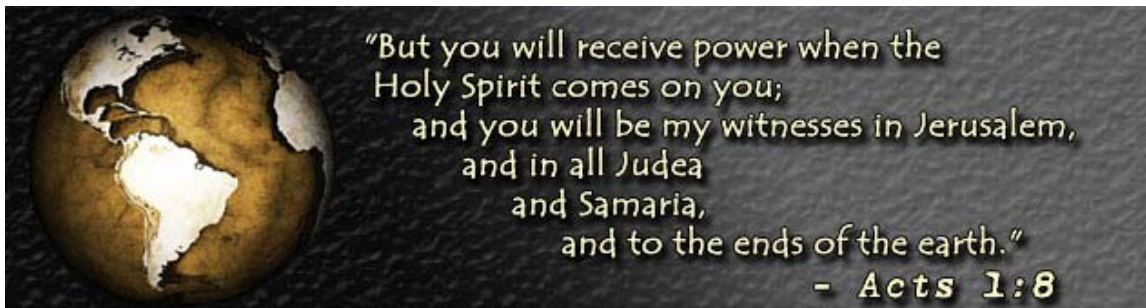


First Baptist Church Matthews **MISSIONS & EVANGELISM** **GUIDELINES**

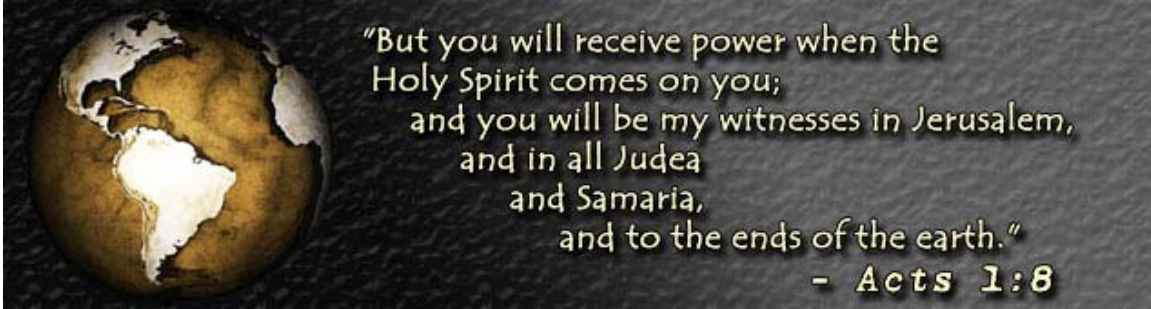


By His Grace, For His Glory.
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH MATTHEWS, NC



FBCM MISSIONS & EVANGELISM GUIDELINES MANUAL

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Missions and evangelism at FBC Matthews is carried out for the purpose to bring praise, honor and glory to God. God created us for His glory. Therefore we believe that our ultimate goal is not missions and evangelism, but God's worship and glory.

DISCOVERING GOD'S MISSION FOR HIS PEOPLE

" ... God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself"

II Corinthians 5:19

WHAT WAS JESUS' LIFE MISSION?

Luke 19:10

"for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

John 18:37

*Pilate therefore said to Him, "Are You a king then?" Jesus answered, "You say *rightly* that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."*

John 10:10

*"The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly."*

John 12:46

"I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness."

Luke 4:43

He said to them, "I must preach the kingdom of God to the other cities also, because for this purpose I have been sent."

OUR RESPONSE SHOULD BE AS STATED IN:

Acts 20:24

*"But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, **so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.**"*

I. THE PRINCIPLE OF MISSIONS

As a church we desire to be involved in missions by praying, giving, and going.

A. We pray in the Lord's model prayer "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done."

Acts 4:31

"And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness."

B. We Are to Give to Advance the Kingdom of God

Matthew 6:19-21

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

- As a church we give 10% of our budget to SBC cooperative missions.
- 1.2% goes to the Metrolina Baptist Association.
- .5% goes to the support of a Philippine Church Plant that meets in our facilities.

C. We Are to Go to Advance the Kingdom of God

Matthew 28:18-20

"And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Acts 13:1-3

"Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away."

The Church is God's primary instrument to communicate the message of Jesus Christ to the people of the world, and the local church.

II. THE PRINCIPLE OF EVANGELISM

God wants you to be involved in witnessing to others.

A. What is a Witness?

1 John 1:1

"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life."

A witness is someone who tells what he has seen,
what he has heard, and what he has felt.

B. How do you become a Witness?

Acts 1:8

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

You become a witness when you become a Christian.
You are either a good one or a bad one!

C. What is to be the attitude of a Witness?

Matthew 9:36

"But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd."

The Christian Witness must see what God sees and feel what God feels.

