



THE
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Volume 1

Building... **MISSIONS LEADERSHIP** *in the Local Church*



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Fifty-three years of ministry have, to a great extent, determined the person I am now. Forty-one of those years have been spent in world missions involvement. I thank God for the opportunities I have had to serve as a pastor, missionary, missionary administrator, district missions director and coordinator for the Missions Awareness Team.

I am indebted to hundreds of churches where I have ministered about missions and to the missions committees and lay leadership that allowed me the privilege to share the “how to” and “why” of missions. This manual is a product of all of those experiences. I have drawn not only from my own background, but also from the experiences of others who have graciously shared with me. I have collected material from many sources and given credit where possible. Much of the material in this manual comes from Assemblies of God World Missions resources as well as from my own compilations.

Special gratitude is due to some very committed people who generously shared with me the structure and function of missions within their congregations. These include Fred Cottriel at First Assembly of God, Bakersfield, California; Sue Kirkhart at First Assembly of God, Des Moines, Iowa; Ray Buckner at Northland Cathedral, Kansas City, Missouri; and Betty Strickland at Woodlake Assembly of God, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The sole purpose of this manual is to share workable ideas that can assist church leaders in building a strong missions outreaches within their churches. May God make it so.

Your partner in the harvest,

Paul Brannan

INTRODUCTION

*H*arvesttime requires doing whatever is necessary to accomplish the work. For the first time in the history of missions outreach, the Church has the capability to tell every person in the world about Jesus Christ. The technology of our day combined with a Spirit-filled church makes evangelizing the world possible.

These opportunities demand our obedience!

Jesus gave the Great Commission — “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost” (Matthew 28:19) — to all the Church, not just a few of His followers. That day as He stood on the mountain in Galilee and gave the command, He made every believer and every church responsible for evangelizing the world. The Church must use every available means to fulfill the command of Jesus to “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15).

A local church that does not bear the burden of missions with vision, faith and power is separating itself from its intended purpose. The apostle Peter revealed the heart of Jesus when he said, “*The Lord is ... not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance*” (2 Peter 3:9). From the Day of Pentecost until Jesus comes again, the Church’s divine imperative is to tell the whole world about Him.

Every Assemblies of God church, regardless of size, must make the fulfillment of the Great Commission a priority. A church that is not enthusiastically involved in reaching the whole world with the gospel is missing its true purpose. Churches that constantly look inward become spiritually stagnant. They cease to be vital, living organisms. Instead, local churches must look beyond their walls and enlarge their worldview, making every attempt to bring a spiritual difference to their communities, cities and world.

With the founders of the Assemblies of God, may we commit ourselves individually and collectively to the greatest evangelism that the world has ever seen!

The following pages have been prepared to assist in leading churches to the goal of reaching their full potential in world evangelism.

SECTION 1

The Church

The Cornerstone of World Missions

The local congregation is the cornerstone in building missions. Christ commanded the Church to reach the world with the gospel. The church at Antioch set the example during the first century by sending out Barnabas and Paul. The Holy Spirit is still calling men and women for missionary service, and the obedient church continues to send them to the ends of the earth.

One day as they were worshipping God — they were also fasting as they waited for guidance — the Holy Spirit spoke: “Take Barnabas and Saul and commission them for the work I have called them to do.” So they commissioned them... they laid hands on their heads and sent them off.

Acts 13:2,3 The Message

PART 1

Evaluate Your Missions Preparedness

How Missions Minded Is Your Church?

A close look at how your church measures up in its missions vision and outreach.

Commitment is difficult to measure, but it is possible to measure ministry, teaching and activities made available by the leadership and the participation and response of the congregation. A thorough evaluation is a valid exercise that will assist a pastor and church leadership in measuring the quantity and quality of missions activities within the local congregation.

The following 20 questions will assist you in evaluating where you are in building a strong, missions-minded church. Each question has a value of up to five points, depending upon the degree of success the program is experiencing. Each question should be answered candidly and graded in this manner:

- 0 – No activity
- 1 – Nonfunctioning program
- 2 – Poor
- 3 – Fair
- 4 – Works well
- 5 – Excellent program

- ___ 1. Has our congregation been taught the eternal lostness of all who reject Jesus Christ or who die without hearing the message of salvation?
- ___ 2. Is regular, frequent teaching given concerning the biblical basis of missions and individual responsibility to reach a dying world?
- ___ 3. Does our church have a functioning missions committee that meets at least six times a year and has a clear statement of purpose?
- ___ 4. Has our church conducted an annual missions convention and received faith promises for at least three years?
- ___ 5. Does every family unit in the congregation participate in faith promise giving?
- ___ 6. Does our church have at least six missionary speakers each year?
- ___ 7. Are the monthly missions Sunday presentations well planned?
- ___ 8. Are people well informed of the needs and victories of missionaries the church supports?
- ___ 9. Does the congregation pray regularly and publicly for missionaries and their specific needs?
- ___ 10. Is missions highlighted with an attractive, well-placed bulletin board that is frequently updated?
- ___ 11. Does our church communicate regularly with the missionaries we support?

- ___ 12. Is active participation encouraged by all departments in their missions programs?
(BGMC, STL, LFTL, and WMs)
- ___ 13. Is a planned program in place for teaching missions in Sunday school, including new believers and membership classes?
- ___ 14. Does our church support Assemblies of God missions and missionaries on a monthly basis?
- ___ 15. Does our church sponsor or participate in missions outreaches, either in the United States or overseas?
- ___ 16. Do the church's missions leaders attend missions functions sponsored by the district or by Assemblies of God World and U.S. Missions?
- ___ 17. Do missionaries feel welcome when they visit our church?
- ___ 18. Is attendance stable at missions services?
- ___ 19. Does the church have a well-stocked section on missions in the church library?
- ___ 20. Do church leaders see the missions mandate of winning the lost as the church's central purpose, around which all other activities revolve?

Total the points from your responses to see how healthy your church's missions outreach is.

100 – 81 = Excellent

80 – 68 = Very good

67 – 55 = Good, but needs help

54 – 0 = Is not ministering to the needs of the congregation and requires immediate attention

How did your church measure up? If the results weren't good, take heart. This manual will assist you in leading your congregation to a healthy attitude about missions and a high level of involvement in reaching the lost world in our generation!

Pastor, You Are The Key

The path chosen by the pastor will determine where the congregation goes. It has been said, “No stream will rise higher than its source.” So it is with a church. The congregation is unlikely to love the lost and develop a world vision unless the pastor models that attitude.

Enlist and Delegate

As pastor, you cannot do all the work alone. Too many have tried and become exhausted and discouraged at the lack of results. That is why you need a team to follow your leadership in inspiring the congregation with a vision and passion for missions.

Preach Missions

A missionary is not a surrogate for the pastor to teach missions to the congregation. True, the pastor should take advantage of the missionary’s presence to inform and inspire the people. But if the pastor is truly committed to missions, he will preach missions!

Look back over the record of your sermons preached during the past year. How many of them presented the missions message? If the pastor doesn’t show a passion for missions, the congregation is not likely to get excited either. Inspect your priorities. People must be led by example.

Not only should a pastor preach missions to his congregation, but he also should show his love and concern for missions by using missionary illustrations in his regular sermons. To do this, he must stay informed about missions.

Schedule Missionary Speakers

Preaching missions is not the only way a pastor can show enthusiasm for missions. Scheduling missionary speakers during the year speaks volumes to your congregation about the place of missions in your priorities. When possible, missionaries should speak to the church a minimum of once each quarter. It is difficult to maintain a vision for missions with fewer missionary visits.

A good way to demonstrate your commitment to missions is by setting an example of generous missions giving. Be the first to give, and lead your congregation into a new path of spiritual obedience. The committed Christian is a generous Christian.

Attend and Support Missions Activities

Pastors set an example by their attitude, preparation and giving, as well as by their presence in missionary activities conducted by the local congregation.

Sometimes pastors unintentionally send a wrong message to their congregations by missing missions banquets and services for various reasons.

Gratefully, most pastors would never do this. But they must always be aware that they send signals that reveal their attitude to the people they lead.

Pray for Missionaries

Keep missionaries before the congregation. Pray publicly for missionaries. Designate a special bulletin each month that includes prayer requests from the missionaries the church supports.

Pastor, You Are the Example

May the Holy Spirit challenge you to the highest example in showing your congregation love and compassion for a lost and dying world. Say along with the apostle Paul, “Follow my example as I follow the example of Christ” (1 Corinthians 11:1, NIV).

You are the only one who can lead your congregation into obedience to Christ’s command that every Christian be involved in evangelizing the world!

A Missions Committee, A Missions Board— Is There a Better Name?

Most churches do not have a missions committee. This is not surprising, since 43 percent of Assemblies of God churches reported no missionary speakers during the past year.

Thankfully, thousands of Assemblies of God congregations are active in missions and have functioning missions committees or missions boards. But have you ever noticed that the words committee and board don't cause much excitement? We form committees and boards for just about anything that takes place in the local church.

The purpose of a committee or board is to entrust a few people with the responsibility of conducting certain business or making certain plans. The congregation usually doesn't participate in or has knowledge of the plans made by the average committee or board.

Missions should never be relegated to a few people. Instead, it should be the passion of the whole congregation. For that reason, a better term for a missions committee or missions board is a "Missions Awareness Team." This name will clearly identify those people entrusted with enlisting the participation of every believer in the quest for world evangelization.

Other work may be done by committees, but let missions be guided by a team. A team suggests movement and excitement. It suggests active participation rather than passivity. A team is led by top leadership and shows the way for others to follow. A team enlists the most qualified members and demands attention from everyone. A team builds loyalty to a cause. A team suggests winning, and we all win when we get involved in missions.

A Missions Awareness Team is an extension of the pastor and church board and assists them in setting world vision and enlisting the personal participation of every believer in obeying Christ's command to "Go into all the world."

Don't you think your church needs a Missions Awareness Team?

PART 2

Forming a Team

Why Have a Missions Awareness Team?

A Missions Awareness Team is not needed unless church leaders are serious about obeying the commands of Christ. But once this commitment is made, a Missions Awareness Team is essential in building missions vision and passion.

These are just a few of the benefits of creating a Missions Awareness Team for the local church:

1. The Missions Awareness Team will help establish missions as a primary purpose of the local church. Some will question whether missions should be a priority, but an honest study of Scripture will leave no doubt about it. Christ died to save the world, and He entrusted the Church with the responsibility of taking the good news to every corner of the globe. But we have yet to finish our task.
2. An active Missions Awareness Team will lighten the pastor's workload. This doesn't mean the pastor will relegate all responsibility to others, but he will have help in fulfilling the missions vision of the local congregation. The pastor will attend and participate in Missions Awareness Team meetings when possible. He will lead by example and share his vision with team members so that they have a clear picture of their destination.
3. An active Missions Awareness Team will enlist greater participation from department leaders as well as the entire congregation. It comes as no surprise that with proper leadership, the more people who are involved, the more work will be accomplished.
4. Seldom can leaders escape criticism. But people don't criticize what they do personally. Therefore, if you want to minimize criticism, get more people involved. Obviously, when more people are involved in promoting a missions vision, the congregation will give more attention to missions.
5. One of the Missions Awareness Team's greatest responsibilities is to bring a clearer understanding of every member's personal responsibility to fulfill the Great Commission. That responsibility is expressed through personal faith promises made during the missions convention.
6. Few church boards have the time to give missions the attention it demands and deserves. When a Missions Awareness Team is formed, the entire church will benefit. The board will have more time to devote to administrative affairs of the church. Missions will benefit because the Missions Awareness Team will commit more time and attention to the missions outreach of the local congregation.

How to Form a Missions Awareness Team

Why Can't The Church Board Also Be The Missions Awareness Team?

- The church board serves as the missions committee in many churches, but the board seldom has the time needed to give proper attention to the critical area of missions.
- Consequently, many churches have discovered that a separate group is more desirable.
- The pastor and a member of the church board could represent the board as members of the Missions Awareness Team.

How Large Should The Missions Awareness Team Be?

- This depends upon the size of the church and its missions involvement.
- The Missions Awareness Team may have as few as three members.
- Two couples with a strong interest in missions can form the core of your team.
- Usually, the larger the church, the larger the Missions Awareness Team needs to be. However, you will find that the larger the group, the more difficult it is to find a time when everyone can meet.
- A Missions Awareness Team with four to six members is quite manageable. If you choose to have a larger group, consider naming a Missions Awareness Executive Team to conduct the monthly business and meet with the full Missions Awareness Team as needed for planning the missions convention and other activities.
- Consider asking representatives of various departments in the church (Music, Christian Education, Senior Adults, Adults, Singles, Women's Ministries, Men's Ministries, Youth and Children) to serve as members of the full Missions Awareness Team.

What Should Be The Qualifications For Missions Awareness Team Members?

- They must be active members in the local assembly.
- They must demonstrate a cooperative spirit, willing to follow as well as lead.
- At least one member should demonstrate organizational ability.
- They must be faithful in church attendance and tithing.
- They must be willing to devote a minimum of six to eight hours of their time each month to Missions Awareness Team duties.
- Age should not be a factor if all other requirements are met.
- Singles should be represented.
- Married members are more effective when they serve with their spouses, making them a team within a team.
- Both the pastor and the church board must recommend them.
- The pastor should be a member.
- Missions Awareness Team members must manifest a love for the lost, driving them in their passion for reaching the whole world. The depth of this love is demonstrated by their faithfulness to pray for missionaries and their generous monthly faith promise giving. No one should have the privilege of making decisions concerning the disbursement of missions funds if he or she is not a generous giver to that fund.

How Should The Missions Awareness Team Be Chosen?

- Some churches elect team members.
- Others accept volunteer members.
- In some churches, the church board appoints Missions Awareness Team members.
- The more preferable method of selection, however, seems to be the nomination of new members by the pastor and the current Missions Awareness Team, with ratification by the church board.

How Long Should Each Member Serve?

- One year may be too brief.
- A term of two to three years is more effective, with the possibility of successive terms if renominated by the Missions Awareness Team and the church board,
- Terms should be staggered so that experienced members are always involved.
- Many churches have a standing Missions Awareness Team, which means that members serve without a time limit. This has the advantage of always having experienced people on the team. Be careful, however, to ensure that new and younger members are not excluded from participation in the Missions Awareness Team.

Part 3

Preparing a Missions Strategy

Creating Missions Policy

Why Create A Missions Policy?

- To ensure that the missions outreach of the local congregation is given top priority in prayer, financial support and education in every department of the church as the congregation seeks to obey the Great Commission.
- To assist in providing a coordinated missions effort that will be mutually beneficial to both the local congregation as well as to missions outreaches.
- To develop and maintain a clear vision of purpose and harmony of effort in all activities that relate to missions in the local congregation.
- To guide in making wise decisions that affect missions in a manner that is consistent and systematic in nature.
- To avoid making important decisions solely on the basis of emotion.
- To ensure that missions funds are administered effectively and faithfully.
- To inform and equip members of the congregation, helping them understand the importance of missions and their participation in its outreach within the local congregation.
- To maintain the highest level of accountability in every aspect of missions.
- To provide a means of communication with missionaries regarding missions projects.

What is a Basic Missions Philosophy?

Definition of Missions

Missions is any endeavor outside the local congregation to any cultural or subcultural group, both in the United States and abroad, to fulfill the Great Commission of Christ wherever and whenever possible. The goal of missions outreach is to make disciples, train ministers and missionaries, plant churches and relate to the whole need of mankind, both spiritually and physically, as expressed in the fourfold purpose of world missions: Reaching, Planting, Training and Touching.

Scriptural Purpose of Missions Involvement

- To obey the five-dimensional command of Christ to every believer (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47-48; John 20:21 and Acts 1:8).
- To offer to people the saving knowledge of God in the context of life in His Spirit and truth with the intent of persuading them to become disciples of Christ (John 3:16; 6:63; Romans 10:13-15).
- To become partners with missionaries and share the same reward (Matthew 10:41; 3 John 8).

Responsibilities and Goals of the Missions Awareness Team

Many Missions Awareness Teams will be charged with the responsibility of coordinating activities for local outreach, U.S. missions and world missions. Although this manual is written with world missions in focus, most of the suggestions are valid for local and U.S. missions. If some suggestions are not applicable, create a policy that fits the situation. Contact your district office for assistance in those matters.

Missions Awareness Team Members Will Be Responsible To...

1. Study Assemblies of God missions philosophy and procedures to gain knowledge about U.S. and world missions.
2. Secure as much information as possible about missions from brochures, booklets, manuals, videos, DVDs, etc., to help team members understand the philosophy of missions and the operation of Assemblies of God U.S. and World Missions.
3. Meet monthly (or as often as needed) to fulfill the team's responsibilities and goals.
4. Prepare an annual missions budget and administer all missions funds while being accountable to the pastor and church board.
5. Make commitments for the support of missionaries and missions projects and maintain accurate records.
6. Review annually the support given to missionaries and make changes as necessary.
7. Appoint a correspondence secretary to communicate with missionaries on the support list and share correspondence from the mission field with the congregation when appropriate.
8. Maintain a missions bulletin board.
9. Bless missionaries with cards and gifts on their birthdays, anniversaries, and Christmas. Offerings sent for this purpose should be marked "special-personal."
10. Be available to assist the pastor with scheduling or entertaining missionary speakers if needed.
11. Understand the faith promise concept and be able to explain it.
12. Be responsible for planning and conducting an annual missions convention and receiving faith promises.
13. Plan other missions emphases as needed.
14. Be responsible for presenting a "Window on the World" segment each month to promote missions in a morning worship service on Missions Sunday.
15. Create innovative methods to keep missions before the congregation.
16. Subscribe to the world missions video magazine. The video or DVD is mailed monthly and includes three- to four-minute segments (both in English and Spanish) highlighting various missionary ministries and countries. Each video or DVD contains a segment for:
 - a. Adults – NewsBreak
 - b. Youth – World Beat
 - c. Children – Go 360
17. Encourage missions-related activities in all departments of the church.

