

## **FBC Fort Mill Missions Support Application**

1) **Our Mission:** To glorify God by developing fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ (disciples) motivated by a love for God and a love for others. [Matthew 28: 19-20](#); [Colossians 1:28](#); [Matthew 22:42-47](#)

### **2) Our Convictions**

- a) **Biblical Authority:** We desire to stay true to the Word of God. As our partners seek to proclaim, disciple and plant, they will do so in a way that also seeks to stay true to the Bible. Our partners must be able to agree with the Baptist Faith and Message 2000 and/or The Gospel Coalition Confessional Statement (<http://thegospelcoalition.org/about/foundation-documents/confessional>).
- b) **Faith-Filled Prayer:** We believe it is God who draws people to himself through the work of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, prayer must be first and foremost in everything we do.
- c) **Transformational Relationships:** Almost everything we accomplish for God is through relationships. God wants our relationships to go beyond living at peace with one another to ministering to one other.
- d) **Missional Lifestyle:** We were created to serve God and each other. “For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Eph 2:10. As followers of Christ and a local body of Believers, we have a responsibility to share the good news of the Gospel helping people as we go. We base our belief on Scripture: The Great Commission in Matt. 28:19-20, and the Great Commandment found in Matt. 22:37-39.

### **3) Our Priorities**

- a) We are committed to being a witness for Christ in our Community and beyond (Acts 1:8) (see Appendix A). We witness in word and deed, ministering to the body, mind and soul, in the name of Jesus. Ministry is the responsibility of every member and we equip, encourage and support our people towards that end (Eph 4:11-12). We are most responsible for those closest to us, beginning with those in our fellowship and moving outwards. We are responsible for those least able to help themselves.
- b) **A Focus on Unreached Peoples:** Like Paul (Romans 15), we want to see the church established among peoples where the church does not yet exist or there is no indigenous community of believing Christians with adequate numbers and resources to evangelize their own people (< 2% evangelical Christian).

- c) Importance of Career (Long-term) Missionaries: We believe that church planting among UPGs is best accomplished by those committed for the long term. Therefore, we will focus on sending and supporting these workers. We will also submit to their leadership in any work we do amongst their people group. This includes working with national partners and sending short term teams.
- d) The Local Church: We believe the local church, once established, is the primary redemptive organization within its own community and nation. To best facilitate the expansion of the local church we will strive to build and equip local churches that are:
  - Self-Led: The indigenous people will be equipped and entrusted to lead.
  - Self-Supported: Ministries should receive their primary support from their own people and we will not do for them what they can do themselves. Therefore, we will be very cautious in supporting any work which could lead to dependency on outside resources.
  - Self-Propagating: The local church must be contextualized in a way that is biblically sound and culturally appropriate.
  - Self-Correcting: The local church must have and demonstrate Biblically based accountability.
- e) Humanitarian Work: We are called to meet spiritual and physical needs. Ministries of compassion, though, must run secondary to our primary, God-given mission of making disciples. Therefore, the allocation of our resources will reflect this truth and our ministries of mercy will have an evangelism component.

**4) Financial Support (partnerships do not automatically result in the allocation of financial resources, but for those that do include this component the following applies)**

- a) Candidates/partners must be affiliated with an agency whose doctrinal statement is compatible with FBCFM's (<http://www.fbcfm.com/our-beliefs>) and is a member of the Evangelical Counsel for Financial Accountability (ECFA) or a similar organization ensuring financial accountability.
- b) Candidates/partners must complete and submit a support application (see Appendix B).
- c) The missions pastor and/or the missions team will review each application and determine whether or not to provide support and schedule an interview (see Appendix C), if that has not already taken place.
- d) Support will be determined by considering alignment with this document and the discretion of the missions' pastor and/or the missions team.