"... every other Christian believer in the world, whatever his nation or denomination, is our brother or sister in Christ ... yet it is no good supposing that membership of the universal Church of Christ is enough; we must belong to some local branch of it ... sharing in its worship, its fellowship, and its witness."

John R. W. Stott, Basic Christianity

I. MISSIONS & EVANGELISM STRATEGY

A. Missions and Evangelism Ministry (*God Centered – Spirit Driven – People Focused*)

This ministry is developed from and organized around [Acts 1:8](#), [Matthew 28:19-20](#), [Luke 19:10](#), [John 18:37](#), [John 10:10](#) and [Luke 4:43](#). We have divided up our missions and outreach ministry work into five categories. Our **Jerusalem** is local in Matthews and surrounding communities, our **Judea and Samaria** is North America, and the **end of the earth** is International. We also have an **Evangelism/Outreach Team** and **In-Service Mission / Promotions Team**. Each team has a Director leading them to be *on mission with God*.

B. Purpose of Missions & Evangelism Ministry

MISSIONS: To become a community of Christ followers who are motivated by God's Glory, transformed by God's Grace, and empowered by God's Spirit resulting in obedience to Christ's command to take the gospel to and make disciples of all the nations. ([Acts 1:8](#); [Matthew 28:19-20](#))

EVANGELISM: To become a community of Christ followers who are motivated by God's Glory, transformed by God's Grace, and empowered by God's Spirit, so that our love for one another and individual concern for the lost, result in a corporate and individual witness of Jesus Christ in our everyday walk in life, at home and around the world. ([Acts 1:8](#); [Luke 19:10](#); [John 18:37](#); [John 10:10](#); [Luke 4:43](#))

OUTREACH & MEMBER ASSIMILATION: To show our love and compassion for all potential and existing FBCM members and provide a pathway for each individual to become a passionate follower of Jesus Christ who is God Centered, Spirit Driven, and People Focused. ([Luke 14:23](#); [Acts 2:47](#))

1. The purpose of the Missions Guidelines is to provide:
 - a. Guidelines to stay on mission with God through a "mission process", not a "mission program". Through our purpose as stated above in section "B" we endeavor to lead the church **to bring glory to God** as we go "on mission with God".
 - b. A tool of communication for promoting our pastor's God given vision & direction for FBCM.
 - c. To provide a clear, consistent and effective transition tool as our new mission leaders come into the organization.
 - d. Proper stewardship in the allocation of missions' funds.
 - e. Structural procedures to implement the process.
2. Procedures: The Missions & Evangelism Guidelines will be reviewed and revised as often as needed. The "Missions & Evangelism Council" leadership will approve all major revisions.

C. Process

1. **Pray** *"...for the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers."* Matthew 9:38
2. **Give** *"...lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven..."* Matthew 6:20
3. **Go** *"... in His Name to the neighborhoods and the nations."* Luke 24:47

D. Personalization

1. Ministries sponsored by our church both local and global. This includes church sponsored short-term teams working nationally and internationally.
2. Ministries that involve individuals from our church and/or are supported through the IMB, NAMB, and other church approved organizations.

E. Priorities for projects

1. **Evangelization** *"...making disciples of all peoples..."*
2. **Establishing** the church *"...baptizing them..."*
3. **Equipping** the believers *"...teaching them to observe all things..."* Matthew 28:19-20

F. Strategic Mission Partnerships (SMP's)

1. Short-term teams and/or projects are coordinated through ministry plans developed in cooperation with our Strategic Ministry Partners.
2. These ministries involve much more than giving funds, they require our Church to commit to be an active and ongoing partner in a specific ministry.
3. This may involve sending short-term teams , who conduct a variety of ministries or sending staff to encourage and edify the churches and ministries.
(i.e. church planting, building orphanages, conducting Pastoral training, etc.)

G. Missionary/Ministry Support

1. Our church has committed to support the SBC cooperative program and our local Association and International Church planting with 10% and 1.2% and .5% respectively, of our annual receipts. Upon filling that commitment we support our own people being called into missions. Our mission ministry partnerships, other mission organizations and property (in that order) will receive consideration through our budgeting process. We will require applications to be completed with preset qualifications to be met for financial support consideration for individuals and special ministry organizations.
2. Prayer support is provided for all partners regardless of financial support. Each partner will have a primary prayer contact on the mission staff as well as those connected to a SMP core team.

H. Unreached / Unengaged People Groups

1. Target unreached / unengaged peoples who have the least access to the gospel by adopting them through a SMP and field partners.
2. Focus mobilization efforts in engaging the UUPG through our Shepherd Group classes.

II. MISSIONS & EVANGELISM ORGANIZATION

A. Leadership Teams

The **Missions Staff** currently consist of a Minister of Missions & Spiritual Maturity and two shared administrative assistants.