18. Provide adequate opportunity for every believer to obey the Great Commission. This is a top priority!
19. (For a more detailed list, see Duties of the Missions Awareness Team in Appendix #1 on page 82.)

Establishing Goals For Your Missions Awareness Team

You may not be able to do everything at one time, but you can set goals for the future. Don't be limited by what you see, and don't give up. This is God's business, and you are His child. He wants you to succeed even more than you do!

1. **Create World Vision** – The Missions Awareness Team's goals for world evangelization are...
 - a. To keep missions before the congregation on a continuing basis.
 - b. To create an awareness of the lostness of man and the value of each soul.
 - c. To help every believer understand his or her personal obligation to obey the command of Christ expressed in the Great Commission (Mark 16:15).
 - d. To create the possibility for every member of the congregation to obey Christ's command by praying, giving and going.
2. **Promote Intercessory Prayer For World Needs** – The Missions Awareness Team will...
 - a. Encourage people to pray for missionaries and missions needs daily.
 - b. Conduct prayer for missions in regular services, special meetings and prayer groups.
 - c. Publicize and/or announce special missions prayer needs in the weekly bulletin.
 - d. Post missions prayer needs on the missions bulletin board.
 - e. Initiate an adoption program to encourage small groups and families to focus on one or more missionary families, concerning themselves with their spiritual, physical and emotional needs.
3. **Organize Missions Conventions** – The Missions Awareness Team will...
 - a. Conduct a minimum of one missions convention each year. (Order *The Blueprint, volume 2, "Building Missions Obedience With A Missions Convention"* for a detailed guide for planning a successful convention.)
 - b. Invite a speaker experienced in receiving faith promises.
 - c. Give opportunity during the convention for every individual to make a personal faith promise for missions.
4. **Participate in the Monthly Missions Sunday** – The Missions Awareness Team will...
 - a. Plan short but effective missions presentations for the congregation during the morning worship service. (Order *The Blueprint, volume 3, "Building Missions Vision... Month by Month"* for assistance in planning missions Sunday presentations for the whole year.)
 - b. Use testimonies, missionary letters and video materials provided by world missions.
 - c. Encourage consistency in faith promise giving by informing and inspiring the congregation with all available tools.

5. Plan Short-Term Missions Trips – Numerous opportunities are available for members of the congregation to be involved in hands-on experience in missions, both in the United States and abroad. The Missions Awareness Team will...

- a. Establish contact with departments within the Assemblies of God that are responsible for sponsoring short-term missions trips. These will include...
 - 1) AIM – Sponsored by the national Youth Department, this programs gives opportunity for hundreds of young people to experience missions firsthand.
 - 2) MAPS Builders – Construction teams help build needed facilities for the expansion of the work.
 - 3) HealthCare Ministries – Gives opportunity for health-care professions to use their gifts to further the work of God’s kingdom.
 - 4) Book of Hope – Teams distribute a special Bible presentation to schoolchildren in the host country.
- b. Encourage members of the congregation to participate in short-term trips.
- c. Endorse volunteers and match them to appropriate projects.
- d. Encourage evangelistic outreach programs (such as AIM and Book of Hope) during holidays, vacation or other convenient times.
- e. MAPS Construction/Prayer Task Force Teams should be given high priority because of the large numbers of participants involved.

6. Candidate Selection – The Missions Awareness Team will help select candidates for short-term service who meet these criteria...

- a. A sincere interest in and commitment to world missions.
- b. Family support or consent as applicable.
- c. Previous involvement in missions programs or other missions-related activities made available through the church.
- d. Faithfulness and responsibility in serving.
- e. Active membership in the church, which includes faithful attendance, stewardship in tithing and a regular commitment to support missions through a monthly faith promise.
- f. Affirmation of the pastor, official board and any other leaders who have responsibility for the spiritual oversight of the individual.

Part 4

Putting Your Plan Into Action

Setting the Agenda

Those in leadership know how important it is to wisely use volunteers' time and energy. That is why it is critical to plan the Missions Awareness Team agenda carefully. The motive is twofold: (1) To invest the time of team members carefully, and (2) To maximize efforts to help evangelize the world.

The Missions Awareness Team is not just another committee. This team will lead the congregation into obedience to Christ's command to reach the whole world with the gospel.

A survey of missions leadership in several churches with outstanding missions outreaches revealed several suggestions for setting a Missions Awareness Team's monthly agenda. A sampling of suggestions include these topics:

Sample Monthly Agenda

1. **Opening prayer**
2. **Review the monthly Missions World news video** – Which segment will be used on Missions Sunday? The DVD contains clips for adults (Newsbreak), youth (WorldBeat), and children (Go 360).
3. **List missionary correspondence** received during the month.
4. **Review the newsletters**, focusing on items of special interest such as
 - a. A change of status
 - b. A change of field
 - c. A change of ministry
 - d. Reports of ministry
5. **Pray for missionary needs** as expressed in the correspondence received. A list of these prayer needs should be given to each board member and to volunteer prayer partners.
6. **Review the financial report** and measure actual receipts against faith promises made during the annual convention.
7. **Financial appeals**
 - a. Missionaries to consider for support
 - b. Missionaries to receive an increase in support
 - c. Appeals for cash assistance
 - d. Determine amount of commitment for missions service at district council
8. **Review plans for missions trips**
9. **Review plans for next convention**
 - a. Dates
 - b. Theme

- c. Activities – Sunday School classes, children’s church, etc.
 - d. Materials needed
 - e. Speakers
10. Review list of upcoming missionary speakers
 11. Set date and place for next month’s meeting
 12. Dismiss in prayer

Keeping a Record of Missionaries the Church Supports

Many times, a change of pastors or church treasurers results in lost or misplaced information about missions commitments. Although unintentional, this situation results in confusion concerning local church finances and can result in hardship for missionaries whose support may suffer as a result.

Scripture teaches good stewardship for every believer. If this principle is true for the individual, it is even more applicable for the church! Such occurrences can be prevented simply by maintaining an active list of the missionaries receiving monthly support from the church.

If you do not have a permanent record of these obligations, the Missionary Budget Review on pages 22 will serve you well. Enter the names of missionaries supported by the church, when the commitment was made, the amount of the commitment, any plans to increase the support, and the amount of the new commitment, including the increase.

Getting to Know the Missionaries

Are the missionaries your church supports your partners? Do you consider them as an extension of the local church’s ministry? If the answer is “yes,” make the effort to get to know them. The church may send them monthly offerings, but believers can’t effectively pray for them or remember them with kind gestures on special occasions if they know nothing about them.

One of the first items on the Missions Awareness Team’s priority list is to become familiar with the missionaries the church currently supports. Pages 24 provides a place to record the needed information. Call the world missions office to request a “significant events list” for all the missionaries on your support list.

Once you have completed the information sheets, make certain that each team member has a copy. Encourage groups within the congregation to adopt a missionary family or an MK (missionary kid) to remember on birthdays and at Christmastime.

With this information, the church will be prepared to support its missionary partners in three important ways: prayer, finances and special occasions.

Evaluating Current Missions Potential

A team can’t know where it is headed until it knows its current position. Jesus said, “Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it?” (Luke 14:28, NIV). The Missions Awareness Team needs to evaluate not only what the church is currently doing, but also its potential for

the future. Most congregations are capable of far more than they currently are doing for missions. If leaders don't create a vision, the congregation will never catch a vision!

Page 27 is a guide to evaluating where a church currently is — both in its missions obligations and its missions income. Once this is established, the Missions Awareness Team can begin creating goals for the next year. Consider the potential missions income from each department in the church. If the church is not currently conducting an annual missions convention, set a date for a convention this year. Experience has shown that most churches more than double their missions giving during the year after their first convention! A convention will revolutionize a church's giving, create vision in the hearts of people and bring them into obedience to Christ's command to take the gospel to the whole world. For a step-by-step guide to conducting a successful missions convention, order *The Blueprint*, volume 2, "Building Missions Support Through an Annual Missions Convention."

Creating an Annual Missions Budget

Now that the team has a clearer picture of the church's potential, establish an annual missions budget. To make sure nothing is overlooked, consider these categories: World Missions, U.S. Missions, benevolences, district support and other outreaches. The Annual Missions Budget Work Sheets on pages 28 and 29 will guide you through the process.

On the lines indicated, enter the names of the world and U.S. missionaries the church currently supports. Check the other ministries to which funds are given and enter the amount of each commitment. In the projected giving column, enter the amount projected for each missionary and ministry during the coming year. Total both columns to find the church's current and projected giving — otherwise known as an annual missions budget.

Determining Which Missionaries to Support

Finding missionaries to come to your church to solicit finances is not a difficult task. Almost every church is contacted by missionaries approved by Assemblies of God World and U.S. Missions.

If your church can't support every Assemblies of God missionary who requests a monthly commitment, how should you determine who gets financial help? Consider these questions in setting policy for missionary support from the congregation.

- Will we give priority to missionaries from our own district? This is important!
- How many missionaries can we support monthly?
- What will be the amount of the monthly commitment to the missionaries we choose to support? (The average pledge is about \$53.)
- Will we consider supporting missionaries from other districts?
- If so, will we give them the same amount, or will we give more to missionaries from our district?
- Will we try to balance representation from each region of the world?
- Do we want to balance our support for various types of ministries?
- Will we put priority on urgent needs rather than balance?

After priorities are set for missionary support, make prayer the deciding factor. Always ask the question, "What is the Holy Spirit saying that we should do about supporting this missionary?"

Missionary Budget Review				
Missionary Name	Assigned Field	Date Commitment Was Made	Current Commitment Amount	Increased Commitment Amount
Totals				

Missionary Budget Review				
Missionary Name	Assigned Field	Date Commitment Was Made	Current Commitment Amount	Increased Commitment Amount
Totals				

Information About Our Missionary Partners

Missionary's Name	Birthday	Anniversary	Amount of Monthly Support
Spouse	Birthday	Field	E-mail Address
Children	Birthday(s)	Age	Mailing Address

Missionary's Name	Birthday	Anniversary	Amount of Monthly Support
Spouse	Birthday	Field	E-mail Address
Children	Birthday(s)	Age	Mailing Address

Missionary's Name	Birthday	Anniversary	Amount of Monthly Support
Spouse	Birthday	Field	E-mail Address
Children	Birthday(s)	Age	Mailing Address

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Children	Birthday(s)	Age	Mailing Address

Missionary's Name	Birthday	Anniversary	Amount of Monthly Support
Spouse	Birthday	Field	E-mail Address
Children	Birthday(s)	Age	Mailing Address

Missionary Giving — Evaluation And Goals

What is our average monthly income for missions? _____

What is our total monthly commitment to missions? _____

How many family units attend our church? _____

How many units regularly support missions? _____

How much did the church give to missions last year? \$ _____

What was the average missions giving per family unit last year? \$ _____

(Divide the total annual missions giving by the number of family units attending your church to find the average annual giving per unit.)

What is our goal for missions for next year?

From...

Faith promise giving _____

General fund transfer to the missions fund..... _____

Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade _____

Speed the Light (Youth) _____

Women's Ministries missions projects _____

Light for the Lost (Men's Ministries) _____

Anticipated missions income for next year \$ _____

Can we make a cost-of-living increase to the missionaries we currently support? _____

If so, how much? _____

Which missionaries can be added for monthly support?

Name

Amount

<i>Name</i>	<i>Amount</i>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

What missions projects can be added next year?

National U.S. Missions

<i>Missionaries</i>	<i>Now Giving</i>	<i>Projected Giving</i>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
AGUSM Administration	_____	_____
Servicemen's Ministry	_____	_____
Assemblies of God Colleges and Universities.....	_____	_____
National Teen Challenge.....	_____	_____
Inner-City Ministries	_____	_____
New Church Evangelism	_____	_____
Intercultural Ministries (<i>Disabled, Ethnic, etc.</i>).....	_____	_____

Benevolences

Aged Ministers Assistance	_____	_____
Hillcrest Children's Home	_____	_____
Highlands Child Placement Service (<i>Adoptions</i>).....	_____	_____
Disaster Relief (<i>U.S.</i>)	_____	_____

District Ministers

Administration	_____	_____
District Home Missions.....	_____	_____
Departmental (<i>Christian Education, Youth, etc.</i>).....	_____	_____

Other

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
Total	_____	_____

Local Church Ministries With a Missions Focus

Children

Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade (BGMC)

BGMC, formally launched in 1949, is the missions education and fund-raising emphasis for children in the Assemblies of God. Boys and girls in local churches can learn about and be involved in foreign missions outreach through participation in BGMC.

BGMC buys Bibles, hymnals, textbooks, correspondence courses, cassettes for radio broadcasts, videotapes for children's television programs, Sunday School literature, flannel graph materials and puppets. BGMC has funded expensive translation projects, resulting in making Scripture available in languages of people who are unreached with the gospel. BGMC provides many new overseas Bible schools with an entire core curriculum reference library and its first textbooks.

In addition to supplying evangelism and Christian education literature for outreaches around the world, BGMC meets the needs of children who participate in the BGMC program. These children grow to understand missions, identify with the work of missionaries and develop a lifetime burden for missions that is demonstrated in giving and praying.

Every month on BGMC Sunday, children bring their Buddy Barrel offering banks, hear a missions story or puppet skit, learn about a country and its missionaries, pray for missions needs and enjoy other missions education activities. Buddy Barrel, the traditional BGMC character, tells children about missions and promotes faithfulness in giving. Through the years two other friends have been added. Pencil Pal encourages children to help specific missionaries by praying for them and writing letters of encouragement, and Winnie-the-World tells children about people in various countries and communicates God's heart of love for the world.

Through the BGMC program, children receive the opportunity to accept and act upon the Great Commission.

Any local church interested in implementing BGMC should call (417) 862-2781, extension 4009, or logon to www.bgmc.ag.org and request *How Do You Start a BGMC Program?*

Youth

Speed the Light (STL)

Speed the Light, sponsored by the Assemblies of God Youth Department, is the youth-initiated ministry that provides transportation and communication equipment to missionaries around the world. By raising funds to purchase equipment, Assemblies of God youth have made STL one of the most effective missions programs in the world. Since the program's inception in 1944, Assemblies of God youth have raised more than \$185 million.

STL works because Assemblies of God youth across the United States are interested in seeing it work. They have accepted the responsibility for voluntarily raising funds to purchase transportation, printing and communications equipment for missionaries on every continent. Their sacrificial offerings assist missionaries in reaching the lost with the gospel.

STL has provided equipment for missions outreaches in more than 200 countries and territories, assisting almost 2,000 missionaries, new churches, Teen Challenge centers, international ministries and overseas Bible schools.

Each year on Speed the Light Day, the third Sunday in October, Assemblies of God churches are asked to take a special offering for STL. World Ministries credit is given to each church/donor who contributes to STL. Offerings must be received on or before December 31 to receive credit for the current calendar year.

Any church youth group interested in becoming involved in a world missions outreach through STL should call (417) 862-2781, extension 4029, or logon to www.youth.ag.org.

Women

Women's Ministries

Every year thousands of Assemblies of God women in local churches participate in the national Women's Ministries program and contribute to worldwide missions outreaches through their ministry to missionaries.

Their support of missions is largely through involvement in national Women's Ministries projects—the Adoption Plan, Etta Calhoun Fund and the Library Fund. These projects differ in design and methodology, but they complement one another in their common purpose of supporting missions.

The Adoption Plan is a friendship program in which Women's Ministries groups and Missionettes clubs adopt missionary families from the church's district. The adopting group accepts responsibility to share special occasions, concerns and personal needs of the missionary through prayer, correspondence and gifts. The commitment is for one full term of the missionary's appointment, unless other arrangements are made by the district Women's Ministries director.

The Touch the World Fund (formerly the Etta Calhoun Fund) was established in 1957 to supply indoor equipment and furnishings for foreign missionaries, home missionaries and national benevolence institutions owned by the Assemblies of God. Offerings for this fund are taken each year on Touch the World Fund Day. Offerings are sent to the national Women's Ministries Department where they are held in reserve until the end of the year and then distributed. Among items that have been purchased are commercial-size kitchen and laundry appliances; classroom, dining room and dormitory furniture; and office equipment.

The Library Fund is a project to place religious reference and study books in the libraries of world and home missions Bible schools. This fund is supported from the sale of canceled postage stamps and contributions. Women's Ministries groups and interested individuals collect, prepare, sort and send the stamps to the national Women's Ministries Department for marketing. They also may choose to market the stamps locally through stamp and coin dealers and send the proceeds to the national department. Churches receive World Ministries credit for offerings given to the fund. However, credit cannot be given for stamps that are marketed by the national Women's Ministries Department.

Any local church interested in starting a Women's Ministries group, or any Women's Ministries group interested in more information should call (417) 862-2781 or visit the Women's Ministries resource page and online store at www.womensministries.ag.org.

