

Missions Policy

Trinity Presbyterian Church

Missions is...the work of the whole church and not merely a part. It is not merely that which takes place outside the Church but is involved in all work of the Church both inside and outside. In missions, the Church is involved in a temporary work of directing all of its members, past, present and future toward God in Worship.

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

- A. TO SERVE OUR MISSIONARIES CURRENT AND FUTURE
 - 1. By supporting and interacting with missionaries and ministries serving in our church, our community, and abroad.
 - 2. By appointing liaisons between the ministry group and supported missionaries and see that missionaries on furlough are cared for.
 - 3. Lead the congregation in care for missionaries on furlough.
- B. TO AID OUR CONGREGATION
 - 1. By providing vision and leadership for the congregation in fulfilling the Great Commission (Mt. 28:19-20).
 - 2. By educating and inspiring our congregation by planning and implementing missions focused events such as home group meetings, missions evenings, and church wide Sunday School.
 - 3. Develop in our congregation a spirit intercessory prayer, informed concern and support for the overall mission of the Church.
 - 4. By serving as an ongoing guide to prevent important decisions from being made on an emotional or haphazard basis.
 - 5. By encouraging volunteers for mission service.
 - 6. By being a resource for short term opportunities (local or abroad). We will provide assistance, support, research, information about opportunities as they present themselves.
- C. TO SERVE THE CHURCH WIDE LEADERSHIP
 - 1. By recommending the allocation of mission funds to the Session with and aim to be good stewards of the resources God has provided.
 - 2. By working in harmony with the church-wide leadership.
 - 3. To bring new committee members up to date, allowing them to quickly familiarize themselves with the issues to be faced in the general direction of our mission policy.

OUR MISSIONS GROUP

A. MISSIONS GROUP MAKEUP

1. Members of the missions group may not be active missionaries or family members of active missionaries supported by Trinity Presbyterian Church.
2. Members will strive to attend monthly meetings.
3. Members will participate fully in the purpose and objectives of the group.
4. The group will be formed in accord with the general guidelines for committee structure in Trinity Presbyterian Church. Advisory members (e.g. pastors) will be utilized when appropriate.

B. OFFICERS

1. Chair
2. Clerk

C. MEETINGS

1. Regular meetings will usually be held each the 1st Monday of each month at 6:30pm, unless otherwise determined by the chairman.
2. Additional meetings and special meetings may be called at the discretion of the chairman.
3. At all meetings, regular times of business shall be decided by majority vote. However, all items and cases of financial support shall be decided by 2/3 vote, it being understood that an abstention shall not be considered a negative vote. These voting rules shall apply only to those committee members present and voting at that particular meeting.
4. A quorum shall consist of 40% of the regular membership of this ministry group at the time of that particular meeting.

FINANCIAL GUIDELINES

A. BUDGET

1. We will request an annual projection of the coming year's financial needs from each missionary early in the year for the purpose of budget review. We will also request an overview of their ministry.
2. The budget is to be prepared by the Missions Committee and approved by the Session in time for each new fiscal year.
3. The Missions budget is based first upon the previous year's budget, Session's recommendations, then on potential increases, and finally on new opportunities.

B. PROCEDURE & CRITERIA FOR SELECTING NEW CANDIDATES

1. Priority is to be given in this order:
 - a. Trinity member/PCA work (and then non-PCA work)
 - b. Non-member of Trinity/PCA work
 - c. Non-member of Trinity/Non-PCA work

2. Missions Ministry Group will hold a pre-selection interview with candidate.
 3. The committee has assurance of their personal agreement and their agency's agreement with doctrinal requirements.
 4. Personal references received and further contacts made.
 5. There is a clear indication of membership in good standing of an evangelical church, and call to the ministry.
 6. The candidate is a member of an accepted board or agency.
 7. The candidate is recommended to the Session for approval.
- C. GUIDELINES FOR AMOUNT OF SUPPORT FOR MISSIONARIES
1. The amount we are able to give is dependent upon Trinity's financial situation and and/or Session's direction.
 2. There is a spending freeze policy set in place by Session.
- D. WHEN SUPPORT BEGINS
1. One-time support can be given when the candidate has been approved by the Session and depending on the date of need.
 2. Monthly support would begin when the sending agency approves the missionary for service (not necessarily when the missionary reports to the field).
 3. If additional support is requested (not initial support) it would be administered as needed after approval.
- E. WHEN SUPPORT ENDS
1. We will give sufficient notice of support ending.
 2. If there is any conflict with doctrinal beliefs or adherence to duties, support will be terminated as soon as the Mission's Group has clarified the discrepancy with the missionary, and as soon as the missionary's position has been clearly presented to the pastor and the Session.
- F. ONE-TIME GIFTS
1. Whereas Trinity has a unified budget including the total missions budget, and we do not generally practice designated or faith promise giving, monies given to the church designated to the broad heading of missions will be accepted. Monies given to specific mission works will be considered by Session.