- e) The support amount will be determined by considering the need, the availability of funds and the amount of support provided to other partners. In no event can the support be of an amount which would bring the support level above full support.
- f) Support will generally not begin until the candidate leaves for the field of service or the partnership is ‘officially’ launched.
- g) Support will be for **a set period of time subject to regular review** by the missions’ pastor and/or the missions team. Generally, one year cycles except for projects of less than one year. *(Review criteria are still being developed).*
- h) Support may be terminated, upon approval of the missions’ team, for any of the reasons listed below. Notice will generally be given three months prior to ending support.
  - 1) Conduct unbecoming a Christian.
  - 2) Failure to communicate adequately.
  - 3) Change in assignment or agency.
  - 4) Change in doctrinal beliefs so that they are no longer compatible with FBCFM’s beliefs.
  - 5) Resignation or retirement.
  - 6) The discretion of the missions’ team.
  - 7) Inadequate funding to continue the support.
  - 8) Completion of the project or end of the designated support period.
- i) We currently provide support per year (funds) at 4 levels. Higher levels necessarily require more accountability and involvement.
  - 1) Under \$2,500
  - 2) \$2,500 - \$5,000
  - 3) \$5,000 - \$10,000
  - 4) More than \$10,000

We define the type of project or partner within the following categories (see Appendix A):

- Macedonia (for new projects/partners)/**New Work** and/or individual missional scholarship
- Galatia (proclamation, faith, obedience projects/partners)/**Proclamation and/or Service Emphasis**
- Philippi (direct church member involvement projects/partners)/**Direct Involvement**
- Antioch (church planting projects/partners)/**Church Planting**

This way we could have a new project (Level 1 Macedonia to which we contribute \$200/mo); a partnership individual that we regularly have folks interacting with (Level 2 Philippi partner to which we contribute \$3,600/year); etc. Over time, partners can move or be moved between categories and levels of support.



## APPENDIX A

### Missional Support Ministry

The Missional Support Ministry of FBC Fort Mill are ministry partnerships that seek to serve and support the ministry goals and potential of our global partners in three intentional ways:

**Equip Partners** by exporting the biblical knowledge, practical wisdom, and ministry experience of FBC FM's leadership and ministry department teams, and to impart biblical principles that undergird FBC FM's mission.

**Encourage Partners** by extending support through prayer and personal contact from designated team members, to discover and explore ways that FBC FM can minister and mentor in life and ministry contexts.

**Empower People** to be missional in their walk with the Lord. We want to provide missions opportunities and strategic engagement avenues for the members of FBC Fort Mill.

The intention of the Missional Support ministry is to equip and encourage those in ministry around the world. The Missional Support ministry will allow FBC FM to intentionally focus on equipping and encouraging the workers themselves, not just on advancing their ministry. All those who are partnering with FBC FM are eligible to be Missional Support partners. However, as individual needs and circumstances vary, support will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Consideration will be given to factors including alignment with FBC FM missional strategy, and existing relationships with FBC FM, giving preference to those who have been sent out from the FBC FM body and those who have chosen to consider FBC FM as their home church. All Missional Support partners must be able to agree with the Baptist Faith and Message 2000 and/or The Gospel Coalition Confessional Statement (<http://thegospelcoalition.org/about/foundation-documents/confessional>).

Those who wish to be Missional Support partners must agree to maintain good communication with FBC FM and their assigned lay, deacon, and/or staff partners, in order to provide prayer requests, ministry updates, desire for additional resources or support, etc. Communication with FBC FM will be a factor for consideration in determining levels of continuing support for Missional Support partners.

With the goals in mind of equipping and encouraging our Missional Support partners to fulfill their ministry, a level of **intentional** support and encouragement would be based on individual needs, but would include:

- Pairing with a lay member or members of FBC FM to provide the primary action for prayer support and continued two-way communication. This may be a member of the Missions Team
- Pairing with a Missions Team member of FBC FM to provide additional links with FBC FM for resources, counsel, etcetera, as needed
- Priority in funding of ministry projects and in sending short-term ministry teams from FBC FM
- Priority for pastoral visits and counseling as needed.

Further support given would be unique to each partner but may include such items as:

- Travel expenses to attend FBC FM missions' conferences at least once every four years
- Help finding housing while in the Fort Mill area on furlough, if needed
- Necessary expenses to help with conferences or enroll in courses online
- Other expenses such as funding for travel, education, or items deemed necessary and helpful by the Missions Team.