Men

Men's Ministries - Light for the Lost (LFTL)

Every year thousands of men participate in world missions outreach through the Men's Ministries program of Light for the Lost (LFTL), the missions evangelism arm of the department that provides money for evangelism literature.

While about 95 percent of all Christian literature is printed for people who have already accepted Christ, LFTL provides literature for unbelievers. Literature is one of the most powerful evangelism tools available and is vital to the ministry of world missionaries in spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ and bringing new converts to Him.

- Every year the world becomes more literate.
- Literature is read over and over again.
- Literature is read by people in all walks of life.
- Literature crosses cultural barriers, goes where missionaries cannot and doesn't need a passport or visa.
- Each year people all over the world hear about Christ for the first time through literature.

LFTL Councilmen

Men participating in LFTL are called Councilmen. Councilmen include Christian laymen and ministers who have a burden for missions and who underwrite LFTL's operational expenses. Thousands of Councilmen nationwide cover the cost of literature fund raising so that 100 percent of all monies given can be used to provide literature. Councilmen reach out to men as they help missionaries and other Christian workers spread the message of Jesus Christ.

LFTL Junior Councilmen

The LFTL Junior Councilmen program, sponsored by the national Royal Rangers and LFTL offices, gives Royal Rangers an opportunity to participate in LFTL and touch the world for Christ.

To be eligible to become a Junior Councilman, a Royal Ranger must have earned a Pioneers Second Class rating and be 17 years old or younger.

LFTL Junior Councilmen are invited to attend LFTL banquets and rallies. During each annual LFTL banquet, Junior Councilmen and their commanders are challenged to actively support LFTL.

The unified efforts of men and boys across this nation are leading thousands of people to Christ each year around the world. Missionaries depend on their help.

How Does LFTL Help World Missions?

World missionaries use LFTL money to provide Bibles, Bible portions and printed evangelism literature. The evangelism literature is used for general distribution by nationals and AIM teams; in connection with Good News Crusades, door-to-door and street witnessing; and as follow-up to newspaper, radio and television responses. With help from LFTL, missionaries print much of their own literature and/or purchase printed materials from Global University and Life Publishers.

How to Get the Most From the Missionary Visit

Getting the most from the missionary visit begins with attitude. Remember, your church needs missionaries as much as they need you. A missionary can't go without financial and prayer support provided by the local church, but a congregation cannot fulfill the Great Commission without missionaries who are willing to take the gospel to the ends of the earth.

In other words, missions is a partnership. Partners respect one another and work closely with each other to reach their common goals. Knowing the importance of this mutual need for each other, consider some ways that a church can make a missionary visit pleasant as well as effective.

Preservice Planning

- When a candidate missionary is approved in your district, call immediately to schedule a service. This will be helpful as he or she sets up an itinerary.
- Return the missionary's phone calls. This will save time, money and stress for the missionary.
- Schedule the missionary for any regular service or even a home group.
- If you can't schedule the missionary for a service, say so. The missionary would prefer a "no" to being put off.
- Tell missionaries what participation they will have. How many times will they speak? Do you want them also to speak in a Sunday School class or to a youth or children's group?
- Communicate the type of dress appropriate for the service.
- Tell the missionary the service times and the time when you can meet prior to the service for planning.
- Provide the missionary with information concerning hotel accommodations while he or she is with you.
- Be sure to give clear directions to the church and the service times.
- Give the missionary a telephone number other than the church office. The missionary may need to call at a time when the office is not open.

The Missionary Visit

- Make time available to meet with the missionary prior to the service to get better acquainted, ask questions about specific needs and discuss the parameters for the service.
- Will the missionary be preaching or have a brief window in a service?
- Is the missionary a skilled public speaker or would it be better to conduct an interview?
- What is the time frame for his or her participation?
- Do you want a sermon, experiences from the field or both?
- Tell the missionary what he or she can do to assist you in building a strong missions vision within your congregation.
- Give the congregation the opportunity to respond with a generous offering after the missionary has shared his or her vision and ministry.

- Missionaries should receive an offering rather than a predetermined honorarium. You are not paying them for services rendered; rather, people are giving toward the needs of a dying world.
- Set a minimum cash offering. This means they could receive more if the offering is larger, but they would never receive less than the minimum. Consider that in 2002, the average missionary offering was
 - a. \$391 per service for candidates
 - b. \$465 per service for veterans

After The Service

- Make time to host the missionary for a meal or dessert. This will give more time to get acquainted.
- Make provision to give the missionary a check for the offering while he or she is there. These funds may be needed for travel to the next destination.
- Give missionaries a signed monthly commitment form before they leave. This will hasten their departure to the field and will relieve a great deal of stress. The average monthly commitment is \$53.
- If it isn't possible to give them a signed commitment while they are there, tell them what you hope to do and when you plan to do it.

SECTION 2

Assemblies of God World Missions

An Extension of the Local Church

The Assemblies of God is still committed to “the greatest evangelism the world has ever seen.” Working in cooperation with the local church, world missions has been the key to coordinating and administering resources given by thousands of congregations across America. World missions is an extension of the local church, making its influence possible in more than 200 countries and territories around the world.

In Jerusalem the believers were glad to see us. The next day Paul went with us to visit James, and all the elders were there. Paul greeted them and told them everything God had done among the other nations through him. When they (the elders) heard this, they praised God.

Acts 21:17-20 NCV

PART 1

All About Assemblies of God World Missions

All true missionary endeavors begin and end with God the Creator, Sustainer, Savior and Lord. The Assemblies of God World Missions program seeks to identify with His purposes, so that in all things He is glorified and His plan for the world fulfilled.

World Missions Purpose

The Assemblies of God leads one of the major missionary outreaches in the world and is the largest missions body in the Evangelical Fellowship of Missions Agencies (EFMA). In many countries, the Assemblies of God is the largest Protestant body. The number of members and adherents overseas is about 15 times greater than in the United States.

As an entity of the General Council, Assemblies of God World Missions affirms the Fellowship's Statement of Fundamental Truths and its Constitution, which states:

“. . .the priority reason-for-being of the Assemblies of God is to be an agency of God for evangelizing the world, to be a corporate body in which man may worship God, and to be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son.”

The sole purpose of world missions is to inspire and enable the Assemblies of God to fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8). The strategy of world missions is to

- (1) Evangelize the spiritually lost through all available means.
- (2) Establish indigenous* churches after the New Testament pattern.
- (3) Train national believers to proclaim the gospel to their own people and in an expanding mission to other people groups.
- (4) Show compassion for suffering people in a manner representing the love of Jesus Christ.

**Indigenous churches are those that are self-governing, self-supporting and self-propagating New Testament churches.*

World Missions Board

The World Missions Board regulates the activities of Assemblies of God World Missions. The board consists of the executive director (who serves as chairman), general superintendent (ex officio); two executive presbyters; world missions executive administrator; six regional directors of world missions; eight pastors of proven world missions zeal and accomplishments, each from a different area of the nation; and eight laypeople, endorsed by their pastors, each from a different area of the nation and from churches other than those whose pastors serve concurrently on the World Missions Board.

The World Missions Board is responsible for establishing policy, appointing missionaries and carrying out duties as assigned by the Executive Presbytery. The board meets twice a year.

World Missions Executive Committee

The World Missions Executive Committee is responsible for the general supervision and direction of the work of Assemblies of God World Missions and its missionaries. Its leadership must be in conformity with established policies and principles of the General Council and the World Missions Board.

Members of the Executive Committee include the executive director (chairman), administrator, six regional directors, research director, director of U.S. Relations, director of Media and Advancement, director of International Service Ministries and director of Personnel and Family Life.

The Executive Committee meets at least once weekly to discuss administrative decisions regarding missionaries' ministries, work and personal needs.

World Missions Staff

Assemblies of God World Missions employs more than 110 people who work together to serve missionaries as they carry out the original commitment to world evangelism.

The executive director of Assemblies of God World Missions is elected by the General Council and is a member of the Executive Presbytery and General Presbytery. Responsibilities of the executive director include

- 1) accountability to the General Council for the entire world missions effort
- 2) chairman of the World Missions Board
- 3) chairman of the World Missions Executive Committee

Regional Directors

Six directors oversee the efforts of Assemblies of God World Missions, in these six geographical regions:

- 1) Africa
- 2) Asia Pacific
- 3) Eurasia
- 4) Europe
- 5) Latin America and the Caribbean
- 6) Northern Asia

All appointed missionaries and other personnel engaged in approved overseas missions activities are responsible to the regional director of the field to which they are assigned.

Area Directors

Within each region, area directors live on the field and assist in both ministry and administration as needed. This reduces the large amount of requests that come to the regional director and helps facilitate decisions that need to be made on the field.

Administrator

The administrator of Assemblies of God World Missions is responsible to oversee the operation of all world missions departments. These include

1) **International Services Ministries**

The ministries include Global University, Life Publishers, Center for Ministry to Muslims, HealthCare Ministries, Book of Hope, and Global Teen Challenge.

2) **Media Advancement**

The fundraising, media production department of World Missions.

3) **Personnel/Family Life**

This department provides oversight of the missionary personnel process and care of the missionary family.

The personnel process includes interviewing, processing and providing orientation for missionary candidates, missionary associates and Missions Abroad Placement Service (MAPS) personnel and specialists. They also provide opportunities for laypeople to serve on the mission field through short-term, long-term and career ministries with both individual and team participation.

The Family Life aspect pertains to the ongoing care of missionaries and their children in conjunction with the regional offices.

4) **U.S. Relations**

U.S. Relations is responsible for overseeing the itineration process of all approved and appointed missionaries, monitoring their progress and authorizing final clearance for departure to the field. It also seeks to maintain relationships between Assemblies of God World Missions and local churches, parachurch organizations, institutions and districts. Services of this area include the creation of promotional materials and the coordination of all World Missions publications. Other services include providing missions education in local churches, encouraging missions conventions and providing assistance and tools for planning an effective missions strategy for local congregations. The Missions Awareness Team is part of this area.

5) **Other World Missions Departments**

Financial Services, Missionary Services, Divisional Accounting, Quality Assurance, Technical Services and Word Processing.

PART 2

World Missions Ministries

List of Ministries, Contact Persons and Contact Information

Information on all ministries listed below has been stated correctly as verified by the contact person. Telephone numbers, fax numbers, e-mail addresses and contact persons are subject to change.

Last updated: January 13, 2005

Resource listing compiled by Mel Todd, AGWM Caring Connection

Ministry Name	Description of Ministry	Contact Person	Mailing Address; Telephone; Fax; E-mail; Web site
Africa Harvest Intercessors	A ministry of Africa Harvest Ministries. A prayer ministry on behalf of the needs on the African fields.	Don Tucker, Director	1640 N. Boonville Ave. Springfield, MO 65803 (417) 862-2781 x-1732 Fax- (417) 863-6518 dontucker@ahpac.org
Africa Harvest Ministries (AHM)	Includes Africa Harvest Intercessors, Africa Literature and Media Assistance, Africa Tabernacle Evangelism and Africa's Children	Don Tucker, Director	1640 N. Boonville Ave. Springfield, MO 65803 (417) 862-2781 x-1732 Fax- (417) 863-6518 dontucker@ahpac.org
Africa's Hope	A ministry accepting the challenge of training the leaders of Africa in four ways: 1. Student Scholarships 2. Faculty Scholarships 3. Educational Resources 4. Consultations to Partnering Schools	DeVane McGee, Director	580 West Central Street Springfield, MO 65802 (417) 862-7725 www.africashope.org
Africa Library Services Office (ALSO)	Distributes books in English, French and Spanish at the lowest possible cost, library expertise, supplies and cataloging to Bible Schools, missionaries and nationals in the two-thirds world.	Gary Carlson III, Director	580 West Central Street Springfield, MO 65802 (417) 862-7216 Fax- (417) 862-1871 ALSO@agmd.org
Africa Literature and Media Assistance	A ministry of Africa Harvest Ministries. Ministry to the literature and media needs of the African fields with videos, tracts and Sunday School materials.	Don Tucker, Coordinator	1640 N. Boonville Ave. Springfield, MO 65803 (417) 862-2781 x-1732 Fax- (417) 863-6518 dontucker@ahpac.org
Africa Tabernacle Evangelism	A ministry of Africa Harvest Ministries. Provides adequate church buildings for worthy congregations across Africa through the active involvement of U.S. churches and individuals in purchasing and constructing the buildings.	Bill Moore, Coordinator	1640 N. Boonville Avenue Springfield, MO 65803 (417) 862-2781 x-1732 Fax- (417) 863-6518 www.tabernacles@ahpac.org

Africa Theological Training Service (ATTS)	“Our mission is to encourage, facilitate and validate theological training within the Church of Africa, thus assisting Africa to participate fully in the accomplishment of the Great Commission.”	John V. York, Director	580 West Central Street Springfield, MO 65803 (417) 862-7216 Fax- (417) 862-1867 www.attls@netzero.net
Africa’s Children	A ministry of Africa Harvest Ministries. Providing food, medicine, clothing, schools, child evangelism crusades, children’s workers training seminars, AIDS Awareness training and materials, vitamins, youth camps, gymnastic equipment-- and the list goes on.	Don Tucker, Director	1640 N. Boonville Avenue Springfield, MO 65803 (417) 862-2781 x-1732 Fax- (417) 863-6518 dontucker@ahpac.org or africaschildren@ahpac.org
Asia Pacific Campus Challenge (APCC)	APCC is dedicated to the task of reaching every Asia Pacific youth with the Gospel during their academic careers. APCC and the USA National Youth Department have teamed together with missionaries and Asian nationals to conduct on-site youth ministry training conferences called “GlobYLnet”. APCC also conducts the Asian Institute of Youth Studies (AIYS) on the campus of APTS and they are the distributors for the Book of Hope in Asia.	Ty & Cina Silva, Coordinators	P.O. Box 329 1502 Greenhills MM, Philippines 632-435-6067 Fax- 632-929-9543 apcc@pacific.net.ph www.4youthinasia.com
Asia Pacific Center for the Advancement of Leadership and Missions (APCALM)	A department of Asia Pacific Theological Seminary (APTS) serving the churches by developing and facilitating short-term programs for training missionaries and church leaders. Programs offered include the Missionary Training Program (MTP) of the Assemblies of God Asian Missions Association (AGAMA), Institute of Islamic Studies (IIS), Asia Pacific Institute of Buddhist Studies (APIBS), Leadership Development Institute (LDI) and Asian Institute of Youth Studies (AIYS- offered in cooperation with Asia Pacific Campus Challenge). Credit upgrades to MA level are possible with extra course work and payment of course fees.	Wayne Cagle, Director	APCALM P.O. Box 377 2600 Baguio City Philippines (63-74) 442-7068 Fax- (63-74) 442-6378 info@apts.edu www.apts.edu

<p>Asia Pacific Institute of Buddhist Studies (APIBS)</p>	<p>A program of the Asia Pacific Center for the Advancement of Leadership and Missions (APCALM). A comprehensive eight-week program that prepares individuals for ministry to Buddhists in their own countries or as cross-cultural missionaries. Courses are taught by outstanding Buddhist scholars and missionaries with extensive experience in ministry to Buddhists in various parts of the world. The Institute offers a unique opportunity to deepen your understanding and love for Buddhist peoples and develop the skills for effective ministry to Buddhists. Credit upgrades to the MA level with Asia Pacific Theological Seminary are possible with extra course work and payment of course fees.</p>	<p>Alan Johnson, Director</p>	<p>APTS-APIBS P.O. Box 377 2600 Baguio City Philippines (63-75) 442-2779 Fax- (63-74) 442-6378 ibs@apts.edu www.apts.edu</p>
<p>Asia Pacific Institute of Islamic Studies (IIS)</p>	<p>A program of the Asia Pacific Center for the Advancement of Leadership and Missions (APCALM) offered in cooperation with the Center for Ministry to Muslims. A comprehensive eight-week program that prepares individuals for ministry to Muslims in their own countries or as cross-cultural missionaries. Courses are taught by outstanding Islamic scholars and missionaries with extensive experience in ministry to Muslims in various parts of the world. The Institute offers a unique opportunity to deepen your understanding and love for Muslim peoples and develop the skills for effective ministry to Muslims. Credit upgrades to the MA level with Asia Pacific Theological Seminary are possible with extra course work and payment of course fees.</p>	<p>Mike Langford, Director</p>	<p>APTS-IIS P.O. Box 377 2600 Baguio City Philippines (63-74) 442-2779 Fax- 442-6378 iis@apts.edu www.apts.edu</p>
<p>Asia Pacific Leadership Development Institute (LDI)</p>	<p>A program of the Asia Pacific Center for the Advancement of Leadership and Missions (APCALM). The Institute is a three-four week program of intensive studies in biblical leadership for pastors, missionaries and other church leaders. Credit upgrades to the MA level with Asia Pacific Theological Seminary are possible with extra course work and payment of course fees.</p>	<p>Wayne Cagle, Director</p>	<p>APTS-LDI P.O. Box 377 Baguio City Philippines (63-74) 442-2779 Fax- (63-74) 442-6378 ldi@apts.edu www.apts.edu</p>
<p>Asia Pacific Media Ministries (APMM)</p>	<p>Training Asia Pacific Christian leaders to use and produce media products that will minister to their culture</p>	<p>Bill Snider, Director</p>	<p>P.O. Box 13800 Ortigas Center 1650 Pasig MM Philippines 632-914-9767 or (417) 863-6502 info@apmedia.org www.apmedia.org</p>

