

East Main Mission Committee Minutes

September 7, 2023--6:30 PM; Home of Karen and Van Campbell

Present: Chair Karen Campbell, Larry Fleming, Gisela Goetz, Pete Raymond, Arnie Sodergren, Bob & Ellie Smith.

Missed: Secretary Jan Corbett, Betsy Mellon, Laura Paxton, Larry Smith.

Guests: none

Opening: Prayer by Gisela

6 minute video: from Yasir & family reporting on their escape from Sudan during cease fire to Egypt. Yassir is a refugee with hypertension and diabetes and plans to help other refugees with crisis intervention and counseling.

Mission mail: passed around

Approval of Aug. 7 Minutes: motion for approval as printed by Ellie, seconded by Larry and passed.

Minute for Mission/Missionary of the Month:

August-Youth Group mission trips completed pending receipt of Urban Promise expenses

September/early October- Patterson's coming Oct. 8th; info on Narnia Elementary School in Slovakia.

October- is also Women's Ministries Thank Offering; probably designated for special project for Pattersons.

STEPS: (Short Term Experiences in Partnership and Service)

Current Balance: \$8,029.46 After anticipated expenses from Luke's Senior High trip to Urban Promise, balance should be \$3,029.

Missions Unforeseen: Current Balance: \$7,196.81 including transfer of \$1,700 from unused Mueller/Food Pantry distributions for May & August.

Old Business:

Sr. High Mission Trip expenses paid by Missions Budget: \$5,000 (9 kids went)

Jr. High Mission Trip expenses paid by Missions Budget: \$3,250 (13 kids went)

Expense overage to be covered by Youth Group Budget. All Adults for both trips were paid in full from Youth Group Budget.

New Business:

- After discussion of Yasir Makki and family's escape from Sudan a motion to send \$1,000 from Unforeseen to Yassir for relocation expenses was moved by Gisela, seconded by Peter and passed.
- A motion to approve the 2024 Mission Budget of \$106,070 contingent on Sessions approval of \$4,000 increase and to return to pre-pandemic levels was moved by Ellie, seconded by Larry F., and approved. Changes include:
1. Increase of \$4,000 which will be desperately needed to maintain STEPS program at current level; 2. Lowering support for Hope to People by one level; 3. Increasing support by one level to Fayek Khalil with Pioneers-Arab World Ministries.
- A suggestion came to the Committee that in lieu of having Potlucks for visiting missionaries at Committee members' homes, we might try inviting the congregation for a Potluck meal in Fellowship Hall. And now a church-wide Potluck will follow the second service on Oct. 8 with Todd and Jana Patterson, our missionaries with Evangelical Free Church of America. Todd will be preaching at both services on that Sunday. This will also be an opportunity for young and older church members to learn about and consider joining the Missions Committee. As an addendum to these minutes, Fellowship Hall is available and Sue Ellen Hamilton has graciously agreed to be the facilitator of the Potluck.

Distributions: A motion to approve the regular Sept. distributions of \$7,549 was made by Larry F., seconded by Ellie.

Motion passed.

Committee Comments: John & Gwen Haspels have made two trips to Ethiopia this year and plan, if circumstances there allow, to go again in the next few months. Gisela learned in her reading that Yasir was co-founder of Nile Theological College in Khartoum, Sudan.

Closing Prayer: Karen, followed by Adjournment at 8:00 PM.

Next Meeting: Monday, October 2, in Conference Room at 6:30 PM.