

2024



**LOCAL
CHURCH
MISSIONS
DIRECTOR
MANUAL**

IPHC **world**
missions

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A BIBLICAL OVERVIEW OF MISSIONS

- Missions began when God went looking for Adam & Eve in the garden (Gen. 3:8-9)
- God brought the Jewish people into existence to bless all nations (Gen. 12:1-3)
- The Lord taught Israel to love foreigners and strangers (Lev. 19:33-34; Deut. 10:19)
- All peoples of the earth are to praise the Lord (Psalm 47:1; 67:3-5; 100:1; 117:1)
- Israel was to make known the Lord's deeds among the nations (Psalm 9:11; 105:1)
- The knowledge of the Lord will one day cover the earth like the sea (Hab. 2:14)
- God's dwelling place will be a house of prayer "for all nations" (Isa. 56:6-7)
- The "Gospel of the Kingdom" is to be preached to all ethnic groups (Matt. 24:14)
- Jesus commanded His followers to go and teach all nations (Matt. 28:19-20)
- Jesus gave His life, not just for the Jews, but for "many" (Mark 10:45)
- An angel proclaimed His birth to be good news for "all people" (Luke 2:10)
- The Father sent the Son, who in turn, sent His servants (John 20:21)
- The Gospel began at Jerusalem, before reaching the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8)
- The Gospel is for everyone, the Jews, and the Gentiles (Rom. 1:16)
- How beautiful are the feet that travel to preach the good news (Rom. 10:15)
- God wants all men to be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth (1 Tim 2:4)
- God is not willing that any should perish, but that all would repent (2 Pet 3:9)
- One day a great multitude from all nations will praise the Lamb in glory (Rev 7:9-10)

A Guide for Local Church Missions Director

Commendations are in order. If this booklet was placed in your hands, that means you have been appointed to be the Missions Director for your local church. After the initial excitement of this honor being announced, the question becomes, “What now?” The obvious answer is, “Get ready to give direction to your congregation in this vitally important ministry.”

To excel in this new assignment, it is imperative that you work closely with two key persons, (1) the pastor and (2) your conference missions director.

(1) The Pastor –

If you have not already done so, request a meeting with your pastor. The very fact that he or she has appointed you to this role indicates that missions occupy a place of priority in the overall vision of the church. Ultimately, strong pastoral leadership is the key to whether or a congregation will progress as a missions-minded church. Hear the heart of the pastor in your conversations and let him or her hear yours. With pastoral approval, select at least two more missions-minded people from the church to form a missions committee.

(2) The Conference Missions Director –

If you do not already know this person, you may get their contact information from the pastor or the conference office. Let the CMD know about your appointment and make yourself available to receive any help that may be forthcoming. The CMD will provide valuable information, including important

event dates such as Faith Commitment Sunday, Great Commission Meals, and Global Outreach Rallies.

Ten Strategies for Success in this Role

1. Make prayer for the lost a priority. Give special attention to intercession for unreached people groups. Pray fervently for more people to respond to the call to go, as well as increase in giving from the senders.
2. Set goals for giving in consultation with the pastor and your missions committee. Keep them before the people throughout the year.
3. Keep missions visibly before the congregation in every way you can. Take advantage of bulletin boards, message centers, church bulletins, church newsletters, social media, and video announcements to accomplish this objective.
4. Order all the promotional materials you need. Especially, make sure that you have enough copies of The Link Prayer Guide on hand for all the families in your church. You may do this from your CMD, directly through the WMM Team at the Global Ministry Center in Oklahoma, or online at iphc.org/missions/promo.
5. Take advantage of every opportunity the pastor allows you to talk about missions, whether it is weekly, monthly, or periodically. If such times are granted, use other givers in the church to sometimes speak on your behalf for variation and effect.

6. Make certain that every ministry in your church is tied into your missions outreach. (This includes Men's, Women's, Senior Adult, Teens, and Childrens.)
7. Discover creative ways to schedule fund raisers for missions. Possibilities include church dinners, bake sales, an auction, a golf tournament, a 5k or walk-a-thon, a talent or music show, or a "change for the world" coin collection. Some churches still raise a large amount of funds via some form of the old fashioned "penny march."
8. Work with the church secretary in sending monthly missionary contributions and reports to the conference office.
9. Make sure you are receiving all the newsletters from missionaries that your church is supporting. Take advantage of modern technology to stay in contact with the missionaries serving on the field.
10. Make sure you attend all the missions-related conference events, such as Great Commission Meals and Global Outreach Rallies. Nothing is more exciting than to see the "big picture" of how your local church contributions are combined with those of others to accomplish great things for the Lord.

A LEXICON FOR LOCAL CHURCH MISSIONS DIRECTORS

COFFEE HOUSE MINISTRY – We have over a dozen of these ministries located in large, metropolitan cities around the world. The premise is to introduce people to Christ in what is a natural setting for millions of people. These centers provide counseling, Bible studies, personal evangelism, prayer, Christian literature, and Bible distribution, and often evolve into church planting.

CONFERENCE MISSIONS DIRECTOR (CMD) – The person appointed by each conference to give oversight to the ministry of missions over the churches in that conference.