Asia Pacific Theological Seminary (APTS)	APTS offers accredited programs leading to graduate and post-graduate degrees, including Master of Arts (36 or 48 credits), Master of Divinity (96 credits), Master of Theology (36 credits) and Doctor of Ministry (30 credits) with concentrations in ministry, theology, missions and Pentecostal studies. Extension programs leading to the MA degree are offered in several countries in Asia Pacific and short-term leadership and missions training programs are provided through the Asia Pacific Center for the Advancement of Leadership and Missions (APCALM).	John Carter, President; Wayne Cagle, President a/o April 2004	APTS Box 377 2600 Baguio City Philippines 63-74-442-2779 Fax- 63-74-442-6378 info@apts.edu www.apts.edu
Asia's Little Ones (ALO)	Provides needed resources and assistance to children's homes, feeding programs, schools and health clinics in the Asia Pacific and Northern Asia Region.	Nathan Turney, Director	309 N. Jefferson Suite 344 (Landmark Bldg.) Springfield, MO 65806 (417) 862-6155 Fax- (417) 862-6141 info@asiaslittleones.org www.asiaslittleones.org
Assemblies of God Disaster Relief Committee	Coordination of response to disasters around the world, partnership with AGWM personnel, the regional office for the affected area, and the national church, providing assessment, medical/ material assistance and training. When in session, committee members include representatives of MAPS Builders, HealthCare Ministries, World Assemblies of God Relief Agency, as well as representatives from the affected areas.	Nancy Hand, assistant	1445 Boonville Avenue Springfield, MO 65802 (417) 862-2781 x2080 or 2090 Fax- (417) 862-0876 NHand@ag.org
Assemblies of God Relief	Assists with projects raising funds for compassion ministries.	Randy Hurst, Director	1445 Boonville Avenue Springfield, MO 65802 (417) 862-2781 x-1775 Fax- (417) 831-2709 rhurst@ag.org
Assemblies of God World Missions PrayerNet	AG World Missions has launched PrayerNet to communicate throughout the Assemblies of God fellowship via e-mail the prayer requests of missionaries concerning their personal and family needs as well as the needs of the work of Christ's Kingdom around the world. These requests can be sent literally around the world in seconds. There is an army of intercessors and you can be a part of them.	Betty Todd, PrayerNet Coordinator	1445 Boonville Avenue Springfield, MO 65802 (417) 862-2781 x-2052 Fax- (417) 832-8723 worldmissionsprayer@news.ag.org btodd@ag.org

Bible Alliance	Translating and publishing international language editions of the “Fire Bible”, the name given to the “Life in the Spirit Study Bible” (formerly “Full Life Study Bible”).	Herb Griffin, President	1400 N. Campbell Avenue Springfield, MO 65802 (800) 532-0440 or (417) 832-0440 Fax- (417) 831-6445 info@biblealliance.org
Book of Hope International	The Book of Hope is the Gospel text harmonized, translated and published into different languages (currently in 52 distinct languages) and distributed with government permission in the public and private schools all over the world. Over 200 million copies of the Book of Hope have been distributed by national church members and short term missionaries known as “Affect Destiny Teams”.	Bob Hoskins, Director; Rob Hoskins, Executive Director	3111 SW 10th Street Pompano Beach, FL 33069 (954) 975-7777 for information- sharonbest@bookofhope.net www.bookofhope.net
Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade (BGMC)	BGMC is the missions education emphasis for children in the Assemblies of God. It provides resources to help teach kids about missions. It helps buy ministry supplies for the missionaries that relate to evangelism and discipleship- such as puppets, music and video tapes, tracts, Bibles, literature, sound systems, computers, copy machines and a whole lot more.	David Boyd, National Director of Children’s Ministries/ BGMC	1445 Boonville Avenue Springfield, MO 65802 (Actual location- Zimmerman Building) (417) 862-2781 x-4009 Fax- (417) 862-2650 bgmc@ag.org www.bgmc.ag.org
Builders International	A ministry designed to help on larger projects as well as projects in distress, with an emphasis on Bible schools. We are a construction ministry involved in master planning, feasibility studies, fund raising, engineering, architectural, construction, as well as helping to acquire needed MAPS teams to finish projects. We are linking people with these giftings to use in needs around the world.	David Wagner, Coordinator	P.O. Box 1969 Ozark, MO 65721 (417) 582-0003 (417) 582-0509 buildersintl@ag.org www.thebuildersclub.org
Campamento La Cumbre (Camp Summit)	Developing ministries for men and boys of Latin America and the Caribbean, through Royal Rangers and Hombres de Honor (Men of Honor men’s ministries. Utilizing an 80-acre international training and discipleship center located in the tropics of Costa Rica, Central America.	Douglas Marsh, Royal Rangers Overseas Coordinator	1445 Boonville Avenue Springfield, MO 65802 (417) 862-2781 Fax- (417) 831-8230 doug.marsh@agmd.org www.dougmarsh.org
Caribbean School of Theology (CST)	CST is a mobile seminary which offers an advanced level of studies for Christian leaders, pastors, Bible school teachers and administrators. CST follows up the diploma program of national Bible schools with B.A. and M.A. degrees by the means of annual and biannual on-site seminars.	Lewis Mc Cown, President	P.O. Box 1634 Springfield, MO 65808 (417) 862-9533 x-2525 Fax- (417) 869-4382 Lewis.McCown@agmd.org

CaringConnection	Ministering to the missionary family through practical helps in the areas of health issues, family issues, men's and women's issues, children's special education needs, personal and crisis concerns, ministry to AGWM retirees, AG PrayerNet, Tuesday AGWM Prayer, Re-entry for veteran missionaries, CaringConnection web site, and other areas as needed.	Faye Tidwell, Team Leader	521 W. Lynn Street Springfield, MO 65802 (417) 863-7717 Fax- (417) 863-1477 ftidwell@ag.org <i>web site: missionary- password protected- contact Faye Tidwell for further information.</i>
CaringConnection Medical Service (CCMS)	The mission of CCMS is to minister compassionately to the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the AGWM missionaries so that they may more effectively fulfill God's vision for their ministry. We seek to establish and maintain quality medical oversight for the members of the AGWM missionary family by providing consultative, educational and preventative services to each individual.	Dr. William Graham, Medical Director	CCMS Attn: Debbie Lockwood 521 W. Lynn Street Springfield, MO 65802 (417) 866-6311 Emergency cell- (417) 848-4465 Fax- (417) 866-4711 drsgraham@aol.com
Center for Ministry to Muslims (CMM)	"CMM is a facilitating ministry to assist the church worldwide in providing an adequate and culturally sensitive witness of Jesus Christ to every Muslim by every means possible: Intercession, Awareness Seminars, Institutes of Islamic Studies, Research and Strategy Consultation, Resource and Media Development, Mobilization, and Inter-Regional Networking."	Jim Bennett, Director	2032 East Kearney, Suite 205 Springfield, MO 65803 (417) 866-3313 Fax- (417) 866-3733 76243.2762@compuserve.com www.cmmequip.org
Children's Ministries Resource Commission (CMRC)	A commission of missionaries who work primarily with children. CMRC networks missionaries all over the world for the purpose of sharing resources and ideas. Each region is represented on the Administrative Committee, which is also involved in the design and hosting of the CMRC web site.	Steve Benintendi, Chairman	380 E. Hwy. CC Suite B104 Nixa, MO 65714 (417) 724-1222 Fax- (417) 724-0119 Nikole@qminternational.com (Web site address to be determined)
Continental Theological Seminary	CTS offers theological training in an international setting resulting in: Master of Arts in Biblical Studies, Bachelor of Arts or Diploma in Bible and Theology or a Certificate in Bible and Church Music.	Roland Q. Dudley, President	Kasteelstraat 48 1600 Sint-Pieters-Loeuw BELGIUM 32 (02) 834-85-55 Fax- 32 (02) 334-85-59 info@ctsem.edu www.ctsem.edu
Convoy of Hope (COH)	COH serves in the United States and around the world providing disaster relief, building supply lines and sponsoring outreaches to the poor and hurting in communities. During a COH Outreach, free groceries are distributed, job (USA) and health fairs are organized and activities for children are provided.	Hal Donaldson, Executive Director	330 S. Patterson Avenue Springfield, MO 65802 (417) 823-8998 Fax- (417) 823-8244 info@convoyofhope.org www.convoyofhope.org

Cry Africa	“Created to partner with the AGWM Africa missionary family and Africa’s national churches to more aggressively address the HIV/AIDS crisis and its multi-faceted ramifications throughout the continent. Our services include professional consulting, networking, international ministry liaison, project funding, and awareness and promotion amongst our U.S. constituency.”	Brad Tucker, Administrator	1626 N. Boonville Ave. Springfield, MO 65802 (417) 832-0590 Fax- (417) 862-0175 cryafrica@pcnetinc.com
Eurasia’s Future	“Ministry to children in Eurasia. At present, we are mainly raising funds to help with the many projects in the Eurasia field.	Lucille Parks, Office Manager	1640 N. Boonville Ave. Springfield, MO 65803 (417) 862-2781 x-1740 Fax- (417) 862-9476 Eurasia@agmd.org
Frontline Ministries (FLM)	“FLM exists to foster effective church-planting on the front lines of the Kingdom’s advance. FLM recruits trains, and leads short-term ministry teams from the U.S. to assist in their church-planting efforts through compassionate ministries, evangelism, construction, training, and other types of ministry.”	John Plake, Director	1211 S. Glenstone Ave. Suite B-09 Springfield, MO 65804 (417) 882-0708 Fax- (417) 882-0651 flm@frontline.ag.org www.frontline.ag.org
Global Christian Literature Center (GCLC)	GCLC is the exclusive distributor of Life Publishers, Teen Challenge and EQUIP (John Maxwell literature; Regional office for Global University in Russia; supplier of other discipleship literature for Bible schools, Institutes, rehabilitation centers and church Sunday schools. We ship Christian literature to any place worldwide.	Zbigniew (Anthony) Rybarczyk, Founder; Sergei Bagretsov, Managing Director	11 Stromynka Street Bld.1, Entr. 1, Suite 410 Moscow 107014, Russia Tel./fax (7-095) 269-1154 725-47-92 ICQ #20653161 (online Mon.-Fri. 10:00- 18:00 GMT+03) mail@globalcenter.ru TonyRybarczyk@globalcenter.ru www.globalcenter.ru
Global Colleagues	Our mission is to provide resources for you through our global centers, shared content, web site building tools, and helps for church and community growth.	George M. Flattery, President	1201 Babbling Brook Lewisville, TX 75067 (972) 316-0414 Fax- (972) 316-0858 flattery@gte.net www.forallnations.com
Global Teen Challenge (GTC)	GTC exists to facilitate the opening of new Teen Challenge centers around the world; assist the existing centers with administrative needs, training and curriculum for national leaders and workers and instruct the Teen Challenge students and staff for educational certificates, diplomas and degrees.	Don Wilkerson, Executive Director	P.O. Box 890 Locust Grove, VA 22508 (540) 972-8223 Fax- (540) 972-8424 gtc@globaltc.org www.globaltc.org

Global University-Berean/ICI	Through its worldwide network of offices and institutions, Global University provides the worldwide Pentecostal church with a seamless system that enables anyone, anywhere, at any time, access to evangelism, discipleship, ministerial training, and academic programs leading to baccalaureate and masters level degrees.	Ronald Iwasko, President	1211 S. Glenstone Ave. Springfield, MO 65804 (800) 443-1083 or (417) 862-9533 info@globaluniversity.edu www.globaluniversity.edu
HealthCare Ministries (HCM)	“Worldwide Medical Missions arm of AGWM working directly through the Field Missionary and/or National Church conducting short term missions trips, emergency response teams, Global Aid Partnership, health education and development seminars and work with persons with disabilities.”	Michael O’Brien, HCM Missionary	521 W. Lynn Street Springfield, MO 65802 (417) 866-6311 Fax- (417) 866-4711 mobrien@hcmandfm.org www.healthcareministries.org
Hermano Pablo Ministries	Producers and distributors of Spanish television and radio evangelistic programs (4 minutes each). Programs are available free to any missionary , if for use in on air broadcasting.	Charles Ray Stewart (Carols Rey), missionary contact	P.O. Box 1000 Costa Mesa, CA 92628 (949) 645-0676 Fax- (949) 645-0374 hpm@box100.org www.box100.org
International Media Ministries (IMM)	Their mission is “to establish a global witness of Jesus Christ through media. For the past 17 years IMM has partnered with church on every continent to use media to win the lost and train the found.”	John Merrell, Director	IMM APDO 2001 28801 Alcala de Henares-Villabilla Madrid, Spain imm@imm.edu www.imm.edu
King’s Castle Ministries (Castillo del Rey)	Founded in 1989, to raise up an army of young, spirit-filled warriors who would invade Latin America with the simple message that “Jesus saves and is coming soon”. Today that vision has expanded to dozens of countries throughout the world.	Don Triplett, Director	Club VIP #396 P.O. Box 52-5362 Miami, FL 33152 Phone: 011-503-284-3554 or 011-503-263-3604 triplett@kingscastle.org www.kingscastle.org
Latin America Advanced School of Theology (LAASST); Instituto de Superación Ministerial (ISUM)	LAASST offers a ministerial study program resulting in the equivalent of a Bachelor of Arts Degree (Licenciatura) in the Spanish language for national leaders, pastors, missionaries, Bible school directors and professors. Classes are taught in locations accessible to the students in Latin America and the Caribbean.	Jim Billings, Director	2535 N. 40th Avenue Hollywood, FL 33021 (954) 962-6399 Fax- (954) 961-2418 oficinaisum@aol.com www.ISUMAD.org
Latin America Bible School Advisory Center	This ministry serves the more than 1,000 Bible schools in Spanish-speaking Latin America and the Caribbean through international and national conferences, consulting and internet resources.	Rod Boyd, Director; Larry and Dorothy Cederblom, Advisors	Apartado 1195 Panama 9ª PANAMA +507 261-3391 Fax- +507 262-405 CRA@ServicioAD.net www.Boyd.org/Centro

Latin America ChildCare (LACC)	The mission of Latin America ChildCare is to transform the lives of children in need with the Good News of Jesus Christ through education and other ministries of compassion. Sponsors help LACC provide for 80,000 children in 300 schools in 20 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.	Ken Dahlager, Steve Alsup, Directors	1211 S. Glenstone Ave. Suite 501 Springfield, MO 65804 (800) 289-7071 or (417) 862-8500 Fax- (417) 862-3301 office@lacc4hope.org www.lacc4hope.org
Latin America Christian Education Service; El Servicio de Educación Cristiana (SEC)	“SEC coordinates Assemblies of God ministerial training for the 20 Spanish speaking countries of South and Central America, Cuba and the Dominican Republic. Sec supervises the Latin America Theological Seminary (LATS) and the Latin America Advanced School of Theology (LAASST), plus over 1000 Bible Institutes, the Theological Association of Latin America (ATAL), Latin America Library Services (LALS) and CONOZCA, the educational magazine which goes to 10,000 Latin America A/G ministers. The most exciting ministry of SEC is training scores of Latin Americans who are now or will be missionaries around the world, many to sensitive countries where U.S. missionaries are unwelcome.”	Roy Smeya, International Coordinator	2507 S. Suprema Ave. Springfield, MO 65807 (417) 862-9533 or (800) 443-1083 Fax- (417) 865-6378 roy.smeya@agmd.org www.servicioad.org
Latin America Library Services (LALS)	LALS orders books, processes them and prepares them in library form for delivery to Bible colleges in Latin America and the Caribbean. They offer seven types of libraries.	Everett Ward, Director	1722 S. Glenstone Ave. Suite W112 (Glenstone Square) Springfield, MO 65804 (417) 886-6951 Fax- (417) 886-7460 lals@biblioserv.org www.biblioserv.org
Latin America and Caribbean Resource and Development Ministry (LACRDM)	RDM provides Christian materials in Spanish and English for children, youth, men, women and pastors. The materials are in audio, visual and written forms.	Kathy Jingling, Director	1722 S. Glenstone Ave. Suite W163 (Glenstone Square) Springfield, MO 65804 (417) 881-4698 Fax-(417) 881-1037 RDMLit@rdmlit.org www.RDMLit.org
Latin America Theological Association (ATAL)	Provides accreditation of Bible schools and graduate institutions, certification of professors, and serves to preserve sound doctrine in the schools.		1722 S. Glenstone Ave. Suite W106 Springfield, MO 65804 (417) 889-8260 ATAL2003@msn.com

