

Global Missions Committee Minutes * First Lutheran Church – Fargo, ND December 14, 2017

Present: Christine Bachmeier, Greg Erickson, Kalah Erickson, Brock Franke, Brad Keller, Marianna Malm, Ann Williams, Russ Wastweet, Larry Wild, Missy Froeber and Rollie Johnson

Meeting called to order by Brad Keller, Vice Chair.

The mission statement and vision statement were recited.

Larry Wild led the devotional and prayer and read passages from the Bible; “knock and the door shall be opened”, “unity in the Church”, “Thy will be done”.

The November minutes were reviewed. Marianna Malm motioned to approve. Larry Wild seconded Motion passed.

Russ Wastweet presented the financial report. Brock Franke motioned to approve the finances. Ann Williams seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business:

1. Ordinary Hero update – First Lutheran is looking to have a presence in Africa and Ordinary Hero has a personal touch with Katie Johnson who is a member here and has gone on several mission trips with Ordinary Hero. Pastor Corey and Katie are discussing ways to put together a church member mission trip or partner in some way with Ordinary Hero. With several mission trips already occurring on a regular basis, scheduling is an issue to overcome.
2. Bihar, India update - A request was made for \$7500 as well as a request to the Foundation for \$7500. The congregation will be challenged to match the \$15,000. This request was tabled until the committee could talk to Pastor Corey and Pastor Laurie about our commitment to the organization. Several points of discussion lead the committee to the opinion that without dedicated ownership from FLC staff, support for funding in years two and three is not recommended. The committee does not feel we have a connection with this mission. We don't have local involvement or “boots on the ground”. FLC had to use Good Samaritan funds and Lenten service offerings above and beyond the Lenten noisy offering to reach the congregation's goal. FLC is behind the fiscal budget. Elimination of this commitment would free up \$15,000 of Scheel funds which otherwise sits at \$2,463 as of the beginning of this meeting.

New Business:

1. Casa Gabriel – this ask was tabled until January as the committee did not have any information on it.
2. Accion/Oscar & Roger visit to Fargo – They are asking for \$1600 to help them with travel expenses to come and talk to the congregation about the Accion mission. Rollie will work with congregation members to see if they can raise the money. The committee will defer to Pastor Corey and Rollie the need or value added by a visit, assuming the funds can be raised privately.

3. Feed My Starving Children – First Lutheran will take one shift for packing. Each shift is a cost of \$14,000. \$7,000 is being asked of the Global Missions Committee with a matching ask of \$7,000 from the Foundation. Marianna Malm motioned to approve the amount of \$7,000 from the Lee Fund. Russ Wastweet seconded. Motion passed.
4. TeachHaiti – A request for \$6,000 was made and tabled until the next meeting. The committee would like more information on this organization. Missy Froeber will contact Kathy Nelson, their board treasurer who submitted the application and is a member here, to see if she can present at the January meeting.
5. Forward Edge International – A request was made for \$500 to help with the costs of Tara Scherling Swanson who will be traveling to Villa Esperanza in Nicaragua on a short term mission trip. Marianna Malm motioned to approve the \$500 from the Scheel Fund. Christina Bachmeier seconded. Motion approved.

Other Business:

Pastor Corey sent an email requesting the release of funds for the Slovakian mission. \$18, 145.96 has been raised. The remaining \$1,854.04 will be raised by December. Release of funds was approved pending Pastor Corey's guarantee for the remainder.

Rollie gave an update on the Mexican Mission trip with will go in March. Rollie feels they will have 15-20 people in a multi age group.

The Committee thanked Larry Wild for his many years of service to the Global Missions Committee. His term expires at the end of the year.

After the January meeting, the Global Mission committee will probably not meet again until June when more funds from the Lee fund become available. The Scheel fund is depleted at the end of the year. Russ Wastweet will get Rollie a list of all the requests which were granted by the Scheel fund. Rollie will discuss with Pastor Corey the idea of speaking to Steve Scheel on replenishing the fund. Ideas on how to share the mission of the Global Mission Committee with the congregation in the hopes of getting more donations were discussed; a possible Global Missions Sunday, an ad loop to be shown before services, Rollie to talk and show a video/pictures on the missions and requests that the Global Mission Committee has helped so far both near and abroad. More will be discussed at the January meeting.

Council Report – Marianna Malm reported that the five task forces for the building project have started to meet again about final details of the project.

The next meeting will be January 11th at 7:00 am in the Luther Room.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by

Missy Froeber

Executive Assistant to the Senior Pastor

GMC