FAITH COMMITMENT SUNDAY – This is the annual day to secure monthly pledges for supporting IPHC missionaries. The first Sunday in March is designated as “Faith Commitment Sunday,” although some churches may choose to give this opportunity to their people on another day. Many pastors invite missionaries to speak, either in person or via technology. Commitment cards are distributed and collected with the total monthly pledges of the congregation for missionary support recorded and announced.

FOUR COLUMN GIVING – This phrase refers to the four areas IPHC missions giving is divided into. These include: (1) The Global Outreach Offering; (2) People to People; (3) Special Projects; and (4) Missionary Support. Your conference office should provide you with the monthly forms featuring these categories.

GLOBAL OUTREACH OFFERING (GO Offering) - This is our annual special denominational offering that we ask every IPHC church and member to support. 75 % of the offering goes to World Missions Ministries and 25 % to Evangelism USA. This offering truly is the life blood for IPHC WMM as it accomplishes so many things throughout the world every year. Churches give toward Global Outreach in numerous ways. Some put the GO offering in their monthly budget. Others designate one offering a month to this cause, while others build momentum throughout the months for one great offering at the end of the year. Many

churches engage in a variety of fund raisers for missions. For many years, IPHC congregations have participated in giving a “Day’s Wage” to the GO offering. In this method, participants calculate what one day of their annual income is and they contribute that amount to the GO offering.

GLOBAL OUTREACH RALLY (GO Rally) – Most conferences have some kind of GO Rally, usually in conjunction with their camp meeting type event during the summer or fall. Many CMD’s have a target date in mind when they hope to have all the funds in. However, contributions may be sent to the Global Ministry Center in Oklahoma and be counted for the current year if their donation has a postmark from the United States Postal Service up to December 31 of that year.

GREAT COMMISSION MEALS (GCM) – These special events remain one of the most effective ways to expose our church leaders to what the Lord is doing around the world through the faithful giving of others. Pastors and LCMD’s or their guests are invited to come and share a meal together (either at a local church or a private room in a restaurant). A representative from the WMM Team in Oklahoma is present to provide the latest updates in IPHC missions and to cast the vision for the upcoming year. The CMD sets the times, dates, and locations, as well as setting the agenda for the event. If possible, missionaries who are home on furlough often attend these gatherings and are allowed a short amount of time to present their ministry.

LOCAL CHURCH MISSIONS DIRECTOR (LCMD) – This is YOU! The person appointed to give oversight to the missions ministry of a local assembly.

MISSIONARIES – Individuals approved by the World Missions Council to serve the IPHC while living in a country different than the United States.

MISSIONARY FURLOUGH – When IPHC missionaries are released to go to the mission field, their initial term of service is three years. After that time, they are eligible for a furlough of usually six months back in America before returning to the field.

MISSIONARY ITINERATION – IPHC missionaries are responsible for raising their own funds to meet their budget that has been approved by the Director of Missionary Care.

NATIONAL LEADERS – We have several countries that do not have an IPHC missionary. However, some of these nations have an indigenous leader who is recognized by WMM as the director of our works in that land.

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE (PTP) – This is the benevolent arm of IPHC missions. At the heart of PTP is child sponsorships, where for as little as \$ 25 per month, a child can be fed, clothed, and educated in multiple countries around the world. Other PTP projects include feeding the hungry, digging water wells, disaster relief, and establishing micro businesses.

REGIONAL DIRECTORS – (RD) World Missions Ministries maintains a ministerial presence in over 100 nations. These countries are divided up into 13 regions. Oversight of these specific areas are provided by IPHC missionaries who are selected to serve as regional directors.

SHORT TERM MISSIONARIES (STM) – These are individuals who spend at least four weeks on the mission field every year, while continuing to live in the United States.

STARS PROGRAM – Some conferences offer a variation of the Star Achievement Program. Check with your CMD to see if your conference participates in this effort. (Even if they don't, you may consider implementing something like this for the individuals in your own congregation.) Here is a sample of churches earning a "star" for various activity in missions giving:

- 1) Does your church have a LCMD and committee? = 1 star
- 2) Does your church receive a monthly offering for missions? = 1 star
- 3) Does your church support at least one missionary? = 1 star
- 4) Does your church contribute to the GO offering? = 1 star
- 5) Does your church sponsor at least one PTP child? = 1 star
- 6) Does your church support a special project on the mission field? = 1 star

T.E.A.M.S. – Team Evangelism and Mission Service – This branch of WMM tracks all the missionary trips taken annually by IPHC churches. Several conferences conduct their own trip each year. Types of trips include evangelistic, medical, drama, and construction. If your conference does not offer such an opportunity each year, the national office through T.E.A.M.S. can provide you with other possible options.

THE LINK – The primary resource produced by World Missions Ministries, which includes a 30-day prayer guide, photos of all IPHC missionaries, and an abundance of important information.

WORLD MISSIONS COUNCIL – This group of 10-12 leaders is made up of conference bishops, CMD's, and lay representatives. They meet twice a year with the Executive Director to approve missionary candidates, to designate where GO offering funds are sent, and to deal with other areas of business related to the IPHC overseas.

WORLD MISSIONS MINISTRIES TEAM (WMM Team) – This refers to the leaders at the Global Ministry Center, including Executive Director Talmadge Gardner and Directors of Missionary Care, Global Outreach, People to People, The Awakening, and Financial Specialist.

UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS (UPG) – Ethnic groups in which less than 2 % of the population are Evangelical Christians. There are over 7,000 such groups representing over 40 % of the world's population.