



Mission and Stewardship

2011 Mission Causes Guide



*A Review of potential mission support
causes, with analysis and committee
criteria*

Items in “quotations” are generally from the organization’s web site.

2011 Mission Causes Selection Summary

A Review of our potential mission support causes, with analysis, using committee criteria

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to assist the Mission and Stewardship Committee in considering, selecting and recommending to Session the 2011 Session-Approved Causes and to educate the congregation about the mission causes FPC supports. We recognize several general principles in this process:

- We have a set of stated criteria which form the basis for our decision making (these are listed in a following section).
- We have limited resources to spend.
- We have a history of giving, which includes ongoing relationships with some organizations that are affiliated with the presbytery, synod and denomination, and others that are not specifically Presbyterian.
- We have a responsibility to direct the congregation's giving to worthy causes, being good stewards of the resources with which we have been entrusted.

This document includes an informal review of various causes FPC supports. It is not a complete description of all cause programs and is subject to expansion and correction by the committee.

Mission and Stewardship Scope of Responsibility

This is the most current ‘mission statement’ regarding our work:

Following Jesus’ example, we intend to use our mission dollars to reach out and meet the needs of people, whether or not they embrace the Christian faith. Recognizing that addressing physical needs is an important component of helping and that many organizations address this need, we will focus on supporting those organizations and missions that also address the spiritual needs of people by sharing the good news of the Gospel.

We will support local, national and international mission causes, as well as address short-term and long-term needs. It is the committee’s growing conviction, based on the assumption that communities across the country ought to care for those in their midst, that local and global mission causes should receive a greater portion of our limited funds.

We will be intentional but not exclusive in supporting Presbyterian mission causes.

General Mission and Per Capita Apportionment

Part of the money managed by the Mission and Stewardship Committee is designated by Session:

Presbyterian General Mission: This money goes to the presbytery, synod and General Assembly to support their programs/mission. The allocation of our giving among these judicatories is recommended by each higher judicatory. Since 2005 we have dispersed by the recommended percentages: 75% (presbytery), 5% (synod) and 20% (General Assembly).

For 2011, Session set our mission giving in this category at \$29,300.

Per Capita Apportionment: This amount is assessed for each active member of the local church and supports budget provisions for each higher judicatory’s office/operations and council/committees. The 2011 per capita is based on the 2009 Statistical Report of the Office of the General Assembly. For 2011, each governing body has determined the following per capita amounts:

General Assembly	\$ 6.50/member (+.35)
Synod of the Northeast	\$ 3.95/member (+ .10)
Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley	\$ 20.78/member (-.50)
TOTAL	\$ 31.23/member

For 2011, FPC has been assessed \$11,118.

Broome County Council of Churches: The BCCC has a variety of mission programs which we support through unrestricted giving as a member of the Council. Some BCCC programs receive additional FPC funds and are detailed in the “Cause Overview” section of this document.

For 2011, our unrestricted mission giving in this category stays at \$4,500.

Samaritan Supper: The Samaritan Supper is a free weekly meal (September – June) offered by FPC for those in the community who need the food and/or the fellowship. This outreach receives significant donations of food from Broome Bounty and our local Panera restaurant. Funds to cover additional expenses for the Samaritan Supper are now a line-item in the General Mission budget.

For 2011, the S.S. budget is \$4,000.

FPC Deacons: The office of Deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness and service after the example of Jesus Christ. This ministry is carried out to those within our community of faith and beyond. The Deacons are now a line-item in the General Mission budget. They also receive donations from individuals and the loose change in the offering on Communion Sundays.

For 2011, the Deacons budget is \$1,500.

2011 Session Approved Mission Causes

The Mission and Stewardship Committee has been allocated \$35,930 by Session for other causes this year. It is the Mission Committee's task to determine the causes to which this money should be put and make recommendations to Session for approval.

Commentary: Over time, our giving to various causes has changed – for a variety of reasons. These include: a special need we become aware of, a special relationship with a particular mission organization or particular missionaries, the combination or separation of organizations, determinations about the effectiveness of a given organization, and changes in church or committee policy.

In recent years, the committee has focused more closely on our mission statement. An ongoing discussion is whether to give significant amounts of money to a smaller number of organizations, or smaller amounts to many. We are aware that there are positives and negatives associated with either choice and that there may not be a “right” and “wrong” choice. We also want to communicate our decisions and goals to the congregation.

After deciding what causes to support, we may have a “not yet designated” amount remaining. The benefit of leaving some funds undesignated is that we have some flexibility to respond to new mission crises or opportunities that arise throughout the year. We also try to be careful to fully disperse the money and not miss an opportunity to help a cause or increase our support of a cause.

