

Hopewell Presbyterian Church Mission Giving Policy

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." - Acts 1:6-8

Disbursement Policy

Session has determined that 11% of all of HPC's income will go to "mission giving."

- 2.5% of this giving has been designated for the benevolence and "special needs" work of the HPC deacons
- \$150/month has been designated for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

The remaining approximate 8.5% is to be distributed by the Generosity Ministry to the mission partners of Hopewell Presbyterian Church. These mission partners may be both "in-house" missions and external mission partners. Examples of "in-house" missions would be organizations like Creative Connections Play School or the Hopewell Youth Collective. Examples of external mission partners could be The Chubby's Project, Trenton Area Soup Kitchen, or Friends for Health in Haiti. All distributions will be recommended by the Generosity Ministry reviewed for approval by Session.

In making these distributions, these ministries aim to...

1. Ensure that our partners help us love like Jesus building up our relationship with God, one another and the community.
2. Give significant grants to a select number of key partners who demonstrate need for financial support.
3. Maintain relationships with each organization in partnership with the Justice & Service Ministry of HPC.

To that end, the Generosity Ministry proposes the following structure which they are calling the "Acts 1:8 Model"

Rational: In Jesus' call to his disciples to carry God's witness, Jesus kept in mind the importance of four categories of people: local (Jerusalem), quasi local (Judea), near neighbors who are culturally, ethnically, and religiously different (Samaria), and the rest of the world ("ends of the earth"). These four categories can offer us guidelines, allowing us to hone in on 4-8 mission partners to support in a significant way.

Process: To that end, the Generosity ministry will identify 1-2 partners for each of the following categories each year.

- HPC Missions - "Jerusalem" - These are missions that HPC has started and sustained in and for the local community.
- Local Mission Partners - "Judea": These are partners in Hopewell and the surrounding counties.
- Local Mission Partners - "Samaria": These are partners in Hopewell and in the surrounding counties that focus their work with individuals and communities who are religiously, racially, ethnically, financially different from the majority population of Hopewell Presbyterian Church.
- National & Global Mission Partners - "The Ends of the Earth": These are partners nationally and internationally.

Partner Review Process

1. At the beginning of the fiscal year, the Generosity Ministry will review the four categories and the projected Mission Budget.
2. A list of organizations are compiled from previous awards, those submitted to the church office and/or organizations with a need that become known to the ministry.
3. The Generosity Ministry will reach out in some cases to ask the following questions about organization raised for consideration. A brief report guided by these questions will be written for each:
 - a. *Does their mission help us love like Jesus, building up our relationship with God, one another, and the community?*
 - b. *Does this organization help us offer unconditional love to our neighbor?*
 - c. *Does their mission emphasize equity? (Who do they serve? Why?)*
 - d. *Do they have access to other resources? Do they need the money? (Know this through their 990s) If they do need money, is there a specific financial ask?*
 - e. *Do we have a real relationship with the organization? (Would cultivating that relationship be possible? To what degree?)*

Eligibility Criteria

Requesting organizations must be a qualified 501 C 3 or have their funding through a designated fiscal agent who is a 501 C 3, delivering significant mission-based work in an area. The Committee will review its 990 filing to ensure they are adequately resourced. Charity navigator and Guidestar reports may be reviewed if applicable.

Amount of Distribution

Distributions will be allocated according to the scale and scope of the organization's work. Therefore, in general, funding recommendations will be weighted for global and national

work and where larger gifts will have a greater impact in line with God’s mission through HPC.

Annual Giving Cycle Process

A calendar for the Generosity Ministry Annual Cycle and an abbreviated description of this process will be published on the website. Organizations with Mission Giving requests may submit a brief written rationale to the church office by October 1 of each year. The committee will review all submissions along with other known needs and make a recommendation to Session by October 30. Documentation of use of general funds must be received before requesting additional funds the following year.

Annual Grant Cycle

Application Submissions	Can be submitted at any time during the year
Ministry Review Period	September 1 - October 15
Award Notification	After approval by Session at its October meeting
Fund Disbursement	Throughout the year in accordance with the plan.
Final Report	Documentation of use of general funds. Recognition within the year.

Any changes to these policies will be reported to Session in a timely manner and made known to the Congregation through normal communications channels.