Expectations for our partners:

- Communicating with their FBC FM liaison and the Missions Pastor in a timely fashion
- Openness and honesty about their physical, mental, emotional and spiritual health so that help can be offered in a timely fashion
- Exploring creative and strategic opportunities for FBC FM to be engaged in your work

Expectations for our FBC FM liaison:

- Communicating regularly (at least monthly) to discern how they are doing and what support they may need. Support needs should be communicated to the Missions Pastor and reported to the Missions team.
- Praying for them and their target ministry group consistently
- Acting as an advocate to increase prayer support for your partner (with individuals, community groups, etc.)
- Taking the lead in caring for them when they come to Fort Mill
- Exploring creative and strategic opportunities to engage FBC FM in their work
- Potentially visiting your partner
- Potentially leading a team of volunteers should they have a need for help

**APPENDIX B**  
**FBC FM MISSIONS PARTNER APPLICATION**

**I. General Information**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Marital Status \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Anniversary Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Children \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B. \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Children \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B. \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Children \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B. \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Home Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Field Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Field Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Field E-mail Address (if different) \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide the name and contact information of three references.

1) Your Pastor: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Position and church: \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

2) Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

2) Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

## **II. Mission Board**

Name of Mission Board or Agency \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Website \_\_\_\_\_

Should support be approved, please indicate how a check should be made out so it will be properly credited to your account (Note: No checks will be made out to individuals)

Payable To: \_\_\_\_\_

Account Name/Number \_\_\_\_\_

Mail To: (if different than above) \_\_\_\_\_

## **III. Support Needs**

Support needs recommended by your mission board:

Monthly Support Goal: \_\_\_\_\_

One-time Support Needs: \_\_\_\_\_ Reason/Purpose: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional support needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount already pledged to you? Monthly \_\_\_\_\_ One-time \_\_\_\_\_

Amount that you are asking FBC FM to contribute: \_\_\_\_\_

List other churches pledged to support you \_\_\_\_\_

Your Primary Support Base

\_\_\_\_\_ Fort Mill Area \_\_\_\_\_ Southeast \_\_\_\_\_ Other (where?) \_\_\_\_\_

#### **IV. Intended Ministry**

Please describe your intended ministry. Include the following points: Specific location (not just state or country); Target group; Religion of target group; Your expected relationship to Local Christians; Your primary day to day activities and those of your spouse (if applicable); Whether you will be part of a team; Your intended length of ministry (#of years); Any other aspects you believe should be understood by the team. (Use back of this page if necessary)

#### **V. Personal Ministry Experience**

1. Describe your most recent experiences in personal evangelism.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Please list your ministry experiences and how they relate to your expected responsibilities on the mission field. (Preaching, teaching, pastoring, evangelism, counseling, etc)

3. Have you been ordained or licensed? (which) \_\_\_\_\_

By what church \_\_\_\_\_



4. Where is your church membership? \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you been a member there? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Have you been commissioned by a local church? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, what church? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Please summarize your call to missions.

*(use the back of this page if necessary)*

## **VI. Background and Education**

1. List post high school institutions attended and degrees earned

School \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_

2. List any professional experiences, trade skills, special gifts/abilities, etc. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. List any previous related experience you have? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Other Comments \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## **VII. Relationship to FBC Fort Mill**

Are you a member of FBC FM? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, how long? \_\_\_\_\_

List ministries you have been involved with while at FBC FM \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If you are not a member, what is your connection to FBC Fort Mill? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### **VIII. Missionary Candidate Profile**

A. What are your personal goals, vision, and expectations for your service?

B. What is/are your spiritual gifts?

C. What do you feel are your biggest strengths and weaknesses?

D. What are your hobbies and special interests (and what are those of your spouse and children)?

### **IX. Miscellaneous**

What is your expected departure date to the mission field? \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be attending language school? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, for how long? \_\_\_\_\_

Other special needs between now and departure date? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever applied to FBC FM for support before? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, when? \_\_\_\_\_