

Missions Team Policy

This document provides a general guideline for the normal operations of the missions team/committee of Grace Church. Extraordinary circumstances or exceptions will be decided by unanimous agreement of the members of the missions team, except for those items requiring approval by the elder board.

I. Why We Exist

The goal of the Missions Team is to deepen our church's passion for the peoples of the world, distinguish a path of strategy specific to our church, and to develop a partnership with those whom God leads us to send.

II. Team Structure

A. Team Leader

The team leader of the missions team is the chief-executor and representative of the missions team. He is responsible for making sure the missions team does what it is intended to do and what it agrees to do. He is accountable and responsible to the team, the elders and the church.

1. Qualifications

He must be a man who is a member of Grace Church in good standing, involved in a Discipleship Group, consistently giving to the church, under authority, and will be approved by the elders and the team. He must be growing in the qualifications of a pastor (1 Tim. 3 and Titus 1), and be given to servant leadership.

2. Responsibilities

- a) schedule missions team meetings, set the agenda for the missions team meetings, and run mission team meetings
- b) uphold the missions policy and church constitution
- c) be accountable to the elders, team and church by means of ministry reports when requested (for business meetings)
- d) represent the missions team to the elders and church
- e) make sure missions team action items are carried out
- f) lead the charge in promoting missions at the church

3. Term

The team leader will serve a one-year term. At the end of the year, he, the team and the elders will evaluate whether it is a good fit to continue.

B. Elders and Deacons

1. They are considered members and are welcome to participate actively on the missions team at any time.

C. Team Members

1. Qualifications

- a) team members must be active and spiritually mature church members in good standing, being sound in faith, of good character, and diligent.
- b) team members must have a burden for missions and a desire to promote missions at Grace Church.
- c) team members must accept and agree with the mission's policy of Grace Church.

2. Responsibilities

- a) attend meetings as set by the team leader.
- b) to actively look for ways to bring the goals of the missions program at Grace to fruition.
- c) to humbly be under the authority of and accountable to the missions team leader, elders, and church.
- d) participate in missions events and use their gifts through the missions team.
- e) meet when necessary to maintain and nurture the missions program at Grace Church. At a minimum the team should meet quarterly.

III. What We Do

- A. Deepen our church's passion for the peoples of the world
 - 1. Educate and inspire the congregation in the area of missions, especially in the areas of the scriptural basis and strategy of world missions, and being world Christians.
 - 2. Stimulate the congregation towards prayer for world missions and for our mission workers and mission organizations.
- B. Distinguish a strategy for missions at Grace Church
 - 1. Review annually the entire missions program, including mission workers and mission organizations supported by Grace Church. Organize any missions conferences or special missions events.
 - 2. Encourage missions sermons occasionally.
 - 3. Review, evaluate, and recommend local and foreign missions ministries.
 - 4. Set yearly goals for the missions program and implement them.
 - 5. Develop a missions budget to be presented to the elders for approval prior to the annual meeting, and to prayerfully apply the funds allocated.
- C. Develop a partnership with the missionaries we support
 - 1. Recruit, help train, send out, and encourage mission workers for both short and long-term service.

2. Pray and care for mission workers locally, abroad, on furlough, or in preparation, including reviewing and adjusting financial support levels.
3. Maintain regular contact with our mission workers and organizations that Grace Church supports.
4. Appropriately inform the congregation of news and prayer items from our mission workers and organizations that we support. Special care needs to be taken in cases where the worker's or organization's ministry is of a sensitive nature.
5. All decisions relating to financial matters and acceptance of mission workers and mission organizations will come from the missions team to the elder board for approval. Even when not required for action, congregational affirmation should be sought at the next available opportunity.

IV. How We Function

A. Meetings

1. We aim to meet every 6-8 weeks as a team.
2. Address missions business: missionaries needs, support levels, etc.
3. Pray for our missionaries and missions concerns around the globe.
4. Evaluate and approve short term trips people from Grace wish to take, along with funding levels for them; evaluate and approve mid and long term missionaries and determine at which level we will support them.
5. Organize events to promote and encourage our church to focus on and support missions.

B. Events

1. Missions Week - September
2. Prayer weeks for specific people groups.
3. Fundraisers to support mission workers and missions trips.
4. Hosting workers on home assignment for speaking engagements at Grace.

V. Current Goals

A. Long-Term Missions

Four priorities: Muslim world, unreached people groups, Bible translation, children and youth.

B. Short-Term Missions

Create a vision and plan for short term trips with long term partnerships (priorities, process for going on STM's, training, funding, create short-term application).

C. How to Educate and Inspire our Children

Create a vision and plan for the children of Grace to have a passion for missions.

D. Partnerships with Targeted Countries and Agencies