Latin America Theological Seminary (Facultad de Teología de las Asambleas de Dios)	“FACULTAD offers the only graduate theological education program of the Assemblies of God in Latin America leading to a Master’s Degree taught entirely in Spanish. Courses are taught at extension sites located throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. The student body of almost 400 includes National general superintendents and other executive leaders, pastors, Bible institute professors, evangelists and missionaries.”	Larry McNeill, Director	1211 S. Glenstone, Suite 503 Springfield, MO 65804 (417) 886-9855 Fax- (417) 886-6125 lats@facultadad.org www.facultadad.org
Life Publishers International	“Life serves as the foreign language publisher of the AGWM, assisting missionaries and national churches with publishing needs in all countries and languages.” Materials in various languages include: Radiant Life curriculum, Optional Christian Education curriculum, “Enrichment” magazine, textbooks, devotional books, tracts and the “Life in the Spirit” Study Bible.	Herb Griffin, President	1400 N. Campbell Ave. Springfield, MO 65802 (888) 776-2425 or (417) 831-7766 Fax- (417) 831-6445 Life@xc.org
Light for the Lost (LFTL)	LFTL is dedicated to spreading the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ with literature that is shipped all over the world. LFTL also provides finances for evangelistic literature produced in countries around the world.	Tom Greene, National Coordinator	1445 Boonville Ave. Springfield, MO 65802 (Actual location: Ashcroft Center, 2nd floor) (417) 862-2781 x-4162 Fax- (417) 832-0574 lftl@ag.org www.lightfortheleast.ag.org
Missions Abroad Placement Service (MAPS)	Program designed to involve men and women in short-term missionary service (1-5 months) overseas. MAPS applies the skills and interests of dedicated individuals who wish to be used by God to minister abroad.	Rick Johnson, Director, Special Ministries; Ken Hicks, Processing Specialist	1445 Boonville Ave. Springfield, MO 65802 (417) 862-2781 x-2084 Fax- (417) 862-0876 AGWMMAPS@ ag.org www.worldmissions.ag.org
Missions Abroad Placement Service (MAPS Builders)	Program recruits teams of volunteers to assist missionaries in building, renovating, or repairing churches, Bible schools, Teen Challenge centers, and much more. Some teams rebuild structures that were damaged or destroyed by a disaster, while others build entire buildings from the ground up. MAPS Ministry teams are also handled through this program. Most team trips are one to two weeks.	Gerald Jackson, AGWM MAPS Construction Representative; Gene Herd. Support Specialist (construction teams; TBA (ministry teams)	1445 Boonville Ave. Springfield, MO 65802 (417) 862-2781 x- 2082 Fax- (417) 862-0876 AGWMMAPSBuilders@ag.org www.worldmissions.ag.org
Quest Ministries International	Creators of PowerMark Comics- a Christian comic book series sold all over the world; PowerMark Seeker Series- a children’s six lesson discipleship course written in comic book format; and headquarters for KidsQuest International- a comprehensive children’s evangelism strategy for churches in developing countries. Founded by Steve and Mindy Benintendi.	Nikole Maddox, Administrative Coordinator	380 E. Hwy. CC Suite B104 Nixa, MO 65714 (417) 724-1222 Fax- (417) 724-0119 Nikole@qminternational.com www.powermarkcomics.com www.kidsquestworld.com

Radio Avance	The voice of the Assemblies of God to the Hispanic world, producing over 400 half hour programs per year heard on local stations, short wave, satellite, and the internet. Approximately 30 different formats are utilized to minister the Gospel to the lives of nonbelievers and believers alike among the children, youth and adults of the Spanish Speaking World.	Kenneth Smith, Director	P.O. Box 2428 Valrico, FL 33495 Actual location: 1938 Providence Road Brandon, FL 33511 (813) 654-1170 Fax- (813) 654-8836 radioavance@radioavance.com www.radioavance.com
Royal Rangers International	Royal Rangers International exists to empower missionaries and national church leaders to strengthen and expand Royal Rangers in each region of the world. The "Global Baseline Curriculum and Training Procedures" is a starter curriculum, provided in electronic form, enabling each nation to adapt the materials to their culture and needs before implementing. Promotional, training, and consultative services are also available.	Doug Marsh, Director	1445 Boonville Avenue Springfield, MO 65802 (417) 862-2781 x-4194 Fax- (417) 831-8230 dmarsh@ag.org www.dougmarsh.org
Save Europe's Children	"Save Europe's Children exists to meet the needs of Europe's children through compassion, evangelism and Christian education."	Sandra Mundis, Coordinator	1839 E. Sunshine, Suite 6 Springfield, MO 65804 (417) 862-2732 Fax- (417) 883-3209 saveeuropeschildren@netzero.net
Short-Term Minister Abroad (STMA)	Coordination of the short-term, overseas ministry of Assemblies of God credential holders- pastors, evangelists, and Bible School/seminary professors- with the ongoing work of the AGWM missionaries and the national church worldwide.	Rick Johnson, Director, Special Ministries; Joyce Hubbs, Processing Specialist	1445 Boonville Avenue Springfield, MO 65802 (417) 862-2781 x-2080 or 2089 Fax- (417) 862-0876 STMA@ag.org www.worldmissions.ag.org
Students for Christ- Europe Office (SFC)	SFC is an extension of the church reaching out to colleges and universities of Europe. SFC consists of missionaries, national workers, Pentecostal churches and student leaders who focus their lives, ministries, and spare time to create a community of believers on the campus who have a passion of reaching students for Jesus.	John & Anita Koeshall, missionary contacts	Chaussee de Waterloo 45, 1640 Rhode-St.-Genese Belgium; 32.(0)2.358.4456 Fax- 32.(0)2.358.5561 john.koeshall@agmd.org www.sfceurope.org

International Service Ministries

A number of missionary support ministries, working under the auspices of Assemblies of God World Missions, generate help for appointed missionaries in the areas of literature, Bibles, prayer, media outreach, evangelism, discipleship, training, children's ministries and humanitarian concerns.

Four ministries of the Assemblies of God serve the entire missionary body. They provide tools and offer specialized assistance to extend the ministries of missionaries and national churches.

Book of Hope

In the past 17 years, Affect Destiny teams have distributed more than 230 million copies of *Book of Hope* to children and youth in 106 countries. As many as 5,320 believers from the United States have sacrificed vacations and paid their expenses to travel with BOH leaders to distribute the book in schools throughout the world. *Book of Hope* is a harmony of the Gospels, includes the plan of salvation, and has been translated into more than 65 languages.

The ministry, established by missionary Bob Hoskins, also works in cooperation with national churches to present Hope Fest evangelistic crusades. Thousands of people have accepted Christ as their Savior, lives have been transformed, and many churches have been planted through *Book of Hope* distributions.

Training is at the forefront of BOH's strategy. MAPS workers and missionary associates working with BOH conduct children and youth evangelism seminars and model distribution in schools. These young adults are being mentored as lifetime missionaries and missions-focused pastors, church leaders and lay people.

For more information contact Book of Hope, 3111 SW 10th Street, Pompano Beach, FL 33069. Ph: 954-975-7777; E-mail: info@bookofhope.net or www.bookofhope.net.

Center Of Ministry To Muslims

In the early 1980s the concept of ministering to Muslims was new. Christians in the United States knew very little about Islam or its followers.

But as this unreached people group grew to almost 900 million, a burden to reach Muslims with the gospel began to burn in the hearts of Executive Committee members. They sought God for direction, and as a result the Center for Ministry to Muslims (CMM) was established.

Since its beginning, CMM's main focus has been to mobilize a force whose primary involvement is intercessory prayer for Muslims around the world. This prayer force, which today numbers 30,000 people in 94 nations, is known as the Jumaa Prayer Fellowship. *Jumaa* is the Arabic word for Friday, the day for community prayer in the Muslim world.

To keep its prayer force informed of news and specific prayer needs within the Islamic world, CMM publishes *Intercede*, a bimonthly news and prayer letter distributed in 80 countries.

As a second priority, CMM is dedicated to mobilizing and training national pastors, leaders and workers of the Assemblies of God worldwide. In the past several years, training and awareness seminars have been conducted in 80 countries on six continents. More than 27,000 pastors and workers have attended these seminars. CMM personnel also have taught courses on Islamic studies in Assemblies of God Bible colleges in many countries.

Another focus of CMM is to help Christians in the United States become aware of Islam and its basic beliefs. CMM has helped thousands of people learn how to reach out to Muslims with the message of the gospel by establishing a foundation of friendship and trust. This informa-

tion is available in several CMM booklets — *Sharing Your Faith with Muslims*, *Reach Out in Friendship*, *What Christians Need to Know About Muslims*, and *Journey to Understanding*.

CMM also publishes *Noor Ul Haq* (The Light of Truth), a bilingual publication in English and Arabic that presents the gospel in a contextualized way to Muslims. Currently, *Noor Ul Haq* is distributed quarterly in 106 countries.

CMM provides training for all Assemblies of God missionary candidates who plan to minister in nations with large Muslim populations. In cooperation with Assemblies of God Theological Seminary in Springfield, Missouri, CMM offers a graduate-level training session each year.

The vast number of ministry outreaches that involve CMM continues to expand as new methods and opportunities for reaching the world of Islam with the gospel become known.

For more information about Center for Ministry to Muslims and/or samples of CMM publications, contact Center for Ministry to Muslims, 2032 E. Kearney, Suite 205, Springfield, MO 65803. Ph: 417-866-3313; Fax: 417-866-3733; Web site: www.cmmequip.org.

Global Teen Challenge

The problem of addiction confounds government authorities and confuses and destroys families throughout the world. Through the ministry of dedicated personnel in 241 centers, Global Teen Challenge is reaching the lost and troubled subculture of addicts. GTC evangelism outreaches present Christ, the Answer to addiction, on streets, gang turfs, red light districts, prisons, dope dens and other dark and dangerous places that even police often avoid. This Christ-centered, faith-based program is often the only place many addicts can be permanently changed. GTC missionaries train national workers to confront the hopelessness of addiction and other life-controlling problems with bold evangelism efforts and the compassion of Christ.

For more information contact Global Teen Challenge, PO Box 890, Locust Grove, VA 22508. Ph: 540-972-8223; E-mail: gtc@globaltc.org or www.globaltc.org.

Global University

Global University, established in 1967, is a world missions outreach dedicated to taking the gospel to all nations and making disciples who in turn will disciple and train others. From its international headquarters in Springfield, Missouri, Global University serves a network of more than 207 regional and national offices worldwide. Its purpose is to develop and distribute curriculum for evangelism, discipleship, outreach to the illiterate, and accredited Bachelor of Arts and graduate study programs for training ministers.

More than 616,000 nondegree students and 6,759 college-level students in more than 160 nations currently are enrolled in Global University courses. They study in a variety of settings: by correspondence, small group studies, church learning centers or resident Bible schools.

Since 1967 more than 1.8 million students have testified of receiving Jesus Christ as Savior as a result of studying with Global University. Global University materials are effective tools for missionary extension outreach and Bible training. The ministry also offers Bible study courses in 152 languages, providing materials in print, audio, video and interactive media. It is accredited by the Accrediting Commission of the Distance Education and Training Council in the United States.

Global University financial support comes from missions-minded individuals and churches that give offerings and monthly pledges.

For more information contact Global University, 1211 South Glenstone, Springfield, MO 65804. Ph: 1-800 443-1083; E-mail: info@globaluniversity.edu or www.globaluniversity.edu.

Healthcare Ministries

HealthCare Ministries (HCM) is the worldwide medical ministry of Assemblies of God World Missions. It provides a channel for medical professionals in Assemblies of God churches to serve as lay evangelists as well as health workers in a Pentecostal ministry. At the request of missionaries and national church leaders, HCM teams hold 1- and 2-week clinics in areas with burgeoning health needs caused by poverty, population increase, war, famine, drought or natural disasters.

HealthCare Ministries assists world missions outreach in these ways:

Provides opportunities for professional health providers to make short-term medical ministry trips to needy countries. This ministry offers many opportunities to win people to Jesus one by one.

Provides opportunities for nonmedical people to participate on HCM teams, demonstrating compassion and sharing Christ with hurting, suffering multitudes.

Offers disaster relief assistance when called upon and when medical/financial resources are available.

Services the health education needs and conducts medical clinic ministries for the national church. Promotes health and disease prevention.

Offers resource information for locating medicines and medical supplies.

Provides the missionary family with health orientation, counseling, medical advice and physician referrals.

Develops specialized health-related literature courses for use in Assemblies of God Bible schools overseas.

Assists Assemblies of God World Missions in selecting and placing health professionals in overseas assignments.

HCM has sent 309 teams, composed of 3,662 team members, to 82 countries where they have ministered to more than 304,000 people. In addition to their ministry of medicine and love, team members have prayed the sinner's prayer with 72,973 of those treated.

To receive information on how to volunteer for HCM teams, receive information updates and periodic health-related bulletins, obtain a schedule of upcoming missions trips or pray for this worldwide ministry, contact. HealthCare Ministries, 521 West Lynn Street, Springfield, MO 65802. Ph (417) 866-6311; Web site: www.healthcareministries.org.

Life Publishers

Life Publishers, the foreign-language literature arm of Assemblies of God World Missions, offers a publishing service to all missionaries. One of the world's largest distributors of gospel materials in foreign languages, Life Publishers prints evangelistic tracts, Sunday School materials and textbooks for ministerial and leadership training.

For more than 50 years, Life Publishers has been an international supplier of Bibles and Bible portions. Scriptures are supplied in many languages, including Russian, Chinese, Spanish, French, Portuguese and many more. The *Life in the Spirit Study Bible* (also called the *Fire Bible*) is a major focus for Life Publishers and is now available in over a dozen languages, with 24 more language projects in progress.

Life Publishers is committed to a worldwide ministry of publishing and distributing the gospel through literature, opening many doors for missions outreach.

For more information, write Life Publishers, 1400 North Campbell, Springfield, MO 65802. Ph (888) 776-2425 or (417) 831-7766; E-mail: Life@xc.org.

Missions Awareness Team Ministries

Following a directive of the World Missions Executive Committee in 1990, missions leaders appealed to local Assemblies of God churches to increase their involvement in missions. As a result, a Missions Convention Task Force was formed to give assistance to churches that responded.

In 1999, the task force broadened its purpose to include: 1) missions conventions, 2) Missions Sunday programs, 3) frequent missionary visits, and 4) well-organized missions committees. To communicate its vision more clearly, the name was changed to the Missions Awareness Team.

The Missions Awareness Team is part of the AGWM U.S. Relations Department and serves both as a ministry and service agency. The team is composed of missionaries and others with a knowledge of and burden for missions. The national coordinator and regional representatives work with district missions directors in identifying churches needing assistance.

The national Missions Awareness Team includes four concentrations: 1) Prayer Task Force, 2) colleges and universities, 3) audiovisual assistance and 4) building missions awareness in local congregations.

Prayer Task Force

Each year Prayer Task Force teams, under the supervision of a task force representative, travel to other nations. Their purpose is to offer support to missionaries and missions efforts in a particular location through prayer and fasting and to assist in evangelism efforts.

Team members must be mature, dedicated Christians and at least 16 years old. Individuals and couples are welcome. Teams are composed of national or district leaders, ministers and laity. Men's and Women's Ministries groups, churches and Light for the Lost teams often participate in Prayer Task Force teams.

Teams are needed to work with missionaries in countries or areas where new doors of opportunity have opened for evangelism or where resistance to the gospel has made ministry difficult.

Any individual or group desiring to participate in a Prayer Task Force team should contact the Missions Awareness Team office, 1445 Boonville, Springfield, MO 65802-1894, or call 417-862-2781, extension 2050.

Colleges And Universities

Few Christian students attending secular colleges or universities are confronted with the challenge of missions. The Missions Awareness Team endeavors to recruit students as partners for world evangelization. A Missions Awareness Team representative directs his attention to Assemblies of God colleges and universities as well as secular universities through the local Chi Alpha ministry.

For more information, call the Missions Awareness Team office.

Audiovisual Assistance

Many churches are securing more advanced audiovisual technology. The Missions Awareness Team offers assistance in the best ways to use this equipment to promote missions. For more information about this service, call the Missions Awareness Team office.

Building Missions Awareness

The challenge of keeping missions at the forefront of more than 12,000 Assemblies of God congregations is continuous. This is underscored by statistics from a recent church and minister's report.

- Only 21 percent of all Assemblies of God churches conducted a missions convention. That means more than 8,000 churches did not have a convention.
- 2,300 Assemblies of God churches gave nothing to world missions.
- Half of the world missions income came from 4.3 percent of U.S. Assemblies of God churches.
- 42 percent of churches did not have a missionary speaker during the year.

The Missions Awareness Team is committed to assisting local pastors in making their congregations a force for world evangelization. Some of the methods are to...

1. Promote missions at all levels.
2. Help churches plan and establish a missions budget and implement the faith promise giving concept.
3. Assist churches in planning and conducting missions conventions.
4. Promote the faith promise plan of giving. Based on reports from local churches, annual missions giving usually more than doubles after a first-time missions convention where faith promises are received.
5. Enlist prayer partners.
6. Broaden church participation. The Missions Awareness Team endeavors to increase the percentage of churches having annual missions conventions, bringing greater balance in the overall missions support from Assemblies of God churches.
7. Educate people in local churches about missions.
8. Provide workers for the harvest. As the Missions Awareness Team involves more people in world missions opportunities, the Holy Spirit will speak to hearts and call more missionary candidates to meet missionary personnel needs.

The national Missions Awareness Team office also is responsible for providing tools to help local churches build successful missions outreaches. These include...

1. Convention in a Box - This box contains everything needed to conduct a missions convention in an average-size Assemblies of God church. It is available free of charge for any church that has never conducted a convention or has not done so for at least three years. A firm convention date must be set before the box will be sent.
2. Convention Planner — This handy pocket planner provides the pastor or missions committee chairman with a resource to record the activities schedule and details pertaining to the missions convention.
3. *Proven Missions Convention Ideas* - This manual of ideas will help add variety in promoting missions in the local church and formatting a missions convention.
4. *The Blueprint... Building Missions Support* – A step-by-step manual to lead the pastor and local church leadership in planning and conducting an annual missions convention.
5. *The Blueprint... Building Missions Vision Month by Month* – A workbook to assist leadership in planning successful presentations for Missions Sunday. Many ways are given to keep missions before the local congregation.
6. *The Blueprint... Building Missions Leadership* – (this manual)

PART 3

Financial Helps Programs

Two major programs have been established by Assemblies of God World Missions to assist missionaries with specific financial needs. These programs provide opportunity for people to be involved in various methods of evangelizing the world. The widespread interest in and support of these programs is indicative of a strong missionary vision that exists among Assemblies of God constituents. Churches and individuals participating in these programs provide a continual source of prayer and financial support, further advancing the cause of missions. The programs are Senders Fund and AG Relief.

