

Global Missions Committee Minutes* First Lutheran Church – Fargo, ND July 12, 2018

Present: Tom Espel, Russ Wastweet, Christine Bachmeier, Brad Keller, Marianna Malm, Rollie Johnson, Pastor Corey Bjertness. Bryan Blomker, Youth for Christ, and Larry Wild were guests.

Meeting called to order by Tom Espel, Chair. Tom compiled the notes.

The mission statement and vision statement were recited.

Bryan Blomker opened with a devotion from Matthew 18 about the lost sheep.

Russ moved to approve minutes from June. Marianna seconded. Motion passed.

Russ presented the financial report. We have \$16,968 available in the Lee Fund and \$6,963 in the Scheel Fund, and there is \$889 in the Global Mission Samaritan Fund, after reserving \$1,300 for Ecuador and \$2,800 as matching funds for Dana and Andres. Marianna moved to approve the financials. Brad Keller seconded. Motion approved.

New Business:

1. Bryan Blomker from Youth for Christ was introduced. Bryan shared global youth statistics and some of YFC's history. YFC is active in 107 countries, including recent additions of Syria, Iraq, Haiti and Puerto Rico, with over 63,000 staff members. In Lebanon, where some GMC funds have been used, there is work in refugee camps among Syrian natives, and reconciliation is a priority. Bryan noted that YFC is sponsoring a vision trip to Cyprus and Lebanon this fall, for any interested.
2. Carmen Bajo – Larry Wild spoke on a request to provide \$500 to purchase a projector for use in the Carmen Bajo community. The funds, from Scheel Funds, would be sent with the Ecuador mission team next week. The group discussed the unorthodox method of transfer, but recognized the personal relationship between the Carmen Bajo community and FLC, so the method was approved as an exception. Motion made by Marianna, seconded by Chris; motion carried.
3. Education = Hope - Brad Keller presented on the renewed request to fund scholarships in the amount of \$6000 in Ecuador, with funds from Lee Funds. Marianna moved; Russ seconded. Motion approved.
4. Carmen Bajo/Compassion International - Brad Keller presented a renewed request to provide \$7,200 to cover cost of a daily meal (through Compassion International) for 48 weeks from the Lee Funds. Russ moved approval and Chris seconded. Motion approved.

Other Business:

1. Ordinary Hero – Pastor Corey said that there has been conversation with Katie Johnson but no action at this time.
2. Rollie will welcome Dorcas Wang for a Mission Moment in the Wednesday service on July 18.
3. China Service Ventures – Tom reported on his conversation with Jeff Nellermeoe. Jeff and the onsite director in China will be guests at our October meeting.
4. Marianna and Pastor Corey gave an enthusiastic report on the Slovakian team visit for the anniversary celebration. Marianna will share her remarks with the committee.

5. Discussion of mission and terms - These will be discussed at the July meeting.
6. Marianna was nominated by the committee to fill the expiring term of Donata Nellerhoe. Pr. Corey will bring this nomination to the Council and/or congregation.
7. Marianna provided a Council report, noting progress on construction and that Pr. Corey will share the draft Master Ministry Plan.
8. Rollie brought a request to help secure funds to assist Roberto's (colleague from Mexico who helped with some of Rollie's early mission trips) daughter cover costs of medical school. It was suggested that perhaps patrons from the medical community might wish to participate.
9. Tom offered to brainstorm with Pr. Corey and Rollie on ideas for future funding for mission. After citing prayer concerns for the Ecuador mission team, the upcoming congregational meeting, Ady Johnson and family, Pastor Corey closed in prayer.

The next meeting will be August 9 at 7:00 am in the Luther Room.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by
Tom Espel