



MISSIONS POLICY OF PAHRUMP COMMUNITY CHURCH

Definition of Missions: Any ministry with the primary purpose of fulfilling the Great Commission by proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ through evangelism, discipling, church planting, and church development. The basic goal is to establish indigenous, growing biblically based churches for fellowship both outside and within the United States.

ARTICLE I. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

A. The universal purpose of missions is:

1. To send his servants to all the people of the earth to proclaim the saving message of Jesus Christ.

For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" Romans 10:13-15

2. To declare the good news of Christ to those who have not heard or responded to it.

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation." Mark 16:15

3. To make disciples of all nations, at home and throughout the world.

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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 28:18-20

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8

4. To help minister to the totality of human need.

And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward. Matthew 10:42

When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right, "Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." Matthew 25:31-36

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B. The role of Pahrump Community Church (PCC) in missions is:

1. To be actively involved in sending His servants to all the people of the earth to proclaim the saving message of Jesus Christ.
2. To confirm those whom God is calling into the mission field; to help effectively equip them for ministry; and to send them out with sufficient resources and encouragement for their vital task.

C. The purpose of this written policy is:

1. To guide the administration of the missions program and provide consistency and continuity as committee and church leadership changes.
2. To assist in achieving a clear sense of direction.
3. To guide in making objective decisions.
4. To assist in our church wide promotion of missions.
5. To inform current and prospective missionaries regarding involvement with PCC missions.
6. To help insure accountability of the missions program.

ARTICLE II. MISSIONS COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

A. The Missions Committee shall consist of at least three people with a maximum of seven ; all being members of PCC:

1. New members may be appointed by the committee to be announced at the following church business meeting.
2. One of these will be from the Board of Elders.
3. Members will serve one year terms and may serve more than one term.

B. Criteria for selecting members to the Missions Committee shall be:

1. An interest in missions and evangelism.
2. A desire to learn more about missions.
3. A healthy and growing spiritual life.

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C. The responsibilities of Missions Committee members shall be:

1. Maintaining a vital relationship with the Lord.
2. Praying for the missionaries and the organizations that we support.
3. Familiarity with the Missions Policy of the church.
4. Assisting in the committee's goal setting and execution of such goals.
5. Actively studying missions.
6. Serving as a liaison between the church and its supported missionaries and organizations.
7. Attending at least 50 percent of the committee meetings.

D. The Missions Committee may have a maximum of four associate members; all being members of PCC:

1. New associate members may be appointed by the committee to be announced at the following church business meeting.
2. Associate members must stay abreast of all Missions Committee activities and communications. If possible, it would be beneficial for associate members to attend several regularly held committee meetings during the year.
3. Associate members will have no voting rights but will have the opportunity to bring ideas to the committee for discussion.
4. Associate members will serve one year terms and may serve more than one term.
5. Associate members must meet the criteria set forth in Article II.B.
6. With the exception of Article II.C.7., associate members shall have the same responsibilities as members (as set forth in Article II.C).

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ARTICLE III. CHURCH MISSIONS STRATEGY

A. Emphasis on prayer by:

1. Praying for the unsaved and for those proclaiming the gospel among them.

Finally, brothers, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored, just as it was with you. 2 Thessalonians 3:1

2. Establishing timely, relevant, and continuous prayer support for each of our supported missionaries and organizations by making known specific prayer requests to individuals, small group gatherings, and the church body.

B. We desire a relatively small number of missionaries and projects to support so that the congregation may:

1. Become personally involved in their work through prayer, correspondence, short-term mission trips, furlough support, etc.
2. Provide a significant level of financial support in order to minimize the missionary's support raising activities.
3. Effectively monitor each mission sending agency and missionary work that PCC is supporting.
4. Support allocation priorities:
 - a. All supported full-time U.S. missionaries in the contiguous 48 states (i.e. *home missionaries*) will be given the same amount of support (exceptions can be made by recommendation of the Committee and approval of church membership)
 - b. For full-time missionaries outside the contiguous 48 states (i.e. *foreign missionaries*) we will aim at a support level approximately 15% above the home missionary level.
 - c. All supported foreign missionaries will be given the same amount of support (exceptions can be made by recommendation of the Committee and approval of church membership)

C. Prioritization for consideration of missions support (long or short term missionaries)

1. First priority: Current or former members of PCC during the previous three years, or children of those who have been members of PCC for at least three years.
2. Second priority: Missionaries from Village Missions
3. Third priority: Relatives or friends of PCC members.
4. Fourth priority: Missionaries from mission groups other than Village Missions
5. Fifth priority: Missions related organizations.