The Media Advancement area of Assemblies of God World Missions regularly appeals to churches and individuals for monthly commitment and special offerings for these programs.

Senders Fund

Offerings to Senders Fund are used to assist first-term missionary candidates who are having difficulty raising their necessary support or who may be needed on the field more quickly.

Most candidate missionaries begin itineration with their support account in overdraft due to travel expenses to Springfield, Missouri, for interviews, Candidate School and School of Missions, and the cost of medical examinations and other initial expenses. Funds raised during a candidate's first few months of itineration may serve only to clear the overdraft in his or her account. At that point the candidate can accrue cash and pledges toward gaining clearance for the field.

Some candidate missionaries may need to get to the field sooner than the average itineration time of 15 months due to serious needs for missionary personnel to fill vacancies created by retirement, transfer or emergency needs on the field.

AG Relief

The fourth pillar on which Assemblies of God World Missions is built is Touching — showing compassion for suffering people in a manner representing the love of Jesus Christ.

When a disaster occurs, AG Relief funds are disbursed to the field, upon approval by the corresponding regional director. Once the funds are disbursed to the field, the area director ensures that they are used effectively to provide assistance for suffering people.

If funds are available in the AG Relief account, they can be disbursed immediately. If funds are not available, an appeal is made to Assemblies of God churches and individuals to send contributions to help meet the need.

Through this demonstration of the compassion and love of Jesus Christ, Assemblies of God missionaries have seen many people accept Christ as Savior. In some nations these relief efforts have influenced government leaders and brought about more opportunities for Assemblies of God outreach.

Assemblies Of God Foundation

As a partner in ministry with Assemblies Of God World Missions, the Assemblies of God Foundation serves to help build missionary support through the use of biblical stewardship plans and programs.

In 1993 the Assemblies of God Foundation, Inc., was formed, combining the former Deferred Giving and Trusts and Stewardship Departments of the General Council of the Assemblies of God.

The mission of the Foundation is to meet the stewardship, estate planning and planned giving needs of the Fellowship and help Assemblies of God ministries develop their financial resources. To accomplish this, the Foundation makes estate planning and planned giving services available through the Unified Stewardship Program.

Planned Giving

Options That Provide Money For Missions And Ministries

The Foundation provides professional counsel in vital areas of personal stewardship through group sessions and personal interviews. In the “Keys to Tomorrow” personal stewardship planning seminars and interview sessions, constituents learn how to increase their current income return while also increasing their gift potential, reduce probate and administration costs, and plan gifts to take advantage of tax deductions.

Individuals can include gifts to world missions through unitrusts and annuity trusts, revocable and irrevocable living trusts, gift annuities and deferred payment gift annuities, pooled income funds, gifts of remainder interests, endowments, wills, and other immediate and deferred gift plans.

Churches and ministries sponsor “Keys to Tomorrow” seminars to provide constituents the opportunity to have personal interview sessions with Foundation representatives to discuss their specific estate planning needs.

For more information available through the Foundation, request a sample of the Personal Stewardship Planning Packet by writing to Assemblies of God Foundation, 1600 N. Boonville Avenue, Springfield, MO 65803, or call (417) 865-4880.

PART 4

The Role of District World Missions Personnel

District World Missions Director

The district missions director (DMD) may be elected or appointed, according to the policy of the district. * Frequently, the missions director is given a dual portfolio, including responsibility for both world and U. S. missions activities within the district.

Responsibilities of the DMD include these:

1. Serving as liaison between the district and Assemblies of God World Missions. In this capacity he or she will attend national and regional meetings each year.
2. Serving as chairman of the district missions committee. This committee receives and reviews applications and interviews prospective candidate missionaries.
3. Coordinating and implementing missions activities at
 - a. District schools of missions
 - b. District councils
 - c. District/sectional missions tours
 - d. Ministers retreats
 - e. Camps
4. Setting up missionary itineraries. The DMD works closely with sectional missions representatives to accomplish this. Visiting missionaries from other districts should clear their itineraries through the DMD. This coordination and rotation of itineration activity helps give missionaries equal itineration time.
5. Monitoring the itineration activities of missionaries, including their arrival and projected departure dates. The DMD can provide information regarding a missionary's schedule and/or financial needs. Upon a missionary's change of status or retirement, the DMD sends a letter to donor churches informing them of this change and including recommendations of how they can redirect their support. This letter follows a communication sent by Assemblies of God World Missions.
6. Providing missions education materials and information to sectional missions representatives and local churches.
7. Serving as a speaker during missions services or conventions.
8. Submitting missions information to the district newsletter.

**District policies vary. Contact your district office to learn what the policy is.*

District Missions Committee

The DMD chairs the district missions committee. Members of the committee may include other district personnel, sectional world missions representatives, pastors and laity.

The role of the district missions committee is to provide sectional world missions representatives and local churches with information, guidance and help in planning, promoting and supporting world missions ministries.

In some districts, the committee hosts district-wide world missions tours or missions conventions. The committee may be responsible for approving candidates from the district who have made application to Assemblies of God World Missions for missionary appointment.

Sectional World Missions Representative

The sectional world missions representative is a key link in world evangelism, acting as liaison between the DMD, the missionary and the local church.

This position may be held by a pastor or approved minister in the section. The representative's duties include these:

1. Assisting the DMD, when called upon, to secure information or schedule missionary services in the section.
2. Assisting and promoting all sectional world missions functions.
3. Assisting local churches within the section with missions committee activities, banquets, services and speakers as needed.
4. Acting as a world missions resource person for the section's churches regarding materials and supplies offered by Assemblies of God World Missions.
5. Attending district missions activities such as district councils, banquets, workshops or meetings of sectional world missions representatives called by the DMD.
6. Exercising initiative in raising world evangelism consciousness in the section.
7. Reminding pastors of the section and missionaries itinerating in the section of district policies and procedures that relate to them.
8. Promoting missions conventions in local churches.

PART 5

A History of Assemblies of God World Missions

By Joyce Wells Booze

The move of God's Spirit that swept through America at the beginning of the 20th century brought an increased missions interest. The promise of Jesus' soon return was burned into men's hearts by the Holy Spirit. They were filled with an urgency to take the message of salvation to the lost while there was still time for repentance and conversion.

In January 1901 in Topeka, Kansas, the modern Pentecostal movement began. Many Bible school students were baptized in the Holy Spirit and spoke in other tongues as the first Christians did on the Day of Pentecost. This movement of the Holy Spirit was a revival of the doctrines, religious experiences, practices and priorities of the early apostolic church.

From the beginning the Pentecostal movement brought a deep burden for world evangelization. The command of Jesus in Matthew 28:18-20 and Mark 16:15-18 became an imperative call.

When the General Council of the Assemblies of God was founded in 1914, the list of recognized ministers contained the names of 32 missionaries. Some were present in the meetings, and some had written from the field asking to be included in any roll of membership.

The newly formed General Council of the Assemblies of God was intensely missionary. At that Council, those present chose a missionary presbytery consisting of 12 elders to "serve our foreign missionaries."

Most of the early missionaries went out at great personal sacrifice. Usually they had little more than a suitcase for equipment and no guaranteed method of support.

The Early Years

Early in the 20th century, China and India were the countries of greatest missionary emphasis. Perhaps their huge populations seemed to present the most urgent needs. But missionaries also went to Central and South America, Africa, the Middle East and to some areas of Asia.

Scores of these pioneer missionaries literally gave up everything. Many went, trusting God for their support. Others depended on their home churches, families and friends for help. Support was often erratic, and some were forced to come home. Only a strong trust in God enabled many others to stay on the field.

At the second General Council, conducted in Chicago in November 1914, the vision for Assemblies of God missions was cast when the delegates unanimously approved a resolution, which said in part, "We commit ourselves and the movement to Him for the greatest evangelism the world has ever seen."

At the General Council in 1916, more men and women were added to the missionary roster. During that year nearly \$5,000 was received by the Assemblies of God headquarters to support world missions. By the 1919 Council, missionary giving had reached \$63,000. A minister present at that Council wrote, "When

these figures were read, the entire audience rose to praise God for His gracious provision." At the seventh Council in 1919, the Assemblies of God voted to establish a missions department to direct and coordinate all missionary interests of the General Council. J.R. Flower was selected as the first secretary and treasurer for this new department.

The 1920s and 1930s

During the 1920s the revival that had brought the Assemblies of God into being continued to spread around the world. By 1921 this 7-year-old group had a total of 230 missionaries serving under appointment. Furthermore, the leaders of the group envisioned a “worldwide fellowship of Pentecostal believers” and voted in their 1921 Council to adopt steps toward this goal.

From the time the Assemblies of God was formed until 1925, J. R. Flower was in the forefront of the denomination’s missionary effort. His *Christian Evangel* (now *Today’s Pentecostal Evangel*) was one of the papers that issued the call to Pentecostals to attend the organizational meeting in 1914.

Brother Flower was farsighted in his leadership. He was an early advocate of training nationals and establishing indigenous churches abroad. He also stressed the concept that missionaries should give priority to preaching the gospel.

This continued emphasis on evangelism and church planting is one of the reasons the Assemblies of God overseas church experiences substantial growth. Some other evangelical groups whose missionary forces are much larger than ours have smaller growth rates. The course set by our early leaders has proven to be an effective strategy for world evangelization.

To develop indigenous national churches, pioneers of missions recognized the need for trained leadership. By the mid--1920s they had established Bible schools in China, India, Japan, Egypt and Liberia. This emphasis on training nationals has continued. For the last few decades the Assemblies of God has been the leader among all evangelical missions in the number of overseas Bible schools.

In 1921 Brother Flower also proposed to establish a budget for each missionary. This would make a more equitable division of funds and assure that each missionary’s basic needs were met. At that time it was decided that \$40 a month was needed to support each missionary, plus \$20 for each missionary child. During this time missionaries did not average receiving \$40 a month, but somehow God met their needs.

The period of 1925-1929 brought several changes in leadership. In 1925 W.M. Faux was appointed missionary secretary-treasurer, serving with W.T. Gaston, chairman of the General Council. Noel Perkin, who had come to Springfield in 1926 to be a bookkeeper for the missions effort, became missionary secretary-treasurer in 1927. He served more than 30 years and become known throughout the Pentecostal fellowship as “Mr. Missions.”

Various programs were established to support and enlarge the world missions outreach of the Assemblies of God. Missionary H.C. Ball, working among Spanish-speaking people along the Mexico border, translated Pentecostal literature into Spanish. Today Life Publishers, the foreign-language publishing arm of Assemblies of God World Missions for more than 50 years, offers publishing services to missionaries. Life Publishers has translated and produced materials in 64 languages.

In 1930 a prayer program was initiated that enrolled at least 10,000 missions prayer partners. This band of intercessors was a sustaining force to the Assemblies of God missions program during the Great Depression. By 1939 the Assemblies of God had 380 missionaries serving in 45 nations.

The 1940s and 1950s

During the early 1940s, World War II stopped missionary work in some areas for several years. Uncertain travel and communications affected all missionaries. Noel Perkin, executive director of Assemblies of God World Missions, wrote, "Prayer is our only resource. We do not know what hardships they (our missionaries) are enduring in this time of darkness." Brother Perkin called for united prayer of the Assemblies of God constituency for four major missions needs: (1) that supply lines be maintained to missionaries serving in Africa, India, China and the South Pacific; (2) that divine strength, grace and endurance be given to missionaries in prison camps; (3) that missionary work be unhindered in new fields opening in Central and South America; and (4) that a reserve fund be built up to meet the emergency needs of missionaries in the war areas and to be available for missions advance when the war ended.

Following World War II, a burst of missions activity carried missionaries to many new fields. Missionaries returned to China and Asia Pacific countries. However, in less than three years the Christian church in China was outlawed, and many Christians were persecuted for their faith.

It became increasingly apparent that the missionary outreach of the Assemblies of God was too extensive to be supervised by the world missions secretary and his assistant. Regional directors were appointed for the major areas of the world. Today this policy continues, and regional directors oversee missions efforts in Africa, Asia Pacific, Eurasia, Europe, Latin America and Northern Asia.

In the late 1950s a need became apparent for funds to assist missionaries in evangelism outreaches. Also, missionaries burdened for unevangelized areas needed help to reach great blocs of people with the gospel. To meet this need for an increased evangelistic thrust, Global Conquest was initiated.

The first mass evangelism meeting sponsored by Global Conquest was held in Seoul, South Korea. (The name Global Conquest was later changed to Good News Crusades.) Today Good News Crusades for evangelism and church planting are held in almost every country where we have missionaries. Funds raised for Good News Crusades help pay for renting auditoriums or stadiums in large cities or for the purchase of tents to use in other areas.

1960 and 1970s

During these decades the problems of American life tended to turn the efforts of much of the U.S. church to domestic affairs. However, the Assemblies of God continued its missions outreach around the world.

In the 1960s, the national Assemblies of God churches with which our missionaries worked tripled in membership, and by the end of the 1970s the worldwide membership was doubling every five years. This accelerated growth placed the Assemblies of God overseas church in the forefront of evangelical missions.

The '60s and '70s brought changes in national governments, and missions activities in some countries had to be altered to comply with varied regulations. But the Holy Spirit enabled missionaries to make these adjustments and transmit methods of ministry to the national church, prompting local churches to continue to grow.

In almost every country where Assemblies of God missionaries work, they have opened Bible schools in the languages of the people. During the '60s and '70s, the rising educational

level in many nations made the necessity of advanced schools evident. Advanced schools were opened in every major area of the world. Extension programs also became part of meeting the increased need for training national ministers.

As more countries welcomed missionaries and more missionaries prepared for service, regional directors were increasingly inundated by administrative tasks. To lighten their load and give more assistance to missionary families on the field, experienced missionaries of proven ability were chosen to become area directors. Each area director was given oversight of all Assemblies of God missionaries serving in a certain group of countries within a specific area of the world.

As the '70s closed, the world missions program continued to gain momentum. Gifts to world missions in 1979 totaled \$34,553,995. The number of overseas members and adherents approached 10 million. Missionaries were working on 105 nations. There were nearly 75,000 national ministers and 100,000 outstations and preaching points.

1980s and 1990s

Americans moved into the '80s caught in a paradox. While they enjoyed the world's highest standard of living, they saw their lifestyle become increasingly threatened by inflation, energy shortages, environmental hazards and the possibility of war.

In spite of the nation's problems, a renewed outpouring of the Holy Spirit began reaching into many mainline denominations that rejected the first outpouring at the turn of the century. It brought a spirit of brotherly love and an increase in missions interest. Among the Assemblies of God, a burden to get the gospel to the billions who have never had the opportunity to know Jesus Christ as Savior accelerated the missions outreach.

In the '80s Assemblies of God World Missions began stepping up its outreach to Muslims. Islam is one of the great challenges to Christian missions. In 57 nations of the world, a majority of the people are adherents of Islam. Assemblies of God missions leaders and missionaries began to recognize that conventional methods of evangelism, such as open-air crusades or street witnessing, would not be effective in Muslim countries even if they were allowed. A Muslim who becomes a Christian is immediately ostracized by his family. Therefore, his response to the claims of Christ is more likely to be positive if he can consider the gospel in the privacy of his home or among understanding friends.

In the early '80s the Center of Ministry to Muslims (CMM), a ministry of Assemblies of God World Missions, was established to train and assist missionaries who live and minister among Muslims. In addition, a nationwide prayer program was launched in the United States, recruiting thousands of prayer partners to pray and fast for the conversion of Muslims to Christ.

With the technological advances of this period, world missions leaders saw the need to coordinate and enhance the outreach of the gospel through media. Since 1981, International Media Ministries (IMM) with offices now in Madrid, Spain, has brought considerable progress to the outreach of the gospel through radio, television and other media. IMM assists missionaries and national churches with the production of gospel media tools and the training of national media workers.

In 1985 Asia Pacific missions leaders recognized that with more than one half of the entire population living in this part of the world, conventional methods of planting and harvesting were inadequate. Therefore, they began the gospel media outreach called Asia Pacific 2000

with the goal of evangelizing the lost and nurturing believers throughout Asia.

The need for ministries of compassion, which had been provided by the Assemblies of God for many years, became even more urgent on many mission fields. Concerned churches and individuals in the United States reached out to help the hurting, hungry and suffering multitudes through Assemblies of God Relief. HealthCare Ministries was founded to provide medical assistance wherever needed through the disbursement of teams of Christian medical professionals.

In the late '80s Assemblies of God leaders and believers began to experience a great urgency for completing the task of the Great Commission. This sense of urgency brought together Assemblies of God fellowships from around the world in a joint effort called the Decade of Harvest. Churches and church leaders from many nations responded by setting Decade of Harvest goals.

