



**Dominican Republic
Santo Domingo
Information Packet**



Dates: Trip One: May 21–28, 2011
Trip Two: November 5–12, 2011
Cost: \$1,350.00 per person
Who: 18 years old and up
Info Meeting: Feb 6, 2011

About the Area:

The Dominican Republic comprises the eastern two-thirds of the island of Hispaniola, which it shares with Haiti. Despite living in one of the Caribbean's leading tourist destinations, the Dominican people are suppressed by unemployment, government corruption, and inconsistent electric service.

Faced with a limited number of jobs and a large influx of Haitian immigrants searching for work, many Dominicans are forced into unemployment or relocation. Also with this large flow of migrants, comes a significant clash in cultures. Often times, Haitians living in the Dominican are subject to human trafficking, slavery, and racial violence.

Lodging Info/Meals:

We will enjoy the wonderful hospitality of Missionaries Danny and Denise Stone. They lead Restoration Ranch in Santo Domingo where we will stay for the duration of our trip. This is also, where we will enjoy our meals. Bedding and towels will be provided.

Transportation:

Ground: Transportation to and from the airport and SpringWell Church will be based on the details of our flight and will be determined when tickets are purchased. While in the Dominican Republic, Teams will travel in a 29-passenger bus. The Bus Company will provide a driver for the week.

Air: We will fly from the United States to the Dominican Republic.

Projects:

Although our official itinerary will not be finalized until about 30 days prior to arrival, we can be certain that we will be serving in practical ways through a number of servant-evangelism projects. Restoration Ranch is a residential home for abandoned or orphaned children. We will serve the Ranch through a dental clinic, construction projects, prayer walking, children's Ministries, and much more. Our philosophy through all of this will be simple: See A Need...Meet A Need.

Important Dates:

Trip One: May 21–28, 2011

February 6, 2011	Information Meeting
February 15, 2011	\$100 non-refundable deposit
February 28, 2011	\$250 (first payment)
March 15, 2011	\$250 (second payment)
March 30, 2011	\$250 (third payment)
April 15, 2011	\$250 (fourth payment)
April 30, 2011	\$250 (fifth payment)
May 1, 2011	Mandatory team meeting, 12:30–2:00 pm (Lunch Provided)

Trip Two: November 5–12, 2011

February 6, 2011	Information Meeting
February 15, 2011	\$100 non-refundable deposit
March 15, 2011	\$175 (first payment)
April 15, 2011	\$175 (second payment)
May 15, 2011	\$175 (third payment)
June 15, 2011	\$175 (fourth payment)
July 15, 2011	\$175 (fifth payment)
August 15, 2011	\$175 (sixth payment)
September 12, 2011	\$200 (seventh payment)
October 9, 2011	Mandatory team meeting, 12:30–2:00 pm (Lunch Provided)

**Payment schedule is only a suggestion. We highly recommend you pay your trip in full as soon as you receive the funds through your savings or fund-raising.

SpringWell Missions Ministry Guidelines

1. Show respect for all people in leadership and authority in action and speech. Pray for the leaders and give them encouragement. Understand that they have many responsibilities and seek to serve them in any way possible.
2. This is a *group* mission trip. Please remember not to cut yourself off from the *group*. Make a real commitment to unity, encouragement, and brotherly love. Physically separating yourself from the *group* would not be a good idea either; you will not enjoy being lost in a devastated area.
3. We may be serving in some ways that you have never done before...be open to everything.
4. Please remember to dress modestly while on campus and during service projects. Appropriate dress will be determined by the type of work on any given day. No open toed shoes will be allowed during any work projects, period.
5. Christian friendship should be the aim of ALL relationships. The general principle here is no romantic behavior. This applies to those coming with their "special someone." Guard yourself and others and keep your focus on the purpose of the trip.
6. Thou shalt not whine. Be content in all circumstances (Phil.4:12). If you feel a need to complain or pout, do not. Remember to love, respect, and lie to your face!
7. Do not create division. Our ministry relationships can only be as effective as our relationships between each other. Edify and encourage at all times.
8. Serve (it is kind of the whole point of the experience). Serve each other, the leaders, and those we meet along the way without holding back. See a need, meet a need.
9. Be like Christ in your attitude. Demonstrate the love, joy, peace and compassion of Jesus within the team and those in the surrounding communities.
10. Stay together! When walking in groups during the trip (especially in heavily crowded areas), keep up. Do not straggle and do not stop for ice cream. Make sure there is always 1 or 2 guys in any group.
11. Take the initiative to grow. Maintain and enhance your quiet times and Bible study during this experience. This trip can be the beginning of a life-long change in your personal discipline, but it will only be what you choose to make it.
12. Get involved. Choose to participate and be a part of what is going on, not to stand around and do nothing. Standing on the sidelines is only a waste of your time and money, not ours.

**Bringing personal electronic equipment such as cell phones, game devices, iPods, etc. is allowed but highly discouraged. If you don't have it, you can't lose it.

