

MISSION STATEMENT

The missions committee at Three Chopt Church of Christ exists to support our missionaries to be effective in reaching the lost in the areas they work and also encourage involvement in missions by each member in our congregation.

ROLE OF THE MISSIONS COMMITTEE

- Engage the church in missions - how to get involved, spark interest in becoming missionaries short term or long, how they can support missions
- Communication link to church and missionaries
- Support missionaries - be a resource for them (emotional, spiritual, physical)
- Vett mission opportunities and determine continued effectiveness of current missionaries
- Allocate budget
- Respond to crises
- Create overall strategy and vision for how/what we support
- Ensure tax letters to supporters are going out

ROLES AND ORGANIZATION OF THE MISSIONS COMMITTEE

The missions committee will meet once a month on the second Monday from 7pm-8pm.

The roles of the missions committee are as follows:

1. Communications Focal(s)
 - a. Organize/plan sharing missionary updates with congregation
 - b. Update and maintain bulletin board
 - c. Communicate mission support needed but that Three Chopt is not supporting as a congregation

2. Short Term Missions Focal(s)
 - a. Maintain list of upcoming short term mission opportunities the Three Chopt members can participate in
 - i. Includes focal to contact, timeframe, type of mission work, location, estimated cost

3. Tax Letter Compiler(s)
 - a. Coordinate receipt of individual contributions to missionaries
 - b. Maintain database of contributors
 - c. Send annual tax letters to contributors
 - d. Focal for receiving contributions?

4. Missionary Focal(s) – at least 1 per missionary
 - a. At least monthly contact with missionary to get updates and prayer request
 - b. Be main contact with missionary as needed

5. Technology Focal(s)
 - a. Create an electronic location where all committee members and elders can access for storing all mission documents
 - b. Help create electronic application for those looking for financial support from Three Chopt

6. Committee Member(s)
 - a. Attend monthly meetings
 - b. Pray for missionaries and the missions committee
 - c. Engage other Three Chopt members with what is happening in missions

FOCUS OF THE MISSION WORK AT THREE CHOPT

Our focus is two-fold:

1. Support our missionaries as they go out to reach the lost for Christ
2. Encourage our Three Chopt members to get involved in missions

In order to maintain this focus, we plan to use most of our financial support on efforts that help to build independent, indigenous churches that eventually no longer need our support, financially or personally. We also will focus this effort on only a couple of regions at a time to help build deeper relationships within the region and support cross-pollination of efforts within the same region. We believe that this approach will help us to more efficiently and effectively fulfill the command of Matthew 28:19-20. Once a region has indigenous and independent congregations meeting we can phase out our support of that region and go into a new area to replicate the work and so reach more of the

lost in the world.

LOOKING FOR SUPPORT?

If you are looking for financial support from the Three Chopt Church of Christ, please read the next two sections about what you can expect from us if you are supported and what we expect of you if you receive support from us. This will help to understand the relationship we wish to have with all people we support and the interactions we anticipate (at minimum).

What you can expect from the missions committee:

If the decision is made to give you financial support, you will receive much more than just financial donations. Our missions committee wants to actively partner with you in the work that you are doing for God in the area you are going. We commit to supporting you in every way that we can as we know that there will be challenges and triumphs along the way that will need more than just money to get you through.

Prayer:

First and foremost, we commit to praying for you, your family and the work that you will be doing while you are on your mission. As (INSERT VERSE) indicates, prayer is a powerful tool that allows us to connect directly with God. At Three Chopt we believe in this power of God through prayer and will use prayer as a way to encourage and support you despite the distance between us.

The Three Chopt Missions Committee commits to praying for you at every monthly missions meeting as well as individually between meetings. We commit to including your names in the church bulletin as well to encourage others to be in prayer on your behalf.

You can also expect to receive a request for prayer requests at least once every month that you are on the mission field. We do this to both update our missions team on your work as well as to more specifically direct our prayers for the needs you have at any given point.