This Decade of Harvest response and participation from countries around the world led to the founding of the World Assemblies of God Fellowship in 1988 by J. Philip Hogan. Hogan, a former missionary to China, was world missions executive director from 1959-1989. He also served as chairman of the World Assemblies of God Fellowship until 1992 when Dr. David Yonggi Cho, pastor of Yoido Full Gospel Church in Seoul, South Korea, was elected. Upon J. Philip Hogan's retirement as executive director of Assemblies of God World Missions, Loren Triplett was elected to that position and served from 1990 to 1997.

In October 1994 the World Assemblies of God Fellowship met in Seoul, South Korea for the 80th anniversary celebration of the founding of the Assemblies of God and a mid-decade meeting of the Decade of Harvest. More than 1 million people and 94 Assemblies of God general superintendents gathered in Seoul for the first World Assemblies of God Congress. This five-day meeting culminated with the largest prayer meeting ever conducted and was referred to by Reverend Thomas E. Trask, U.S. Assemblies of God general superintendent, to be "unashamedly Pentecostal" and "as historic as the 1914 Hot Springs meeting that founded the Assemblies of God."

During a meeting of the executive officers of the World Assemblies of God Fellowship in Seoul, the World Assemblies of God Relief and Development Agency (WAGRA) was formed to respond to needs for compassion ministries around the world.

"The World Assemblies of God is a caring, loving and supportive fellowship," said Dr. Prince Guneratnam, general superintendent of the Malaysia Assemblies of God. "Whether the need is for finance or time, the worldwide Assemblies of God will rally together, not only to preach the gospel but also to meet human needs."

2000s

The Decade of Harvest ushered in a wave of unprecedented growth for Assemblies of God World Missions, as indicated by this chart.

Assemblies of God World Missions Growth

	1990 Report	2000 Report
Missionaries	1,588	1,814
Countries	121	162
Members and Adherents	16,414,392	32,002,437
Churches and Outstations	117,115	200,467
National Ministers	111,074	199,217
Bible Schools and Extensions	330	1,777
Bible School Enrollment	33,244	86,332
Total Giving to World Missions	\$86,686,018	\$147,215,568

John Bueno, elected as executive director of Assemblies of God World Missions in 1997, has led the missionary outreach into the 21st century. In 2003 Doctor René Girdler from Crestwood, Kentucky, was elected as the first woman to serve on the World Missions Board. In 2005 Dr. JoAnn Butrin became director of International Service Ministries and the only woman to serve as a member of the World Missions Executive Committee.

Growth continues unabated. In the 2004 annual report, John Bueno wrote, “This year the Assemblies of God exceeded two milestones. More than 250,000 congregations now meet throughout the world in 211 nations and territories that comprise the World Assemblies of God Fellowship. And more than 50 million believers gather in those churches each Lord’s Day.” During 2001 and 2002, the Assemblies of God grew by an average of 34 new churches daily. During that same time, church membership grew at a rate of seven per minute!

The greatest evangelism the world has ever seen—that was the primary goal of the first missions leaders of the Assemblies of God. It is still the heart cry of Assemblies of God World Missions today.

The world missions efforts of our founding leaders and early-day missionaries remain, forming the foundation upon which today’s better-equipped, better-supported and better-trained missionaries now build. The fierce dedication to world evangelization of those missionary pioneers lives on in the missionary spirit. This missionary spirit continues to be a major driving force in the Assemblies of God.

(For a more complete history of Assemblies of God World Missions, write and request a copy of *Into All the World: A History of Assemblies of God Foreign Missions*.)

Current Statistics of Assemblies of God World Missions

Africa

Countries – 48
Missionaries – 293
Missionary Associates – 66
Credentialed and Lay Ministers – 32,002
Churches and Preaching Points – 36,793
Members and Adherents – 11,287,513

Asia Pacific

Countries – 32
Missionaries – 270
Missionary Associates – 80
Credentialed and Lay Ministers – 18,664
Churches and Preaching Points – 20,299
Members and Adherents – 3,804,884

Eurasia

Countries – 45
Missionaries – 307
Missionary Associates – 75
Credentialed and Lay Ministers – 13,329
Churches and Preaching Points – 12,167
Members and Adherents – 1,537,205

Europe

Countries - 33
Missionaries – 327
Missionary Associates – 122
Credentialed and Lay Ministers – 16,419
Churches and Preaching Points – 10,942
Members and Adherents – 2,163,812

Latin America

Countries – 37
Missionaries – 455
Missionary Associates – 143
Credentialed and Lay Ministers – 154,204
Churches and Preaching Points – 168,738
Members and Adherents – 23,051,802

Northern Asia

Statistics are not published for this region for security reasons.

SECTION 3

Missionaries

Missionaries make it possible for a believer to partner in the redemption of lost souls around the world without leaving his or her own city.

Dear friend, you are doing a good work for God in taking care of the traveling teachers and missionaries who are passing through... For they are traveling for the Lord, and take neither food, clothing, shelter, nor money from those who are not Christians, even though they have preached to them. So we ourselves should take care of them in order that we may become partners with them in the Lord's work.

3 John 5,7-8, *TLB*

PART 1

How Are Assemblies of God Missionaries Supported?

What System of Support is Used?

“It seems such a shame for missionaries to spend four years overseas and then be forced, upon their return to the United States, to spend a full year visiting scores of churches to raise support for their next term. There must be a better way.”

This objection is voiced frequently by pastors and laity. It is a reasonable observation and deserves a reasonable answer.

Three methods are commonly employed for missionary support.

- The independent faith system leaves every missionary to raise what he or she can with no guarantees. Donors send their support directly to the missionary, leaving the missionary with no assurance of a stable income.
- The budgeted system involves churches sending their undesignated offerings to their denomination’s national office. These funds are then divided among the missionaries and projects according to the budget established by the missions organization. This system is impersonal and relieves the average church member from any sense of individual responsibility.
- The itineration method of raising missionary support is a modified system, a combination of faith and budget. It is used by Assemblies of God World Missions and requires missionaries to travel among U.S. Assemblies of God churches to raise their financial and prayer support. Monthly offerings are sent to the national office, designated by the donor for specific missionaries and their projects.

Assemblies of God World Missions requires that all missionaries raise their own support. No one is supported through subsidies, since such funds are nonexistent.

Why Use The Itineration System?

In recent years, other missions-sending organizations have changed from the faith system to the budgeted system. Without exception, they have seen erosion in missions giving. At the same time, missions giving continues to increase for Assemblies of God World Missions.

Missionary Itineration

Effective missionaries do not work independently in foreign lands. They are sent by churches that share in the burden, the work and the rewards. The sent and the senders must answer the call of the same Master, even though their direction of ministry may be different.

Itinerating missionaries travel from church to church on a regular schedule to promote missions and raise their prayer and financial support. Itineration is vital for a successful four-year term of world missionary ministry and requires about one out of every five years of service.

All Assemblies of God missionaries and their ministries are financially dependent on commitments of monthly support from churches and individual donors. Each itinerating missionary is given a supply of commitment forms by the U.S. Relations Department. Each donor or church is asked to complete a form and send it to Assemblies of God World Missions.

In addition, the missionary is required to raise a cash budget for initial expenses of fare, freight, duty, equipment and language study. The cash budget is raised by missions offerings from churches, contributions from individual donors and accumulated support from incoming commitments. Missionaries are not cleared for the field until they have raised their required budget.

World evangelization requires teamwork between the sending church, Assemblies of God World Missions and the missionaries it sends. We must make certain that missionaries are not limited in their ministries because of insufficient prayer and financial support at home.

Benefits To The Local Church

- First, this process gives the average church member the opportunity to obey the Great Commission through financial giving. Those involved become partners in reaching the lost around the world – without ever leaving home.
- Second, missionary itineration broadens the believer’s horizons for service. This can be expressed through Ambassadors in Mission and MAPS. See page 18 for more detailed information.
- Third, the missionary visit to the local church creates an awareness of the lostness of man, further creating urgency for intercessory prayer by the congregation.

Benefits To The Missionary

- First, financial support is stronger because of the personal contact.
- Second, friendships are built that last a lifetime. An occasional letter, card or small gift for Christmas and birthdays is the added touch needed by the missionary who is far from home.
- Third, intercessory prayer is absolutely essential for the success and well-being of the missionary. The strength in knowing that others are supporting him or her in prayer is immeasurable.
- Fourth, missionaries want to report what God has done during their last term on the field. They enjoy giving a “shareholders report.”

PART 2

Advantages of Giving To Missions Through The Local Church

It Sets A Good Example

- New believers need to know the importance of regular missions giving
- Church leaders who give through the local church set the example for others to follow

It Encourages Others To Participate

- Giving to missions through the local church motivates and encourages others to participate

It Helps Us Measure Response To World Need

- It gives a tangible way of charting what a congregation is doing to reach a lost world
- It reveals whether a church is doing its part for world evangelization

It Increases Effectiveness In Stewardship

- Pooling missions resources makes it possible for the congregation to reach goals that are unattainable to individuals
- There is strength in unity

It Shows Confidence In The Leadership And Missions Outreach Of The Church

- Missions leaders prayerfully consider appeals for monthly support and project needs
- They are better informed and therefore able to make better decisions

It Enables The Church To Increase Its Pledges To Missionaries And Add New Missionaries Each Year

Giving To Assemblies Of God World Missions Offers The Best Accountability

- Only 5 percent is deducted for administrative costs
- This means that 95 percent of offerings are spent as designated
- Every missionary must submit detailed reports of all spending
- There is no higher lever of financial accountability

Believers Who Give To Assemblies Of God Missions Can Be Confident Of The Ministry's Integrity

- Operational expenses are kept at a minimum
- Each project is a long-term investment

Believers Can Be Sure Of The Missionaries' Integrity

- To be good stewards, believers must know who they support
- Every missionary is given close scrutiny by Assemblies of God World Missions
“But we beseech you, brethren, to know them who labor among you” (1 Thessalonians 5:12, ASV)

It Is The Simplest, Most Effective Way To Give To Missions

- It is convenient to give missions offerings at a Sunday service
- It encourages consistency and regularity
- It eliminates the possibility of forgetting to mail an offering

It Has Biblical Precedence

“On every Lord’s Day each of you should put aside something from what you have earned during the week, and use it for this offering... Don’t wait until I get there and then try to collect it all at once. When I come I will send your loving gift with a letter to Jerusalem” (1 Corinthians 16:2,3, TLB).

PART 3

How Does The System Work?

- Once a missionary’s country of assignment is determined, a budget is prepared by Assemblies of God World Missions. Each missionary must have sufficient cash and signed commitment forms from local churches and individuals to cover the full budget before clearance will be given to proceed to the field.
- The average candidate budget is about \$5,200 monthly.
- The missionary must raise \$500 in monthly commitments before going on monthly allowance.
- Missionaries visit churches to challenge people for missions, raise necessary cash offerings and seek monthly support. The pastor may share this need with the official board or the missions committee for a decision whether a monthly commitment can be made and in what amount.
- Churches and individual donors send monthly commitments to Assemblies of God World Missions. When sufficient commitments are recorded, the missionary is granted clearance to leave for the field. *Designated offerings sent to Assemblies of God World Missions will be placed in the missionary’s account but will not be recorded as a monthly commitment or counted for clearance unless a commitment form, signed by the local church, has been received by Assemblies of God World Missions.*
- Most missionary candidates require up to 15 months of itineration to complete their budget.
- The candidate missionary will visit an average of 130 churches during itineration.
- The average monthly commitment made to the missionary by the local church is \$53.

Missionary Commitment Forms

Every missionary is given a budget, tailored to the country of his or her assignment and ministry. Clearance to leave for the field cannot be given until the budget is raised.

Verbal commitments to the missionary are not sufficient. All monthly commitments to missionaries should be communicated to Assemblies of God World Missions on the appropriate commitment form. Be sure to complete all of the information on the form. Keep a copy for your files and mail the original commitment form to world missions or give it to the missionary. If you use the long commitment form, simply remove the top part for your files.

When World Missions receives the form, it is posted to both the church's and the missionary's records. The missionary is *not* cleared to go to the field until his or her budget is completely raised according to World Missions records. Monthly commitments should begin immediately rather than waiting for the missionary to go to the field.

When the commitment form is sent to World Missions, it is recorded as a firm monthly support. Once the monthly commitments reach the budget total, the missionary is given clearance to leave for the field.

It is helpful for churches to make their commitments as soon as possible in order to shorten iteration time. Some churches make a commitment to all new missionaries from their district as soon as they are approved.

OUR WORLD MINISTRIES

Mail completed form to:
Assemblies of God World Missions
 1445 North Boonville Avenue
 Springfield, MO 65802-1894
 or you may fax this form to:
(417)862-0085

Church Commitment
 Personal Commitment

Donor's Account Number _____

(Church name and address or individual's name)

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

We promise to invest each month as the Lord enables us \$ _____ for the

(Total Monthly)

support of _____ in ministry to _____

(Missionary) (Region)

Missionary's Account Number _____

PLEASE NOTE: Assemblies of God World Missions require signed commitments to equal the amount of the missionary's budget before the missionary is authorized to leave for the mission field. Please help your missionary get to the field by making the signed commitment form to the above address. Or, you may fax the signed form to the fax number given above. Thank you!

Pastor or individual: _____

Phone number: _____ District: _____ Date: _____

a. Individuals — check if you want a commitment certificate.

Missionary Commitment Certificates

Upon receipt of the signed commitment form, world missions personnel enter the commitment amount to the missionary's support list and send a commitment certificate to the local church. These certificates are meant to be displayed in a prominent place to remind the congregation of their missionary partners and to lift them up in prayer.

Many churches prepare a special area to display the commitment certificates and missionary newsletters. Other churches display the certificates on the sanctuary walls, making it possible for members to go to the certificates and intercede for the missionaries during prayer time.

OUR WORLD MINISTRIES

First Assembly of God
ANYTOWN, USA

hereby pledges to send
\$100 PER MONTH
as the Lord enables to the
Assemblies of God World Missions
for the ministry of

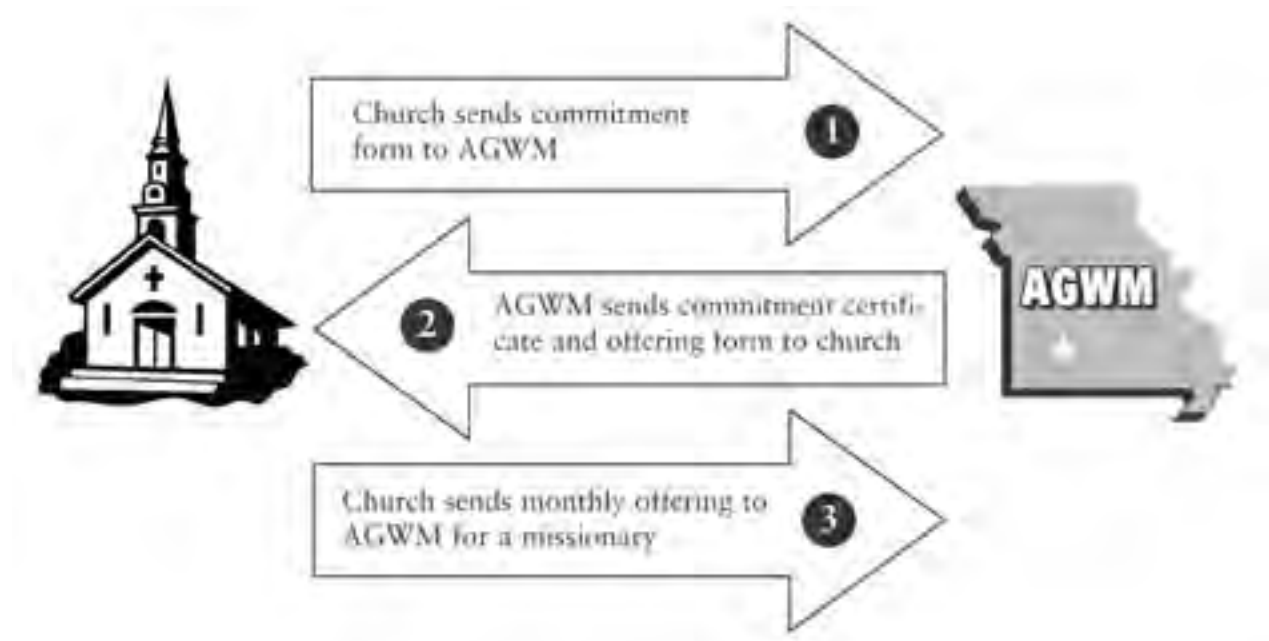
Gilbert & Virginia Contreras
— ARGENTINA —

[Signature]
JOHN M. DAVIS
Pastor

[Signature]
GILBERT & VIRGINIA CONTRERAS
Missionaries


ASSEMBLIES OF GOD WORLD MISSIONS

Sending Missionary Support



Once a commitment is made, an offering form will be sent to the donor. This contains the name, account number and amount of the commitment. The offering should be sent each month, since the missionary depends on that support for his or her livelihood.

Most churches send their missions offerings during the first few days of each month, reflecting the giving of the previous month. Sending the offering on the same date each month makes it easier to remember.

Each month missionaries receive a list of cash receipts, showing the names of all donors, their addresses, the amounts they gave last month and the total given to date for the calendar year.

If possible, enclose the blue-and-white offering form with each month's offering. (See sample at the end of these guidelines.) A new donor sending missions offerings for the first time will not have an offering form. Simply list in a letter each missionary's name, account number (if known), and the amount of the offering for each. Write only one check for the entire amount. A receipt and preprinted offering form with envelope will be sent when the offering is processed.

