

SOP 22	MISSIONS GIVING AND FUNDRAISING	
RESPONSIBILITY: BOM	ISSUE DATE (VERSION): 06/19	NEXT REVIEW DATE:

In Acts 1:8, Jesus says: “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.”

At WFMC, we feel called to reach people both locally across the Detroit and Metro area, and to the ends of the earth as God allows. Thus we have put the following guidelines in place as to how we will support and encourage outreach.

MISSION GIVING: All missionaries are interviewed, screened, and prayed over by the Board of Ministry. Missionaries we feel led to support will be allocated dollars in the annual budget, with priority given to those connected to the FMC. Only those approved and budgeted missionaries will be given time to vision cast and point to support options in a Sunday morning experience. Other FMC supported missionaries may on occasion share a testimony and be prayed over if approved by the pastoral staff, with the focus being on connectionism, not support raising.

Our current missionaries include: Al & Dianne Mellinger, Seth & Hlawn Hlawn Vantiffiin, Mark & Mary Cryderman (the Harbor), and the ministry of Somerset Beach. The BOM is tasked with continuing to evaluate the best way to direct missions giving.

Each year around Christmas we also host a table for SEED on one Sunday and provide opportunities to give to ICCM.

Our local outreach budget is assessed annually and currently includes initiatives like our partnership at Schweitzer Elementary (we adopted the school through the district in 2018), and Fresh Expressions initiatives at Biggby and Jefferson Barnes.

MISSION TRIPS THROUGH WFMC: Ongoing: We promote Wombat and support riders from WFMC for the annual ride in August.

Pastors, Directors, or Board Members who desire to take their team and/or others on a group mission trip with people from WFMC should submit a plan 12 months in advance to the Board of Ministry. This plan should include the location for the trip, ways they hope to see God work, an identifiable leader, potential costs, and a fundraising plan. If the board approves the trip, it will be promoted across the church and we will challenge people to support the trip. The individuals, not WFMC, will be responsible to see that the balance of the trip is covered. We hope to eventually budget scholarships for mission trips.

MISSION FUNDRAISING BY INDIVIDUALS: It excites us to see when folks feel led to participate in local and global mission initiatives. We encourage those individuals to pursue traditional avenues such as sending letters to family, friends, and church family members they have a relationship with. We also encourage newer methods such as crowd funding sites that can be advertised through social media. Church directories should not be used to contact people the individual does not have a relationship with.

In terms of church promotion, we will offer a 3-5 minute spot in a worship service where they can share what God has called them to. A part of that time will include celebrating and affirming their call, and praying/commissioning them. We will also allocate a 5-8 minute spot in a future service for them to share some highlights of the trip with the church family.

MINISTRY FUNDRAISING: Each ministry is allowed 1 large fundraiser per year that may be promoted church wide. (i.e. Children, Anchor, Wombat, etc) Groups may do a fundraiser for specific trips/events (i.e. pizza sales for youth) if approved by the staff or BOM.

ADDITIONAL GIVING ASKS: At this time, we do not allow individuals to fundraise for groups or personal use outside of the approved lists in this document. (i.e. personal business, school or club fundraisers, etc) From a theological standpoint, we want to avoid selling in houses of worship based off Jesus addressing it Matthew 21:12-13. From a practical standpoint, we have had some people uncomfortable being approached by people they don't know about buying things, and we want everyone to feel safe in that regard on a Sunday morning.

As with mission trips, we encourage individuals to use avenues other than Sunday morning to reach out to family, friends, and church members they have a relationship with.

While there are so incredibly many good causes out there, we want to create maximum momentum behind those that we feel God has called us to as a church family. We feel like this approach gives us the best opportunity to accomplish that.

NOTE: Any item in underlined italics is taken from the Book of Discipline