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ARTICLE IV. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF MISSIONARIES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND PROJECTS FOR SUPPORT

- A. Missionary/organization presentations to the congregation:
1. The Missions Committee will strive to have a new ministry presentation or a report from at least one of our currently supported missionaries/organizations at least once a month, or as church event scheduling allows.
 2. Missionaries seeking support and/or a hearing shall present their request to the Missions Committee who will make the decision on whether to allow the work and calling to be presented to the congregation based on the following:
 - a. The individual/organization fits one of the priority categories found in Article III, Section C.
 - b. The probability and/or possibility of PCC including them in those we regularly support.
 - c. Availability of the church event schedule and the maximum congregational exposure.
- B. The following criteria will be used in determining support for missionaries. The applicant shall:
1. Be a baptized believer with assurance of salvation.
 2. Be growing spiritually.
 3. Be in agreement with the doctrinal statement of PCC.
 4. Be effectively active in Christian service and church ministries.
 5. Demonstrate his or her abilities and effectiveness in doing the work that they propose to do as a missionary (e.g. teaching, preaching, and leading people to Christ, working harmoniously with others.)
 6. Be open to counsel regarding preparation and plans.
 7. Have appropriate education and/or work experience needed to be effective in proposed mission activity.

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C. Financial support policies and expectations:

1. Support shall be granted to a mission applicant only by a majority vote of all members of the Missions Committee.
2. Support for a missionary, mission organization, or mission project (excluding discretionary use of Missions Budget Funds as otherwise identified in this policy) will not be approved until after such entities have made a presentation of their ministry to the PCC congregation; or provided information for presentation of their ministry to the PCC congregation.
3. The above entities shall present a statement of financial need to the Missions Committee for consideration. The statement shall include financial support that has thus far been secured.
4. Requests for mission support will not be considered in isolation from other requests. Each request will be compared with other requests and those that best fit the criteria established in this policy will be selected. The Missions Committee shall make its selection of support after having prayerfully considered the ministries that most closely exemplify the Great Commission.
5. The Missions Committee representative shall notify the successful applicant(s) of the intended level of support and the expected date that support shall begin upon congregational approval.
6. Support shall continue while a missionary is on home assignment. During that time the missionary is encouraged to meet with the Missions Committee and to report to the congregation on his/her missionary endeavors since the last congregational report.
7. All supported missionaries and programs will be prayerfully examined each year in order to assure the congregation that all of its mission funds are to be used to effectively achieve the goals of this policy.
8. Support for a missionary/organization will be reviewed and may be discontinued if:
 - a. The ministry ends.
 - b. The ministry, the location, or the relationship with their mission's board changes in any way.
 - c. The missionary remains on home assignment longer than a year.
 - d. The missionary violates the mission policy of PCC.
9. If support is terminated the Missions Committee will endeavor to provide written notice to the missionary and the mission board. However, support can be terminated immediately if circumstances warrant.

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D. Application process for financial support:

1. The missionary/organization shall complete an application questionnaire with three personal references, and schedule an interview with the Missions Committee.
2. The above shall cover the following topics:
 - a. Background and salvation experience.
 - b. Spiritual gifts, abilities, and interests.
 - c. Formal education and ministry experiences.
 - d. Calling into missions/ministry.
 - e. Reasons for choosing governing board or affiliated mission organization.
 - f. Immediate plans prior to assignment.
 - g. Financial support needs (status of other support sources, mission board/organization overhead charges, retirement plans, health insurance coverage, and other ministry expenses).
 - h. Prayer support needs.
3. The Missions Committee Representative will inform applicants in writing whether or not the ministry will be recommended for support.
4. If the ministry work is recommended for support they shall schedule a time for presentation to the congregation if they have not already done so.