Church leaders should occasionally review the money being sent to ensure that no missionary has been overlooked. Every effort should be made to maintain each monthly commitment. The missionaries depend on these funds, and replacing lost support while overseas is difficult. To discontinue support for a missionary who has terminated his or her missions appointment, simply mark out the name on the offering form sent by world missions.

When finances are short, consider the options available to you. A missions convention, using the faith promise system, will nearly always generate additional income.

Changes in monthly commitments made on the blue-and-white offering form generally do not reach the world missions office. These forms are processed by the General Council according to standard procedure. Changes in dollar amounts or additional commitments should be communicated to Assemblies of God World Missions on pink pledge forms.

Falling income several months after a missions convention usually is an indication that missions enthusiasm is not being maintained. See the manual from *The Blueprint, Building Missions Vision...Month by Month*, for ideas on maintaining fervor and dedication to missions.

Sometimes missions income declines due to the departure of donors or an economic downturn in a community. Try not to drop a missionary commitment until the missionary has returned home. In the worst case, prorate the available monies among the missionaries the church supports and write to each one, telling them of the problem. The missionaries can then pray about the financial needs of the congregation and will be relieved to know the reason for the change.

PART 4

Where Does The Money Go?

When people hear how much money a missionary must raise, their response is often, “Why do they make so much money? My salary isn’t that much!”

The answer is, they don’t require that much money for their personal support. Instead, the missionary budget is divided into two parts: a personal budget and a work budget that is equal to the annual budget of many churches in the United States.

Each missionary requires cash for transportation to the field and for expenses incurred in setting up a home. The monthly commitment budget covers all of their expenses during their term on the field.

The following chart shows the variety of expenses included in the missionary budget.

	PERSONAL BUDGET	WORK BUDGET
MONTHLY COMMITMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Base salary plus years of service Rent and renter’s insurance Medical fund Minister’s Benefit Pension Fund Social Security assistance Foreign taxes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry & Office expense Telephone / E-mail Security guard Bible school & Field work Regional ministries Auto & Travel expenses Children’s schooling Inflation for four years
CASH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deposits for rent & utilities Security deposit Household: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Furniture Appliances Tableware, linens, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air fares to the field Language school Freight & duty Work equipment Work projects & buildings

Missionaries working on large projects have a third division in their budget to indicate projects for which they are approved to raise funds. Their clearance to return to the field is not dependent upon the completion of these funds.

PART 5

Additional Facts About Monthly Commitments

Answers To Frequently Asked Questions About Monthly Support

Churches and individual donors should start sending their monthly commitments as soon as possible. Missionary candidates receive monthly support as soon as they begin itineration, and veteran missionaries continue to receive support from their account while in the United States.

No monthly commitment should be made for a period of less than five years. This will allow the missionary to complete his or her itineration, serve four years overseas and return to the United States for another year of itineration. Most churches, however, make commitments with the intention of continuing support as long as the missionary is under appointment.

Donors can increase the amount of their commitments by completing a new commitment form. They may also notify Assemblies of God World Missions by letter, fax, e-mail or phone, outlining the change in their commitments. They should reflect the increased amount on their offering form when they send their offering the next month.

If circumstances make it impossible for a church or individual to honor a commitment, they should notify the missionary and Assemblies of God World Missions as soon as possible. World missions will change the records to reflect this.

Church budgets sometimes require reevaluation, and some commitments must be decreased. The church can determine which missionary commitments can be changed with the least amount of detriment to the missionary program by contacting Assemblies of God World Missions and requesting a financial analysis to assist in making decisions that will affect commitment changes. The report places the donor's missionary list in three categories: urgent, moderate or financially stable. Of course, the final decision remains with the donor. If it becomes necessary to decrease a missionary's support, try to make the adjustment while the missionary is in the United States for itineration. This will give him or her the opportunity to replace the lost commitment elsewhere.

Sometimes a church has a surplus of funds in its missions account. Should it increase its giving to all missionaries on its support list or to specific ones? Or should it add missionaries to its support list? Check with Assemblies of God World Missions. Some missionaries may urgently need an increase in monthly support, while others may have adequate support. World missions personnel or the DYD can provide names of missionaries currently needing additional support.

Occasionally local church records are lost. Churches may request a new list of monthly commitments from Assemblies of God World Missions. If a church is missing commitment certificates for missionaries it supports, or if updated certificates are needed, don't despair. Provide world missions with the names of the missionaries for whom you need new certificates and the current amount sent monthly for each missionary.

What happens when a missionary dies? When a missionary dies, a death notice appears in Today's Pentecostal Evangel.

What if a missionary terminates his or her missionary career or retires? When a missionary terminates his or her missionary career or retires, letters are sent to inform donors of the change in status.

If a church or individual donor falls behind in sending monthly commitments, is it possible to check how much has been given? World missions personnel can check this or Contributor Services can provide a complete record of all giving to Assemblies of God ministries.

If a donor cannot make up the shortfall in giving but wishes to continue supporting a missionary, he or she can begin support with the current month and continue from that time forward as the Lord provides.

Cost-of-living Mailing

Each year, usually in October, Assemblies of God World Missions sends a cost-of-living mailing. The purpose of the packet is threefold:

1. To give churches an opportunity to increase their giving to keep pace with global cost-of-living factors.
2. To provide world missions with an up-to-date list of each church's current giving.
3. To allow world missions to remove inactive donor commitments.

The cost-of-living packet not only provides world missions with accurate information, but it also is a convenient response tool.

An annual cost-of-living review of all missionary commitments will keep a church's support current and help missionaries battle ever-increasing budgets due to world inflation.

PART 6

Steps to Becoming a Missionary

Appointed missionaries committed to long-term service are the strength of the Assemblies of God World Missions outreach. Missionaries who live among the people to whom they minister produce the most effective results. They learn the language and culture and identify themselves with the people as "living epistles" of Jesus Christ.

Missionaries must be fully committed to the Lord of the harvest, experienced in the work of ministry, sensitive to know and do His will, flexible to handle the diversities of life overseas and adequately trained to meet the challenges they will face.

Applying For Missionary Service

The first step toward a becoming world missionary is taken by God rather than the potential missionary. That first step is the witness of the Holy Spirit directing a person's life toward world missions. Candidate selection and approval by Assemblies of God World Missions is based on this premise; therefore, the Assemblies of God does not recruit missionaries or serve as a career guidance service.

The second step for the potential missions candidate is to contact the Personnel/Family Life Department of Assemblies of God World Missions. The letter should introduce the applicant, explain his or her call to ministry and outline specific qualifications.

Qualifications

Only ordained ministers and members of the Assemblies of God may be considered for general (AG) world missions service. In most cases, candidate missionaries are expected to have an established relationship with their respective districts before applying for overseas ministry. Those applying for appointed special (AS) are asked to contact their districts to obtain a special ministerial license.

Applicants for the Missionary-in-Training (MIT) program must give evidence of a clear sense of God's direction leading them to world missionary service, declare intentions to become career missionaries and have experience in evangelism. MIT applicants are accepted between ages 21 and 28.

Children

Couples with more than two children are required to demonstrate excellent qualifications for missionary service (equivalent to the specific assignment) in order to justify the added risk and expenditure of time and funds for the family. Couples with more than three children accompanying their parents overseas or with children approaching their teens are not advised to apply for missionary service.

Those eligible for MIT status include singles or married couples with up to one child. Applicants should have an undergraduate degree, preferably in Bible, theology, pastoral ministry or missions. They also may have approved equivalent education in a specific area of training.

Application Phase

If the applicant meets the requirements for world missionary service, the Personnel/Family Life office will contact his or her district office before sending application forms.

In addition to completing the application forms, the applicant must submit a brief autobiography, character references, health history information and educational transcripts. Credit reports are ordered by the Personnel/Family Life office.

The completed application forms are evaluated by the director of Personnel/Family Life and the appropriate regional director (depending on the applicant's area of interest). While the file is evaluated, a formal endorsement is requested from the applicant's district. If the evaluations are favorable and the district gives endorsement, the application process continues.

Once an applicant is approved for processing, questionnaires are sent to the individuals selected as references. The applicant must have a health examination by a medical professional and a personal interview with the director of Personnel/Family Life or another foreign missions representative.

If all indications are favorable, the applicant is invited to the Assemblies of God headquarters in Springfield, Missouri, for further orientation, tests and interviews. He or she also will have a personal interview with the World Missions Executive Committee. At this time the committee will review the application materials, health reports, references and district endorsement. In addition, the committee interviews the applicant regarding specific ministry, personal life, missionary calling and an appropriate field of service.

If the applicant's interview with the Executive Committee is satisfactory, he or she is recommended to the World Missions Board for candidate approval.

The World Missions Board carefully reviews the file of each candidate recommended by the Executive Committee. If the decision of the World Missions Board is positive, the applicant becomes an approved missionary candidate and begins the itineration process. If

the decision is negative, the application is denied and the candidate must reapply to receive further consideration.

Missionary Appointment

Official appointment to world missionary service is granted by the executive director of Assemblies of God World Missions after the candidate has completed his or her budget and immediately prior to the missionary's departure for the field.

Missionary Categories

Career missionaries are classified in one of the following categories: 1) candidate missionary, 2) appointed general, 3) appointed special and 4) missionary-in-training.

- 1) **Candidate Missionary** - (CM): Candidate who is approved by the World Missions Board for career, general missionary appointment (AG) prior to departing for the field.
- 2) **Appointed Missionary** - General (AG): Ordained ministers fully endorsed by their respective districts may be appointed to general missionary work. Those who apply for missionary appointment do so with the full intention of devoting a lifetime to world missions service.
- 3) **Appointed Missionary** - Special (AS): People with specialized vocational skills (printers, linguists, nurses, teachers, etc.) may be appointed to special missionary service at the discretion of the Executive Committee and the World Missions Board. These missionaries are expected to qualify for a specialized license, receive the endorsement of their districts and enter a lifetime of missionary service.
- 4) **Missionary-in-Training** (IT): Missionaries-in-training work under the direct supervision of a veteran missionary. This program is intended to provide crosscultural ministerial experience for young adults who satisfy the educational requirements for missionary service but lack ministerial training. Upon the successful completion of this program, the intern may qualify for both ordination and full missionary appointment.

Other missionary categories include

- 1) **Special Assignment** (SA): Candidates are given assignments of special overseas ministry for up to four years under a signed agreement with world missions and the endorsement of their districts.
- 2) **Wycliffe Bible Translator** (WB): Candidates who are endorsed by the World Missions Board to be part of the agreement between the Assemblies of God World Missions and Wycliffe Bible Translators.
- 3) **Short-Term Minister Abroad** (ST): Ordained ministers who, with world missions and district approval, occasionally travel overseas for ministry for periods of two weeks to six months.
- 4) **Retired Missionary** (RM): Missionaries who are 65 years old and do not plan to continue active missionary service.
- 5) **Short-Term Missionary Associate** (MP): Volunteers who are approved by the director of Personnel/Family Life to assist missionaries on a short-term basis on the mission field.
- 6) **Ministerial List** (ML): Missionaries who decide not to continue or return to active missionary service.

Policy Statement for the Missions Awareness Team in the Local Church

The following section has been prepared as a separate document, designed to assist in the formation of an official Missions Awareness Team.

Purpose

The Missions Awareness Team shall have the general oversight of promoting and coordinating all missions activities within the local congregation. It shall provide missions education, inspiration and motivation. It shall lead the congregation in recognizing the biblical responsibility of every believer to be a participant in fulfilling the Great Commission.

Formation and Relationship

The Missions Awareness Team is authorized by the official church board and is amenable to the pastor and the board.

The pastor will serve as chairman of the Missions Awareness Team or he may, at his choice, assign that responsibility to another team member.

The Missions Awareness Team will be comprised of no less than five or more than seven members. At least one representative from the official board will be included.

The Missions Awareness Team, as necessary, may make committee assignments such as secretary, subcommittee chair, etc.

Selection of Missions Awareness Team Members

The members of the official board will select their representative.

All other members will be nominated by Missions Awareness Team members and ratified by the official board.

Length of Term

Team members should be willing to serve for a period of three years. They may serve additional terms when recommended by the Missions Awareness Team and ratified by the official board.

Qualifications for Missions Awareness Team Members

All team members should meet these qualifications:

- They must be active members in the local assembly.
- They must be faithful in their support of the local church with their finances, cooperation and attendance.
- Age should not be a factor for serving except as it relates to church membership.

- Each Missions Awareness Team member should be willing to devote no less than six to eight hours monthly to prescribed duties.
- They must be of a cooperative spirit, willing to follow as well as lead.
- Each member must manifest a love for the lost. The depth of that love should be confirmed by their dedication to pray for missionaries and their generous monthly faith promise giving. No one should have the privilege of making decisions for the disbursement of missions funds if he or she is not a generous giver to that fund.

Duties of the Missions Awareness Team

Missions Awareness Team members will be responsible to carry out these duties:

- They will attend monthly meetings where they will review missionary correspondence, make note of requests for both financial and prayer assistance and, when appropriate, share these needs with the congregation.
- They will administer all missions funds given to the local church, except those funds given to the departments for their missionary programs (STL, BGMC, etc.).
 1. They will determine which missionaries and projects will be supported and the amounts that will be given.
 2. They must act responsibly in making monthly commitments to missionaries for support, knowing that the missionary must depend on this monthly pledge for his or her complete term of service (usually four years).
 3. They will ensure that missions commitments are disbursed monthly and that an accurate record is kept of all expenditures and receipts of missions funds.
- They will maintain communication with missionaries on the support list.
 1. They will keep a current file on each missionary.
 2. They will keep up to date on the assignment and type of ministry for all missionaries supported, as well as their current status (whether on the field or itinerating).
- They will be responsible for planning and conducting an annual missions convention and receiving faith promises.
- They will plan other special missions emphases as needed.
- They will cooperate with the pastor in the scheduling missionary speakers throughout the year.
- They will be responsible for promoting missions monthly in a morning worship service designated by the pastor.
- They will maintain an active missions bulletin board with current certificates and photographs representing all the missionaries and ministries supported.
- They will assist all groups within the local congregation in promoting their missions emphases. This includes Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade (BGMC), Speed the Light, Light for the Lost and Women's Ministries.
- They will make every effort to attend district- and world missions-sponsored events, such as district missions rallies, world missions Fly-Ins, etc.
- They will assist the pastor, as requested, in any activities that will enhance the spirit of missions within the local congregation.

Available Resources From World Missions

- **ORDERING RESOURCE MATERIALS:** Call (417) 862-3420, extension 2061 or 2071, or toll free, 1 (800) 988-6568. A free catalog is available on request. The catalog can also be viewed online at worldmissions.ag.org by selecting “resources” from the menu. Here you can also find a downloadable order form.

 - **VIDEOS**
 - 1) Theme Video on VHS or DVD (annual)
 - 2) Three videos Two- to Three-Minute Clips
 - Newsbreak – For Adults (English and Spanish included)
 - WorldBeat – For Teens
 - go 360 – For ChildrenSubscription: One video (containing all three segments) is mailed monthly for \$48 per year.

 - **FREE DOWNLOADABLE ITEMS:**
 - 1) World Missions Web site: worldmissions.ag.org
Use the “Quick Navigation” menu to access:
 - A. Commitment Cards (Faith Promise Cards and Commitment Forms)
 - B. Short-term (MAPS) application packet
 - C. World Missions logo art
 - D. World Missions theme art (suitable for a Web page or newsletter)
 - E. World map backgrounds (with colored regions)
 - 2) Missions Awareness Team Web site: mat.forallnations.com
Use the “Manuals” and “For Congregations” buttons to access:
 - A. Into All The World (establishing a missions outreach in the local church)
 - B. Proven Missions Conventions Ideas (ideas for planning a missions convention)
 - C. PowerPoint presentation Series #1 (for the congregation)
 - D. PowerPoint presentation Series #2 (to assist and inform the missions committee)
 - E. PowerPoint presentation Series #3 (illustrated sermons on missions and soul-winning)

Manuals and PowerPoint presentations are available in English and Spanish

18 PowerPoint presentations, prepared for the local church, can also be purchased on CD for a nominal charge. Order by calling (417) 862-2781, extension 2050.
-
- **CALL TO PRAYER**

Missionary photo directory (Published twice yearly). Can be used as a daily guide for praying for missionaries individually.
-
- **THE BLUEPRINT SERIES** – Resource manuals (available in both English and Spanish)
 - Volume 1 – Building Missions Leadership in the Local Church
 - Volume 2 – Building Missions Support With a Missions Convention
 - Volume 3 – Building Missions Vision ... Month by Month

- **MISSIONS TOUCH SCREEN**

Interactive display that presents information about countries and missionaries.

E-mail: wordtouchscreen@ag.org or visit online: worldtouchscreen.ag.org

- **BOOKS**

Heroes of the Faith (Volumes 1, 2 and 3) and other books containing inspiring stories. To order see catalog or World Missions Web site.

- **TODAY'S PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL, *World Missions Edition***

First Sunday edition each month. To order call 1 (800) 641-4310.

- **MISSIONS CONVENTION IN A BOX**

Everything needed to conduct a missions convention in a church of up to 80 in attendance. For churches having a first-time missions convention or the first one in several years. Call (417) 862-2781, ext. 2050.

OTHER SOURCES

- **FLAGS**

A reputable firm that supplies flags for every nation is Ozark Flag Distributors. Order flags or a catalog by calling (417) 886-3524.