In addition to “new money” for mission causes, we sometimes get additional money out of a budget surplus from the year before. When this happens, we make recommendations to Session as to how this money could be spent.

For 2011, money not spent for Samaritan Supper in 2010 and from this year's trip to Kenya (Total of both = \$1,195) will be used for other mission causes and will be included in the 2011 recommendations.

Mission Cause Overview

This section includes descriptions of the current Session-approved causes. The information has been gathered from a variety of sources, including brochures and letters, web sites and personal experiences. Causes are listed in alphabetical order. Most of the organizations have websites where more detailed information can be found.

Athletes in Action (Jamie Borchik) - AIA is an arm of Campus Crusade for Christ - “a global Sports Ministry working with college and professional athletes to use the platform of sports to help people with questions of faith.” Vision Statement: “A Christ follower on every team, in every sport and in every nation.” We currently support Jamie Borchik who works at Ohio State University.

Broome Bounty (BCCC) - Broome Bounty, the area's only food recovery program, recovers food from area businesses. The recovered food is distributed to independent pantries, food distribution sites, and soup kitchens throughout the community and surrounding communities. FPC is a recipient of this food, which is then used weekly at our Samaritan Supper.

CHOW (BCCC) - “Community Hunger Outreach Warehouse”. CHOW is a county-wide food pantry, sponsored by the Broome County Council of Churches. CHOW offers food assistance to individuals and families in Broome County through a network of pantries housed in area congregations.

Campus Crusade for Christ - “Campus Crusade for Christ International is an interdenominational ministry committed to helping take the gospel of Jesus Christ to all nations. We cooperate with millions of Christians from churches of many denominations and hundreds of other Christian organizations around the world to help Christians grow in their faith and share the Gospel message with their fellow countrymen. Working together with these fellow believers, our goal for this decade is to help give every man, woman, and child in the entire world an opportunity to find new life in Jesus Christ.” We currently designate our gift for Deployment Kits to those serving in our military.

Children’s Home - Located on Chenango Street, the Children’s Home provides comprehensive professional services which include residential, educational, preventive and therapeutic care, in order to enhance the safety, stability, and well-being of our children, families and their communities. The Home is a mission of the Wyoming Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Derek Johnson - Derek is a graduate of the Renovation House program who has gone on to Elim Bible College. We have been supporting him with scholarship funds.

Frontiers (David and Carrie Hartman) - David and Carrie are a local couple (New Hope Presbyterian Church) who are pursuing a call as long-term missionaries. They are spending one year in intensive discernment and training, building a team to serve in an unnamed Muslim country in Southeast Asia. Frontiers is “a mission reaching out to Muslims with the love of Jesus and helping others to do so. Offers short and long term mission opportunities.” Frontiers’ Mission Statement: “With love and respect, inviting all Muslim people to follow Jesus.”

General Benevolence Fund – An undesignated fund of \$500 which gives the Mission and Stewardship Committee discretionary money that does not require Session approval for time-bound needs/causes that arise.

Good Shepherd - Fairview Home (Living Care Fund) - Good Shepherd Fairview Home is a local, not-for-profit residential healthcare community that has offered housing and health care services for nearly 140 years. Several church members have been directly involved by serving on the Board.

Good Shepherd Villages- FPC supports this new multi-level residential complex largely because many members of FPC reside in its cottages, apartments, nursing and rehab facility.

Grace and Peace Mission in Orissa- GPMO is a mission in Orissa, India. The Rev. Hemant and Saima Tandi are the Directors, and several FPC members serve on the Board. GPMO has a 5-pronged ministry: the Nanda Orphanage, support of Tribal Churches/Pastors, outreach to a Leper Community, outreach to an unreached people group and support of Moorshead Memorial Christian Hospital. FPC supports GPMO with an undesignated gift and supports a local church/pastor through a church partnership.

Hilltop (United Methodist Homes), Living Care Fund- Hilltop is a Methodist-based multi-level residence for senior adults. Many FPC members live in the cottages, apartments, nursing or Alzheimer's units.

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship at Bing. Univ. - Carrie Moorhead is the staff person and must raise her own support. Open to all students, this is a very active fellowship and has a large response from Asian-American students. InterVarsity Christian Fellowship/USA is an evangelical campus mission serving more than 35,000 students and faculty on more than 560 college and university campuses nationwide. Incorporated in 1941, InterVarsity has a rich tradition of campus witness, thoughtful discipleship, and a concern for world missions. "The Purpose of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship/USA is to establish and advance at colleges and universities witnessing communities of students and faculty who follow Jesus as Savior and Lord: growing in love for God, God's Word, God's people of every ethnicity and culture and God's purposes in the world."

