



## Missions Committee Minutes

August 25, 2025

Those present: Karen Campbell, chair; Larry Fleming; Gisela Goetz; Tracy Jackson; Betsy Mellon; Laura Paxton; Bob and Ellie Smith; and Jan Corbett, secretary.

Missed Dan Kulp; Peter Raymond; Larry Smith.

- Meeting opened in prayer by Tracy Jackson.
- Special Guest: Ruth Magee representing Days for Girls which has recently established an official partnership with Harvest Bridge in Nepal. East Main is able now to donate directly to Harvest Bridge in Nepal. Mercer County Career Center ships kits.
- Mission Mail circulated: Seneca Hills, Harvest Bridge; Promise of Life; Crestfield Thankyou card; Mark and Nancy Smith with Native American Youth; THE GAZETTA from Music Mission Kiev; 2024 Annual Report for eduKenya.
- Minutes of July 7 meeting were approved after a motion by Betsy Mellon and second by Larry Fleming.
- Missionary Partner Focus
  - September 21: Fayek and Nancy Khalil – pizza supper.
  - October 26: Andrew and Amy Funka. Gathering date and time; to be determined.
- Unforeseen balance: \$3464 + Future: \$1260 in December plus:
  - Linda Porter Bible donation that is not needed because they aren't permitted to take Bibles into the prison.
  - Mueller support needs to be activated as they are able to travel again for their mission. Their travel fund is less than \$6000. A motion was offered by Ellie Smith that we send the designated amount of \$315/month to their travel fund starting in September. With a second by Gisela, the motion carried.
- Old Business
  - Harvest Bridge matching campaign raised over \$63,000.
  - Yasir received \$1500 from the VBS offering for the new school he is starting for Sudanese refugees in Cairo. This amount was matched by a donor. In addition, it was decided by Pastor and Session to receive Thank Offering in August and give this to Yassir as well. As of the meeting date, the amount was \$6300. Thank Offering in 2026 will be received at the usual time which has been traditionally in November.
- New Business:
  - 2026 Budget discussion – do we want to request that we receive the pre-COVID budget again? Previously it was \$115,000. After discussion Tracy made the motion that a request be sent to Session that the Pre COVID budget amount be restored to the Missions Committee. With a second by Ellie Smith, the motion carried.
  - Linda Porter is starting a Celebration of Life Bible study through her church, not in the prison. A motion was offered by Bob Smith that we purchase a case of Bibles (\$300) for her use. With a second by Laura Paxton, the motion carried.
- Distributions: A motion was offered by Laura Paxton that the September distribution of \$7864.00 be disbursed. With a second by Larry Smith, the motion carried.
- Comments from Committee:
  - Laura Paxton reported that the Perspectives Course will begin again January 10, 2026 on weekends at the GC Alliance Church.
  - Discussion arose concerning a possible donation to Harvest Bridge for the Nepal project of Days for Girls. Laura Paxton made a motion that \$1000 be sent to Harvest Bridge for Days for Girls Nepal Project. With a second by Gisela Goetz, more discussion ensued with the result of Laura amending the motion to increase the amount to \$2000. With a second by Gisela Goetz, the motion carried.
- Next meeting October 6, 2025.
- Meeting closed in prayer by the committee, including praise to God for Yasir's successful and safe trip to the USA.

Respectfully submitted by Jan Corbett, secretary.