar. This year, the Mission Trip is scheduled for April 16-23, 2011.

Rio Grande Valley South Texas

This year, from April 16-23, we will head to the Rio Grande Valley in South Texas. Immigration issues are a constant topic in the news, politics, and society. How many of us have seen a person of apparent Latino heritage and asked ourselves 'Are they in this country illegally?' What does this even mean, and what does it say about us who ask this question?

While on the border, we will NOT be building a wall between the US and Mexico, and we will NOT be building a tunnel to aid immigration where the walls already exist. We WILL be building and rehabbing homes and doing social outreach projects within this community of both legal and illegal immigrants. We will be getting to know them as people, and not as the statistics referred to daily in newspapers, television news, and talk radio.

The cost of this year's mission trip is \$700 for families that financially support the church, and \$900 for those who do not. This represents only a part of the real cost of the trip. All participants are required to participate actively in fundraising events. Scholarships are available. Please contact Judy Walpole in the church office for details. The planning process is integral to the Mission Trip experience. Therefore, a commitment to the Mission Trip includes four mandatory pre-trip meetings. Each participant is also expected to take part in a service of worship following our trip and share their experiences with the congregation. Please see the attached schedule for the Mission Trip meeting dates.

**The deadline for Mission Trip
Applications is October 10, 2011.**