Jail Ministry (BCCC) - "The Jail Ministry team is comprised of two full-time staff persons and nearly 100 volunteers who minister to both the needs of those who are incarcerated or recently released, and their families. The Coordinating Chaplain oversees weekly worship services and classes for the entire jail population as well as pastoral care for both the inmates and staff. A skilled team of volunteers carries out a great deal of the daily programs, religious services and visitation. Reentry services are provided at the Broome County Council of Churches Offices."

Kenya Churches and Schools (The Outreach Foundation of the Presbyterian Church) - FPC has given a small annual gift (for 3 years in decreasing amounts) to each school or church built by our Kenya mission teams.

LeTourneau Christian Camp and Conference Center (Canandaigua Lake) – “The mission and purpose of LeTourneau Christian Center is to glorify the Lord through our programs, activities, facilities and personnel. The message of Jesus Christ will be proclaimed in all we do, and our facilities and activities will be under continual improvement to provide for the physical, moral, social and spiritual development of Christian adults and youth of all ages. Conference and camping accommodations for both adults and youth will be enhanced to provide a year-round facility to conduct Christian conferences, workshops, seminars, concerts and other meetings that will strengthen the family, train youth, encourage pastors, develop leaders, disciple believers, and inspire God's people.”

Life Choices Center - A local (nationally-based) non-profit, privately funded pregnancy resource center to help people before, during and after a pregnancy-related crisis. The center provides free pregnancy tests, support, help for someone making a plan to break tough news to their parents, after-abortion support, parenting classes, free diapers, adoption support, etc. The ministry is based on a pro-life position, but affirms, “We don't try to make other people's decisions for them. We don't pressure or preach. We're just here to help. To love. To support. To give clear, truthful information so people can make their own informed, responsible, healthy life choices.”

Medical Benevolence Foundation (G/A) - This is a medical arm of PC(USA) mission. It supports hospitals, doctors, and medical supplies. Our church has supported this cause for a long time. “Medical Benevolence Foundation (MBF) exists to proclaim and demonstrate the gospel of Jesus Christ through a healing ministry. In partnership with the Presbyterian Church (USA), MBF:

- Interprets and provides information about the international health concerns of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and its international partners;
- Raises funds to support international health programs;
- Recruits healthcare professionals and other types of volunteers to serve in health related mission programs outside the U.S.;
- Shares gifts of donated surplus medical supplies and equipment with international partners.

We seek the empowerment of the Holy Spirit to carry out Jesus Christ's commission to preach, teach, and heal the sick.”

Mission Aviation Fellowship (Brian Shepson) – MAF is a ministry that uses small planes to reach areas of the world that are inaccessible by road. They deliver food, medical supplies and Bibles. Brian Shepson (a relative of FPC members) has been working for MAF for many years. “More than 588 million people, representing hundreds of unreached people groups, live in the 15 countries

where Mission Aviation Fellowship operates. Isolated by daunting geographical barriers that prevent access to the Gospel, many languish under spiritual and physical oppression, lacking the most basic resources. Through Mission Aviation Fellowship, countless needy people in Africa, Asia, Eurasia, and Latin America benefit every day from a generous outreach focusing on five key activities: Evangelism and Church Support, Community Development, Medical Assistance, Crisis Relief, and National Training.”

Mission Trip Scholarship Fund – This fund is reserved to assist with costs incurred by people participating in mission trips.

National House of Hope - “National House of Hope is a non-denominational, not-for-profit organization established to serve as a catalyst to the development of a network of Houses of Hope, Christian residential programs for troubled teenagers, across the country and internationally.” National House of Hope provides structured education at Hope Academy, daily spiritual guidance and teaching, a loving, home-style environment, and Christ-centered counseling, and is one of few similar residences that requires participation of parents/family. The House of Hope of Susquehanna Valley Pa, located in Dansville, is 125 miles from Endicott. (<http://hohsv.org/index.php?>)

One Mission Society (Melanie Carlson)- Melanie Carlson has served in Budapest, Hungary, with OMS International since September 2002, where she teaches English and the Gospel. For the last seven years, Melanie has been one of the directors of OMS Hungary’s summer English camp program.