E. Expectations:

1. Missionaries are expected to inform the Missions Committee of their ministry progress and other needs on a quarterly basis. Absence of such communication may be grounds for termination of support.
2. In order for us to have effective prayer, our missionaries are expected to provide the Missions Committee with specific prayer requests regularly.
3. Missionaries on home assignment should visit PCC and give personal reports if possible. If this is not possible, they should provide detailed written reports and/or arrange for a telephone interview with the Missions Committee.
4. The Committee will provide a copy of this policy to the missionary, annually, highlighting missionaries' responsibilities; i.e. Article IV.E.

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F. Mission organization criteria for support:

1. The primary purpose and function of the organization is in agreement with the goals and the mission statement of purpose in this policy.
2. The doctrinal statement is in substantial agreement with the doctrinal statement of PCC.
3. The organization should have the primary function of spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
4. The organization has an adequate accountability and decision making structure.
5. The organization's policy for raising support and distribution of funds is satisfactory.

G. Projects and Short Term Missions:

1. Projects and short-term missions supported by PCC should have the primary function of spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ. On occasion, the Missions Committee may support an organization whose primary purpose is to provide humanitarian aid.
2. Projects must be coordinated through a mission agency, organization, or receiving church, acceptable to and approved by the Missions Committee.
3. Projects must have a clearly stated purpose and meet a defined need.
4. Appropriate information on each project will need to be made available to the Missions Committee. Such information should include:
 - a. Date(s) and location.
 - b. Means of transportation.
 - c. Per person cost breakdown.
 - d. Project leader and contact person on the field.

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5. Finances for Short Term Missions.
 - a. Candidates under the age of 18 are encouraged to engage in short term missions within North America.
 - b. Candidates under the age of 18 who desire support for short term missions outside North America will be limited to financial contributions directly from the Mission budget equal to 10% of the total cost of the short term mission. This is not intended to limit the participation by the congregation at large. Any requests for exceptions to this must be approved by the majority of the Missions Committee.
 - c. Candidate must raise 100% of needed funds and complete funding prior to departure.
 - d. Candidate must report status of funds to Missions Committee 14 days prior to the date support is due. Missions Committee will evaluate and at their discretion approve disbursement of funds as available.
 - e. If candidate's financial support is channeled through PCC and more support is raised than the required amount or the candidate cannot participate on the short-term trip, it is the Missions Committee policy that the funds be redirected to the Missions Committee for other mission/missionary allocation. It is the candidate's responsibility to inform supporters of his/her inability to participate on a short-term trip.
 - f. Contributions given through PCC must be made payable to Pahrump Community Church and must be designated with the candidate's team name and the candidate's name to receive credit for the contribution.
 - g. Candidates are required to notify potential supporters that any support exceeding the amount needed will be redirected to the Missions Committee for short-term or mission/missionary allocation.

ARTICLE V. MISSIONS AWARENESS

- A. Prayer and other means of missionary support:
 1. A strategy goal is to develop a variety of programs to address special needs of supported missionaries.
 2. Besides a deep commitment to prayer and financial support for selected missionaries, organizations, and projects; emphasis shall be placed on the necessity of meeting their other needs such as:
 - a. Regular and consistent correspondence.
 - b. Missions supplies or equipment.
 - c. Assistance while on home assignment.
 - d. A generous supply of Christian love.

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- B. Promotion of missions opportunities and awareness:
1. We will strive to identify, encourage, and nurture potential candidates. We will try to help them discover their gifts, strengths, and limitations so they can serve most effectively wherever they are called.
 2. The Missions Committee shall provide for congregational opportunities to become personally involved by using their time, talents, and finances in special individual and group projects or short term mission experiences.
 3. The Missions Committee shall have special mission speakers, conferences, and presentations during worship services and other events, and provide regular updates to keep the congregation cognizant of missions in general and informed about our supported missionaries specifically.

ARTICLE VI. BUDGETING

- A. Missions budget
- The mission budget will be in accord with the definition of missions as described in this policy.
- B. Annual consideration and review:
- Ministries will be notified in writing about their support for the coming year.

ARTICLE VII. MISSION POLICY MAINTENANCE

- A. Exceptions and revisions to the policy require Policy Review.
- B. The Mission Policy will be reviewed at least once every three years.

DATE OF COMMITTEE REVIEW AND APPROVAL: 05/10/2018

DATE OF LEADERSHIP REVIEW/APPROVAL: 05/28/2019

DATE OF CONGREGATION REVIEW/APPROVAL: 08/11/2019