The **"Missions and Evangelism Council"** consist of a Missions & Evangelism Council Chairman, Jerusalem (Local), Judea/Samaria (North America) and Ends of the Earth (International) Directors, Evangelism & Outreach Director, Promotions/In-Service Director and a minimum of (9) lay mission leaders elected by the church . These positions require a minimum of a three year commitment.

B. Expectations of "Missions and Evangelism Council"

Council members are expected to:

1. Attend all meetings
2. Participate in a minimum of one mission ministry annually
3. Take an active role in the decision-making process
4. Continue to learn about God's mission for the church by regularly participating in the mission process, studying the Word of God, reading, and attending 1 major mission conference within their three year term on the council
5. Pray consistently for God to guide our steps in accomplishing His mission and will
6. Be fully committed to furthering the missions process at our church, through being an advocate of the mission ministry by giving and attending local mission training as applicable

C. Missions & Evangelism Staff Team Responsibilities

The Missions & Evangelism Staff team is expected to:

1. **Pray**—encourage intercession from the congregation for all aspects of the Church Mission & Evangelism Ministry.
2. **Strategize**—develop and continually evaluate the mission & evangelism strategy that includes short and long-range goals. Review the missions & evangelism ministries of the church and make changes and/or recommendations for change as necessary. This includes evaluating the Missions Strategy Guidelines as well as the ongoing support for missionaries, organizations, and priority projects.
3. **Educate**—assist in providing a comprehensive missions & evangelism education program for our congregation. Provide and/or develop a mission curriculum and guidelines for our lay ministers which include God's worldview, our missionary partners, Southern Baptist Convention, and FBCM mission priorities.
4. **Equipping**—leaders
5. **Mobilize** —enlist, enable, and encourage every believer to answer God's personal call to be on mission with Him as they utilize all the available resources of the church to take the gospel into our community and to the nations.
6. **Budget** — prepare a mission & evangelism budget with approval of the "Missions & Evangelism Council" and manage such budget as required.
7. **Represent** — our church, pastor and members of the "Mission & Evangelism Council" as a liaison with the IMB, NAMB, and other independent missionaries and agencies.

III. SHORT-TERM MISSIONS

A. Definition

A short-term mission's activity will be completed in one year or less and preferably tied to a long term mission partnership: The strategy (entrance & exit) is field driven (the primary benefits going to those whom we are serving, not ourselves.) Each mission effort will involve an evangelism strategy.

B. Purpose

1. **Primary** purpose is to bring "Glory to God" by establishing and / or enhancing the church through strengthening believers and/or evangelizing non-believers.
2. **Secondary** purpose is to provide a platform for FBCM members to be equipped and enabled to be personally involved in the process of growing as a believer through answering the call to reach our communities and the nations in God's Name.
3. Various platforms and strategies may be used to reach the end goal of bringing "Glory to God" by seeing disciples made and churches planted. It is **imperative** that the SMP's, team leaders and missionary partners understand this ultimate goal.

C. Short-Term Missions Criteria

1. The short-term mission must be in a field partnership with an evangelical church, mission agency, or an FBCM led field ministry team.
2. There must be a clear long-term strategy in place or the mission is to be categorized as "visionary", meaning we are exploring the possibility of entering into a potential long-term relationship. The only exception to the above is our support ministries like medical missions, Billy Graham TV/Telephone call center and disaster relief. The disaster relief team is usually called to a specific project.
3. Every mission team must include a qualified leader trained in short-term team leadership. Members of each team must have pre-field training including approved local church ministry experience prior to international projects.
4. The short-term project must be part of the long-term strategy clearly defined in the ministry plan of the field partner and SMP leader. The priority for sending missions teams will be given to SMP's.
5. Project and budget proposals must be approved before the mission preparation begins. Financial guidelines for support building and mission team expenditures must be met. This includes each individual and the team as a whole.
6. Mission team leaders for various projects will manage all the logistical matters in coordination with the church mission's staff. This includes all travel arrangements.
7. At the conclusion of each mission project, there must be appropriate debriefing, evaluation and follow-up plans for those who ministered.

D. Priorities

1. The Short term mission project must be in line with our purpose, strategy and priorities.
2. The ministry, missionary, or agency is supported or endorsed by our church and must have a common vision that is communicated and documented.
3. The ministry or missionary is a potential long-term mission partner.

E. Financial Support

1. The church covers 100% of the cost for the trip leader (this includes the spouse if participating).
2. The church splits the total trip cost 50/50 with the church member going on the trip.
3. Church members can give financial support through our church wide designated missions account and recommend how they would like the funds used but cannot designate to individuals on the memo line of the check. The mission's council must approve any funds given to assist individuals or to specific budgeted mission accounts, unless pre-approved by missions council.
4. Team leaders are *not* authorized to spend additional team funds on the field that were not pre-requested or budgeted.
5. **Under no circumstance are team leaders and/or members or staff authorized to make commitments for future purchases by FBCM for ministry needs while on the field.**

IV. FINANCIAL GUIDELINES

A. Annual Budget

The mission's and evangelism council will prepare an annual budget and submit it to the FBCM stewardship team. The Stewardship team will then present it to our church for approval.

