

**Manoa Community Church, EPC
Missions Policy (amended 2022)**

Approved by Session 04/07/2022

Missions Vision Statement

Believing that God is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think, according to the power at work in us, we would see Him use Manoa Community Church, EPC, fill Havertown, Delaware County, Philadelphia and to the ends of the earth with the glorious Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Purpose Statement

Wholeheartedly embracing the truth and promise of Titus 2:11, that “the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people,” the Missions Committee of Manoa Community Church is committed to investing in the following areas:

GROW:

1. By being intentional and strategic in presenting missions to Manoa, and by focusing on building our congregation’s vision and personal investment for spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ.
2. By continuing to build awareness of each partner missionary outreach supported by Manoa.
3. By utilizing established avenues for prayer for partner missionaries.
4. By encouraging Manoa’s children and youth to learn the absolute importance of missions.
5. By being ready to send any of Manoa’s members to visit a Partner ministry in order to enlarge their vision for missions and encourage the Manoa congregation.

EQUIP:

1. By encouraging every member of Manoa Community Church to share Christ and His mercy, in the power of the Holy Spirit, and to make disciples that go and do likewise.
2. By partnering with missionaries and mission agencies to see God fill Havertown, Delaware County and Philadelphia with the glorious Gospel.
3. By pursuing opportunities to join with other local churches to participate in activities that build vision for missions.

SEND:

1. By intentionally partnering with missionaries and like-minded mission agencies to strategically send trained workers to unreached people groups to plant healthy, indigenous, self-supporting, disciple-making churches.
2. By faithfully supporting partners whose work is consistent with the vision God has given us for missions in the greater Philadelphia area and among unreached people groups throughout the world.

Missions Strategic Plan

The missions committee of Manoa Community Church seeks to identify, not just what is good, but what is God's best as we seek to carry out the ministry to which He has called us. We are trusting Him to help us build vision and grow resources for the Great Commission, encouraging the Manoa family to give generously, and even sacrificially, for local and foreign kingdom work.

GROW:

1. The missions committee will communicate its vision, purpose and actions with Manoa.
2. A minimum of quarterly reports will be required from partner missionaries so that their vision, work and needs can be shared with the Missions Committee and communicated to the Manoa congregation.
3. Missionary ministries and concerns will be communicated through existing prayer networks and small groups in our church body.
4. The children and youth of Manoa will be encouraged to connect with a partner missionary/ministry
5. Whenever possible, partner missionaries will be given opportunity to personally engage with the Manoa congregation.
6. The committee members will commit to praying individually and corporately for Manoa's partners.

EQUIP:

1. The missions committee will facilitate opportunities for the family members of Manoa Community Church to grow vision and be equipped for their own commission to share their faith.
2. The committee will coordinate with the Equip team wherever possible.
3. The committee will intentionally work to build vision for our community, our members and their children to serve missions locally as well as globally. Short term missions trips will be encouraged and supported for building vision to serve as senders, as supporters, as field workers.

SEND:

1. Care will be taken to ensure all partnering mission agencies conform to the theology and vision of Manoa Community Church.
2. Supporting our partners will include an annual financial commitment, communicated encouragement and faithful prayer. It also may include, where possible, response to special needs. In June of each year, a document will be sent to them that will help the missions committee assess continued partnership, as well as financial needs for the following year.

Missions Committee Structure and Responsibilities

As we are committed to seeing missional Christians and churches throughout Greater Philadelphia and the unreached world, our committee is structured to best carry out that vision.

1. Committee Structure

- a. The Missions Committee will be made up of at least five, but no more than ten members.
- b. New members will be nominated to join by committee agreement and approved by Session.
- c. The Missions Committee will contain at least one elder.
- d. A committee chair will be nominated/renewed by the committee annually in January.
- e. A secretary and treasurer will be nominated/renewed by the committee annually in January.
- f. Subcommittee chairs will be appointed by the committee as needed.

2. Committee decisions regarding partner missionaries

- a. Existing partnerships will be evaluated annually and renewed contingent on the following criteria:
 - 1). Available funds as approved by Session.
 - 2). Ministry consistent with the stated vision of Manoa for missions.
 - 3). Partners have sent ministry reports to Manoa quarterly.
 - 4). Termination of any partnership must be enacted if a missionary's ministry no longer aligns with the stated vision of Manoa Community Church for missions and/or lack of communication with Manoa. Termination will also be enacted if a missionary is dismissed by their sending agency.
 - 5). Recommendations regarding renewal/termination will be made and submitted to Session for approval by November of each year.
- b. New partnerships will be considered, contingent on the following criteria:
 - 1). Available funds as approved by Session.
 - 2). Applicant's statement of faith and vision for ministry are consistent with those of Manoa Community Church.
 - 3). Applicants must be members of an approved sending agency.
 - 4). Applicants (or a representative) will meet with the Missions Committee before a determination can be made.
 - 5). An invitation for partnership will be recommended by the Missions Committee and approved by Session. The invitation will be formally extended by the Committee chair on behalf of Session.
 - 6). Some requirements may be waived for national/indigenous applicants.
- c. With the recommendation of the Missions Committee and approval of Session, indigenous partners who have had a historical relationship with Manoa Community Church, but who are not affiliated with a sending agency, must fulfill all other requirements of partners for continued support.

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3. Missions Committee is committed to holistic care of partner missionaries:
 - a. By maintaining annual financial commitment.
 - b. Wherever possible, by responding to financial special needs.
 - c. By communicating via phone, email, etc. with partners at least twice annually.
 - d. By remembering anniversaries, birthdays, milestones (especially of children).
4. The Missions Committee will submit the minutes of all meetings to Session.
 - a. The missions committee will submit the minutes of all meetings to Session.
 - b. The missions committee may spend up to \$1000 of undesignated funds annually without prior approval. These expenditures must be reported to Session for their next scheduled meeting.
 - c. Additional funds may be requested through Session as needed.
5. Review/revisions to the missions policy of Manoa Community Church will be made every two years.