Trip Participant Only: I have read the foregoing, understand the rules of conduct for participants, and will abide by them as well as the directions of the leadership of the activity.

Participant's Signature _____

Liability Release Form

Release of all claims

In consideration of being accepted by SpringWell Church for participation in a mission trip we (I), being 21 years of age or older, do for ourselves (myself) (and for and on behalf of my child-participant if said child is not 21 years of age or older) do hereby release, forever discharge and agree to hold harmless SpringWell Church and the directors thereof from any and all liability claims or demands for personal injury, sickness or death as well as property damage and expenses, of any nature whatsoever which may be incurred by the undersigned and the child-participant that occur while said child is participating in the above described trip or activity.

Furthermore, we (I) (and on behalf of our (my) child-participant if under the age of 21 years) hereby assume all risk of personal injury, sickness, death, damage and expense as a result of participation in recreation and work activities involved therein.

Further, authorization and permission is hereby given to said organization to furnish any necessary transportation, food, and lodging for this participant. The undersigned further hereby agree to hold harmless and indemnify said organization, its directors, employees and agents, for any liability sustained by said organization as the result of the negligent, willful, or intentional acts of said participant, including expenses incurred attendant thereto.

(If the participant has not attained the age of 21 years)

We (I) are the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of this participant, and hereby grant our (my) permission for him/her to participate fully in said trip and/or activities, and hereby give our (my) permission to take said participant to a doctor or hospital and hereby authorize medical treatment, including but not in limitation to emergency surgery or medical treatment, and assume the responsibility of all medical bills, if any.

Further, should it be necessary for the participant to return home due to medical reasons, disciplinary action, or otherwise, we (I) hereby assume all transportation costs.

Printed name of Participant
Medical Insurance? ___Yes ___No

Insurance Company

Policy Number

Physician's Name

Physician's Phone Number

Emergency Contact Person #1 (Name)

Emergency Contact Person #1 (Phone Number)

Emergency Contact Person #2 (Name)

Emergency Contact Person #2 (Phone Number)

If 21 or older: only the participant needs to sign. If under 21: both parents must sign unless separated or divorced in which case the custodial parent must sign.	
_____	_____
Father's Signature	Date

Father's Phone Number	

Mother's Signature	Date

Mother's Phone Number	

Pastor's Name	

Pastor's Phone Number	

_____	_____
Participant's Signature (If age 21)	Date

SpringWell Missions

Fund Raising Policy

When making a decision to participate on a mission trip, one of the first questions you may be asking is: Will the church be offering fund raising opportunities? In short, the answer is no. Too often, churches put a great deal of pressure on the congregation to help fund trips. With tithes, offerings, and already pledged missions giving, we would be over-burdening our people.

A mission trip is a journey of faith. This is why we ask each person to be individually responsible for raising their own funds. If you are fortunate enough to have the money in savings and can pay for the trip, praise God. If you are going to need to raise funds, we suggest you focus on ways you can find support.

The most successful way to raise money for your trip is to send a letter to everyone you know. Use your families Christmas card list to get the addresses of the friends you go to school or work with.

If once you meet others who are attending the same trip and you want to work together on some creative fund raising, we whole-heartily support you. A small group of you might want to have a car wash, do a bake sale or find odd jobs. If you use these methods, we suggest connecting with the community and not focusing on the church. These types of fundraisers would be the individual's responsibility and not be "ran" by the church. Let God use the people around you to fund His desire for you to be on the mission field.

Sample Fund-Raising Letter

January 3, 2011

Dear Friends,

I am excited to let you know about a great opportunity I have this fall to participate in a mission trip to Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic from October 16–23, 2011. Our group will be serving Missionaries Danny and Denise Stone. They lovingly lead *Restoration Ranch*, a residential home for abandoned or orphaned children. We will serve the Ranch through construction projects, prayer walking, children's Ministries, and much more. Our philosophy will be simple: See A Need...Meet A Need. The reason why I am writing is to ask you to prayerfully consider helping our team financially. We have at this time about eleven attending this trip. Our total budget is approximately \$13,500.00. This includes travel, lodging, meals, and administrative costs.

With a total need of about \$1,350 per person, would you be willing to invest \$25, \$50, \$100, or any amount God would lead you to give to help our team be a part of this life changing outreach to the people of Dominican Republic? You may want to break down your gift by the day. Each day will cost just about \$170. With the trip being eight days long, you may choose to sponsor one day, two days, or even the whole week.

Your gift will be tax deductible and should be made out to SpringWell Church. Please indicate on your check that the contribution is for *Mission Dominican Republic* and include my name. For your convenience, I am enclosing a self-addressed envelope. Our first deadline for receiving funds is March 15, 2011.

Please know it is not our desire to pressure you in any way. If you are unable to help us at this time, we understand. Simply knowing you are praying for us will be a great encouragement.

If you have any questions regarding this outreach, I would be more than happy to discuss them with you. Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,
Your Name