B. Missionary & Ministry Partners Monetary Support

Monetary support for a missionary or ministry will be evaluated annually after the missionary or ministry completes the ***"Individual/Family or Organization Financial Support Application"*** and submitted in the Church budget for church approval. Any additional one time commitments for support will be made by the "FBCM Church Missions & Evangelism Council" after approval by the council if funds are available in the designated budget.

C. Minimum/Maximum Support

Our current FBCM missionary financial support guidelines are available on our church web site (fbcmatthews.org). The financial support provided is determined by the missions & evangelism council members with a maximum support level for long term missionaries as follows: Single: \$2,500 Family: \$4,000

D. Missionary or Ministry Assignment Changes

Major changes in the ministry or the life of the missionary should be communicated to FBCM (change of location, change in mission's agency, significant family/personal issue change or a change in doctrinal position). Upon receipt of this change, the Mission & Evangelism Council of FBCM will immediately re-evaluate its financial support commitment of the missionary or ministry.

E. Missionary & Partnership Support Termination

Termination of partnership support will occur when the missionary or ministry fails to fulfill the responsibilities stipulated in our guideline or fails to complete a satisfactory partnership packet and/or biographical update, or has a major status change during the year of approved support.

V. OTHER FBCM MISSION MANUALS & DOCUMENTS

Additional documents, manuals and brochures which will detail information for specific Mission & Evangelism organization processes and procedures.

A. Mission Trip Team Leader Manual

B. Mission Trip Team Member Manual

C. FBCM Missionary & Ministry Organization Financial Support Applications

A. FBCM Missions, Evangelism Outreach & Assimilation Strategy, Goals & Budget Document

E. The Personalization Spiritual Gifts and Personality Assessment Profile

F. Annual Missions Celebration Weekend Planning Guide

G. Shepherd Group Mission, Outreach and Assimilation Training Manual

H. Other Brochures:

1. FBCM Mission & Ministry Description Brochure
2. Annual Missions & Evangelism Brochure

Here's a sample Mission fundraising letter.

You can print it as is and use it or change it as you see applicable for your situation.

Be sure to include a self-addressed and stamped envelope with your letter so people can easily send money and/or a note to you.

Adding handwritten notes in or on the letter makes them seem less like a “form-letter” and helps people to connect with you.

You can turn checks written to “First Baptist Church Matthews” in to Marge Morgan. You need to let her know your name and mission trip location that the funds were given to.

Be sure to follow up with a thank you note, pictures or a small gift to those who provide you with prayer or financial support.

(SAMPLE LETTER)

April 6, 2009

Dear Friends & Family,

I am very excited to share with you that I have been presented with an opportunity to participate in a mission trip to the Philippines May 16 – 23, 2009.

Our purpose is to plant a couple house churches. We will be setting up a medical clinic and sharing the gospel with everyone that comes through. The next day we will follow up on all those who made decisions for Christ and begin discipling them into being a part of a house church. The next evening we will be doing a public showing of the Jesus Video and sharing the gospel following the movie. We will follow up with these the following day. This is how the entire week will go until our return. The local IMB missionaries will be helping the house churches continue to grow in the months ahead until our return. I believe God has shown me how I can contribute directly to this effort and help fulfill His commission “*to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.*” *Mark 16:15.*

You can see a video on the church web site of the some of the mission trips that FBCM has taken: www.fbcmatthews.org

I am writing to ask for your help in 3 areas. First and foremost I ask you to pray for the success of this trip. It's not automatic just because we show up. We will be involved in true spiritual warfare as we battle for the souls of these men, women and children. So your prayers are extremely important.

Next, I am asking for your financial support if you can do it. Some part of me cringes to ask for money like this, but on the other hand, I truly believe the Lord is directing this project and your money will not be wasted. I will need approximately \$1,200, so any amount is appreciated. Your gift is tax deductible and checks should be made out to First Baptist Church Matthews and sent to me.

And lastly, I need you to pray again. Yes, the money is important, but “where He guides, He provides”, so I know He will make a way, but I need to be assured that People of faith are interceding as we take on this task.

By the way, while you are praying, was your heart quickened in reading about this mission trip? Would you consider going on this trip or another in the future? Call me and I'll direct you to all the information you will need and answers to any questions you have.

Thanks for taking time to read this and thanks in advance for your support. I'd like a chance to tell you about my experiences when I return.

God Bless,

First Baptist Church Matthews
185 South Trade Street, Matthews, NC 28105

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