Theological Education Fund - Voluntary contributions from congregations to the Theological Education Fund (1% Plan) and contributions and/or bequests made by individuals to the Theological Schools Endowment Fund are the only sources of denomination-wide funding for theological seminaries related to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

The Outreach Foundation of the Presbyterian Church – “The mission of The Outreach Foundation is to engage Presbyterians in Christ-centered evangelistic mission for the salvation of humankind. OUR VISION: To be a dynamic catalyst in helping congregations develop relationships and participate with global partners in God’s mission, to focus our resources on programs and projects that build our partners’ own capacity for evangelistic mission. OUR VALUES: Honoring Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, obeying his Great Commission, connecting Presbyterians with specific missionaries and projects, respecting the faith and gifts of our mission partners, deserving the trust of our donors. OUR PRIORITIES: Supporting missionaries, planting and building churches, equipping leaders for the global church, caring for vulnerable children, expanding Presbyterian support for mission, and changing lives through mission engagement.”

The Outreach Foundation of the Presbyterian Church (Linda and Stu Ross) – Beginning in 2011, East Africa missionary partners Linda/Stu Ross will have to raise their own support to cover their international travel to East African countries, ministry costs and expenses while in Kenya. Estimated annual expenses: \$50,000.

Traffick 911 – A national advocacy organization to raise awareness, to promote policies and to rescue and restore victims of human trafficking. Traffick 911 initiated the “I’m not buying it” campaign to specifically fight the rampant trafficking business during the Superbowl. Not a Christian organization, but it does provide a faith-based tool kit. (www.traffick911.com)

Partnership with Ethiopia (Susquehanna Valley Presbytery) - These contributions are specifically earmarked for our presbytery’s partnership with sister Presbyterian churches in Ethiopia.

PDA (Presbyterian Disaster Assistance)- We have traditionally supported this PC(USA) ministry by sending designated and undesignated gifts to respond to national and international disasters.

Pittsburgh Seminary Scholarship Fund (G/A) - Traditionally FPC has given to the seminary from which its current pastor(s) graduated. The gift assists students with financial need in meeting the expenses of theological education. “The Mission of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary is to prepare men and women for pastoral ministry and Christian leadership in all phases of the church's outreach. The seminary is rooted in the Reformed history of faithfulness to scripture and commitment to the gospel of Jesus Christ. In keeping with our tradition, the seminary continues to be a caring and ecumenical community, nurturing personal faith and corporate worship. It also seeks to promote global consciousness and service and to encourage students and faculty to integrate learning with styles of contemporary ministry.”

Samaritan Counseling Center – Christian-based counseling is provided by counselors of several faiths. People are regularly referred by FPC to the Samaritan Center. “The Samaritan Counseling Center in Endicott is one of more than 100 centers throughout the United States and is affiliated with the Samaritan Institute in Denver, Colo. It is a unique agency where people of all ages can access counseling, which is viewed as a healing process involving the whole person -- mind, body and spirit. The Samaritan Counseling Center also offers seminars and community events to promote personal growth and well-being. It provides help to many people in the entire Broome-Tioga County area.”

Tioga County Open Door Mission - “The Tioga County Open Door Mission is a not-for-profit Christian Organization that works to meet the spiritual and physical needs of the community. Located at 425 North Avenue in Owego, the

Open Door Mission provides shelter for Men at its Men's Residence, food for Owego residents through its food pantry, and rent, utility and prescription assistance. The Tioga County Open Door Mission is also host to Music Ministry as well as Christian study groups throughout the year. The Thrift Store provides a source of income to finance the services offered. The items received at the Thrift Store are also utilized to offer furniture and clothing assistance to those in need.”

Rescue Mission – Binghamton – The Rescue Mission is a ministry whose “mission is to share Christ's love and provide biblically-based services that meet the spiritual and practical needs of the poor” and whose “vision is to help every person we serve move toward independence and spiritual fulfillment through Jesus Christ.” The organization started in Syracuse in 1887 and took the first steps in serving the Binghamton area in March, 2003 by opening a thrift store, the Thrifty Shopper (upper Front Street in Binghamton). Services were expanded to include a Homeless Outreach ministry in 2006 and in November, 2010, they opened a men’s residential program that will house, feed and support 32 men at a time.

Renovation House (Youth Challenge) – Located in Spencer, NY, this Christian residential program offers substance abuse rehabilitation for men. Over the years, residents and leaders of Renovation House have come to the Samaritan Supper and to worship at FPC to sing and share their stories and faith.

Wilson Rehabilitation Foundation (Kikuyu Orthopedic Rehabilitation Center, Kenya) This foundation is now directed by Dr. Douglas Kerr to “increase the funds available for the orthopedic care of the most indigent patients—especially children, raise the level of care by procuring more modern systems for fracture and arthritis care, to make significant capital improvements to the hospital, such as painting and new operating tables, to provide educational, personnel and training support, and initially raise \$1 million in cash and equipment to achieve these goals.”