Communication:

In addition to prayer, the missions committee also commits to engaging with you on a regular basis. You will have at least one dedicated missions committee focal that will work closely with you. That person will be in contact at least monthly to get news updates, prayer requests, and let you know of anything

that might be important for you to know on our end. Though others at three Chopt may reach out to you on occasion, the focal will be your main liaison between you and your work and the missions committee/Three Chopt Church.

The Missions Committee will also commit to highlighting your work to the congregation at least once a year. Our goal is for each of our members to know who you are and the work you are doing. The missions focal will reach out to you to get details, but we want you to know that we will be ensuring that you and your work are known and supported throughout the family at Three Chopt.

Moral/Spiritual:

As we develop our relationship with you and your work, we want to be more than just your financial donors. We also plan to be there for you when Satan tries to prevent your efforts and frustrates your work. We are confident that Satan will be there working against you, and we want to be there to support you through these challenges. We commit to being a lifeline as needed and to getting you the guidance and direction you may need at different times. Though we cannot always do everything, we do want you to see us as a place where you can express your struggles, frustrations and ask for guidance. This type of engagement with us will not impact your financial support from us.

Financial:

We will keep our commitments to you financially. As much as possible, Three Chopt will not remove support from you without advanced notice and providing a long lead time in order for you to find other support as needed. We want to support each mission to the best of our ability and do not want anyone to have to stress about financial matters on our account. Our financial decisions are made on an annual basis (October) and are good for the following calendar year.

The financial support you receive from Three Chopt are predicated on the work you are doing remaining consistent with the work we agreed to support and that you and your family maintain the Christian standard God expects from all of his people.

Visits:

Three Chopt plans to support each of its missions at least once every 3 years. This may vary depending on our ability and what opportunities arise. We want to see you in your work and experience first-hand the way God is using your mission to grow his kingdom.

What we expect from you:

Our financial support comes from hard-working, Christian individuals who want to serve God and support kingdom growth. This is why they give money to Three Chopt and the work of the missions committee. As a result, when you are being supported by this congregation, and just as you can expect things from us, we will also expect certain things from you.

Prayer:

We expect that you will be regularly in prayer both for your work and the Three Chopt Church of Christ. That both will be guided by God. We will also be asking for prayer requests from you on at least a monthly basis.

Communication:

The missions committee expects that you will communicate regularly with your missions focal. This includes at least responding to the monthly contact from the focal on the work you are doing, how it is going and any prayer requests. We expect that your communication to us be honest on what is going well as well as not going well. We want to truly partner with you in the good times and bad. This can only happen through honest and consistent communication.

If anything is not working in our interactions/engagement with you, be it the focal, the committee, the chairperson, or anything else, we also expect you to be open about this so we can fix and improve the situation between us. We know that we are all human so do not always do the best. We will rely on each other to call us to be better.

We will try not to ask for too many things from you as we know you are busy. We do, however, expect a timely response when we do ask for information or updates.

Moral/Spiritual:

You are expected to be morally and spiritually focused while on your mission. We know that many countries have immoral practices that are considered normal and acceptable (ie. Bribes and the like), and we expect you to continue to adhere to the moral standards of Christ in the best way you can in these types of situations.

We also expect you to take time, on a regular basis, for personal spiritual development. This can look like many different things, and we do not want to

prescribe anything in particular. However, we know that you cannot fill up other people's cups if yours is not first filled by God. So we know you will be more effective in your work for others if you dedicate time to your own spiritual growth and study.

Financial:

We expect you to use the resources you give you in a way that both honors God and honors the agreement the Three Chopt church has with you and the work you are doing.

Visits:

We expect you to visit the Three Chopt Church of Christ at least once every 2 years. This will give us time to reconnect, for you to report out on the work you are doing, and to continue to maintain the relationship you have with our congregation.

STILL LOOKING FOR SUPPORT?

For anyone seeking financial support from Three Chopt, they will need to complete an application and email it to 3choptcocmissions@gmail.com.