

Report on the Presidents Report and Missions

We are grateful for President Stumbo and others in the National Church Ministries Offices to include all our districts and workers in a multi-year conversation about changes to the statement of faith and several other policies. This is not an easy undertaking, but takes time, patience, and a strong spirit of unity amid disagreement. We are glad to have national representatives to lead our district in these conversations later today and look forward to what they have to share and/or introduce.

We believe that the new language offered at Council captures the heart of the Alliance: “All of Jesus for All the World.” We believe this speaks to the fullness of Christ that we can both experience and share with all the world. We fully affirm the heart to see breakthrough of the Gospel in the least reached places of the earth. The concept of simplifying some of the giving structures around the GCF should better support and resource this vision.

We believe that it has been a challenge to cast vision at the local church level for Alliance missions across the four key areas of: Envision, AXcess, CAMA, and Marketplace Ministries. We look forward to how the new language will help streamline this communication and help Alliance churches catch the vision for Alliance Missions. We affirm the new language introduced by Tim Crouch, VP of Alliance Missions: “Inviting our Alliance family to give as they would love: to the whole or to the work and/or worker.” We believe this language better aligns with the new system of mission’s conferences at the local church level and should encourage the creation of new partnerships with International Workers. We affirm these changes, they are not to make things easier or to “simplify”, but as Tim Meyer states, “We need to grow, we need breakthrough, and we need to send more workers.”

We want to thank Dave Murphy and the NED Missions Committee for their ongoing emphasis and help with shifts in Alliance Missions. They are always a reliable and helpful resource to any NED church in need of direction. We believe the transition to the national calendar for scheduling IW tours has gone well and hope it has increased ownership at the local church level. We desire to see this continue in 2021 and future years without the disruption of COVID19 to in-person tours.

We are encouraged by the increased giving of NED churches to the GCF. This is an increase over the previous business year and strong response to the call of our conference in 2018. We join with the Missions Committee in the call to continue strong vision-casting and giving towards the New GCF in 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Andy Sassaman, Chairperson
Rev. Bryce Baldwin, Secretary