

# MISSIONS POLICY

## Of Fostoria Baptist Church

(Revised 6/28/12)

It is the desire of FBC to enter into a partnership with individuals and families who are carrying out the commission of our Lord and Savior by utilizing the Biblical blueprint as described in God's Word and as described in our Philosophy of Missions.

### Who can be a partner with FBC?

An individual or family desirous to partner with FBC must meet the following requirements:

1. Unity in with the philosophies and doctrines of FBC. Likewise, their plan must fulfill the Lord's commission while also being in unity with the practices, doctrinal beliefs, and Scriptural policies of FBC. This church-planting missionary will be an extension and representative of Fostoria Baptist Church thereby allowing us to reach another people group. FBC would never send a representative to do somewhere else in the world what we would not do here in our local community. Therefore, we expect our partners to . . .
  - a. Be active members of independent Baptist churches
  - b. Be committed to the Biblical beliefs of Baptists
  - c. Be evangelistic in striving to win souls with the goal of establishing a Baptist church
  - d. Be committed to growing a church (or in the case of those called of God as aides to the church-planting missionary, committed to faithfully assisting in the planting/growth of a church) by Biblical means along with teaching the truths and principles of Scripture for individual growth
2. A local, independent Baptist church is the sending church
3. Faithfulness as a member of one's sending church, having demonstrated a desire and commitment to working within the ministry of the sending church. This sending church will be responsible to provide help, direction, and supervision that our partner may need.

4. Dutifully seek the support of other like-minded churches who will partner together with the church-planting missionary thereby providing the means for them to go and serve the Lord within their designated field.
5. If necessary, seeking an approved mission agency to assist with preparations and oversight of the different areas of one's ministry.

## **How Do I become a partner with FBC?**

1. Contact Pastor Henry via email or regular mail ([shenry@fostoriabaptist.org](mailto:shenry@fostoriabaptist.org)) to begin the process of establishing a partnership.
2. Via email or regular mail, send promotional information for Pastor Henry to look over.
3. If it is believed that you might be a possible candidate for support, Pastor Henry will contact you, providing you with the following for you to look over, with some items needing to be returned when completely filled out:
  - a. This Missions Policy
  - b. FBC's Philosophy of Missions
  - c. Our articles of faith
  - d. Missionary Questionnaire-please fill out and return
4. Once you have returned the questionnaire, you may be requested to participate in a phone conversation/interview with Pastor Henry.
5. Pastor Henry may request that you come and present your ministry and field during an upcoming service or for our FBC Missions Conference.
6. Once you present your work, the pastors along with deacons will decide as to whether or not to recommend you to the church family for missions support.

## **What does FBC do for its partners?**

1. We will commit ourselves to providing prayer and financial support.
2. Financial support will be sent to a non-profit entity—such as the sending church, a mission agency (Example-BIMI), or the church being established—in accordance with the wishes of the sending church.
3. Concerning financial support:
  - a. Financial support will be sent out quarterly

- b. All financial support for foreign missionaries will be sent for an indefinite period of time; this support will be subject to review based upon the needs of the missionary, any doctrinal or philosophical change in the ministry, the financial ability of FBC, or for anything else deemed necessary by pastors or deacons.
- c. The support will begin upon the congregational vote of FBC and FBC receiving all necessary material/information from the missionary.
- d. The support will end when a missionary retires from active missionary service. (For missionaries who left for the field before 1997, support beyond time of retirement will be handled on a per case basis)
- e. FBC's financial support for a partner will be re-evaluated upon a missionary changing fields, changing ministry focus, changing mission agencies, or other similar changes.
- f. FBC's financial support for a church-planting missionary/pastor within the United States or Canada will be re-evaluated after 5 years; at this time, further support will only be given by subsequent congregational vote.

## **What does FBC expect from its partners?**

1. To faithfully fulfill the calling of God on their life with dedication and determination.
2. To not solicit additional funds individually from the members of FBC.
3. To faithfully communicate with FBC at regular times (monthly or quarterly).
4. To promptly notify FBC regarding any changes in mission field, mission agency, philosophy of ministry, doctrinal belief, or other pertinent information that FBC considered when partnering with you.
5. To update FBC in person during your furlough.
6. To conscientiously plan for your own retirement in which you may be able to live without receiving support after you retire from active missionary service. The Bible clearly teaches that we as men are to wisely provide for our families at all times through His provisions; therefore, it is expedient that you do not spend all that you earn. As stated above, we will discontinue support upon your retirement from active missionary service.

*"Thank you for prayerfully considering partnering with FBC!"*