

Church in the World Committee-Minutes (Revised)
Meeting (Zoom) of Thursday, May 19th @ 2 PM

Prayer

We opened in prayer focusing on Henri Nouwen's devotional in *Gracias* and the value in the Kingdom as we focus on our gratitude to God as we then go serve.

Motion to approve agenda-motion approved.

Specific ministry updates:

1. IMPACT-Kristy and teams preparing for summer mission trips. Commissioned at Presbytery meeting in Santa Barbara. Prayers for the ministry teams to Honduras and Turkey. Honduras: Holly Bassuk, Brenda Cedillo, Brandon Costales, Jonathan, Amayah, Caleb and Kristy LaBarge, Connor May, Joseph Parcher, Fabi Rosales, Faith Rosales, Samantha Williamson, Stephanie Yazzie. Turkey: Wendy Batstone, Jack Irwin, Barbara Irwin, Annell LaBarge, Michael LaBarge, Karen Rittenburg, Veronica Rios, Rich Smith. The committee was reminded of the 2022 budget to support any leadership needs. Matt will follow up with Kristy.

Revised by email, May 25th, The motion was made, seconded and approved (with one abstain by Kristy): To support the ministry of IMPACT by using \$1985 of our budget of \$3200 to send Kristy as director and leader.

2. God's Hidden Treasures (Nita Hanson)-continuing to lift up the tragedies in war in Ukraine and the amazing work God is doing through faithful servants there through God's Hidden Treasures. Joyce shared the image of local people starting to plant flowers in hard hit areas around bombing sites as an image of God's bringing hope even in tragedy. Recently even the Red Cross reached out looking to help identity needs and to bring support through the strength of relational ministry of GHT. Matt will reach out to other mission committees at churches in our Presbytery in case they are looking to support Ukraine to put GHT in our radar as a Christ-centered validated ministry serving disabled, that has both been vetted and is connected personally through Nita. Currently First Pres SLO, Lompoc, First Pres SB, Monte Vista, Emmanuel, Moorpark are currently supporting GHT.

3. Antalya and Ramazan-Paul provided update and what God is doing there. Reminder that there were 600 new visitors at Christmas time. There have been 10 new people daily dropping by, asking about faith. They recently had 13 new baptisms. Pray the power of Christ there in a culturally challenging area and in a very tough financial situation through Covid and hard hit tourist economy.

4. Care Corps (Jim)-continuing to pray and give thanks for the continued trauma care, counseling, and reconciliation ministry as Jim meets on Zoom with many leaders and countries.

5. Albania (Paul)-no update given.

6. Goleta-Ghana (Chuck)-no update given.

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7. Lifewater (Joyce)-Recently 800 children received a new latrine, clean water, improved health through educational training at a school. Mike Giering (mgiering@lifewater.org) is the new liaison for churches in our area. We will connect with him to consider future dates to share and connect.

8. SB Mission Conference-Church shared the dates for next conference are Feb 3-4th, 2023. With the focus on the mission conference being to “inform, inspire and engage,” this year’s conference will highlight the *engage* aspect of mission. Also, budget update from Pres finance shared 2022 income was \$8,960. Expenses \$23,080, \$14,120 over budget. Reserve assets of \$30,060 are able to help cover. Adjustments are being made, recognizing the challenge of Covid, going forward.

9. New Horizons-Romania. Joyce shared update on Dana and Brandi Bates and their ministry. They have been also supporting Ukraine effort and had 14 beds offered in hospitality to refugees and those who need them.

10. Brown Church series, budget update, \$1996 overdrawn account. Adjustments made going forward will be discussed.

Email update May 25th, upon approval of IMPACT funds, which was \$1,215 less than needed for IMPACT leadership, the committee made the motion, seconded and approved to request a transfer of funds from this budget line item to cover our Brown Church Series deficit.

11. Presbyterian Disaster Relief-fund is dormant, but we will connect with Suzanne Malloy.

Other agenda items

Vision and new ideas:

- New mission partners. Out of the Brown Church series, Dr Romero shared how there are two wings to the gospel-the gospel proclaimed and gospel of justice lived out. Paul shared an important relational connection was made with a mercy ministry in Guadalupe. Paul shared this community is part of Santa Barbara County, only 8 miles from Santa Maria. Paul has partnered with Pastor Mario. They have recently lost their food bank connection and needs to feed 100 families. This is an opportunity for local churches and Presbytery to go deeper in partnership that is local. This committee will explore next steps.
- This committee will identify the current vetting process of churches and what it takes to become a validated ministry with Presbytery to deepen local mission partnerships.

Next meetings day time

Matt will be away on Sabbatical June 14-Sept 5. Paul is vice-chair for any communication. It will be shared with Sandy to reach out to him for upcoming Council meetings, which are July 6 and Aug 3rd. (Paul away July 6th). It would be good to share IMPACT stories from the summer at the next Presbytery meeting Sept 17th.

Close in prayer

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We closed in prayer and big thank you Marcia for serving on this committee!

Committee Members: Paul Dugan, Joyce Maxwell, Marcia Risher, Chuck Curtis, Jim Witty, Kristy LaBarge, Matt Elam (Chair). Excused: Jim and Kristy