

# Mission Policy

## **Section 1. Purpose.**

The purpose of this Mission Policy is to assist in the establishment of indigenous New Testament churches and to encourage the mission endeavors of the churches.

## **Section 2. Mission Committee.**

The Mission Committee, as provided for in Article VII Section 1 of the Declaration of Principles, shall regularly meet on the first day of the annual messenger meetings and on the last day of the annual messenger meetings after the standing committee has been duly elected.

Upon petition of five (5) members of the standing committee, the Chairman shall call a special meeting. Prior notice of such meeting shall be publicly announced in recognized state Missionary Baptist periodicals, and the Clerk shall notify in writing each member of the standing committee.

It shall be the duty of this committee to receive recommendations made by the churches for men to serve as recommended Missionaries, and any other information concerning the Missionary the recommending church will supply. The committee shall then prayerfully consider the Missionaries recommended and make their subsequent report and recommendations to the messengers when they are convened in the annual messenger meeting.

The following officers shall be elected: Chairman, Assistant Chairman, Clerk, and Assistant Clerk. The Chairman shall preside over the committee meetings and shall call special meetings when petitioned to do so. The Assistant Chairman shall function in the office in the absence of the Chairman. The Clerk shall keep an accurate record of each meeting and take care of the correspondence of the committee. The Assistant

Clerk shall function in the office in the absence of the Clerk.

Each member of the Missionary Committee will be assigned to hold a quarterly conversation with one of our state missionaries as assigned by the Missionary Committee Chairman. These members will seek ways to pray for, encourage, and provide support to our missionaries. No more than three members will be assigned to each missionary. Remaining members may be assigned to contact other ministries.

### **Section 3. Recommendation of a Missionary.**

A church that is associated and subscribes to the Principles of the churches of the State Association of the Missionary Baptist Churches of Arkansas may recommend a man as a Missionary to the messengers of the churches.

A written recommendation from the church submitting the name of an ordained man who is a member of that church must be received by the Clerk of the Missionary Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual messenger meeting before the Missionary shall be considered by the committee.

Those Missionaries recommended for salary by the messengers to the churches shall receive salary set by the messengers as funds are available. They shall keep a record of funds received toward their salaries and report such monthly to the Treasurer. Checks shall be sent to the sponsoring church upon the receipt of the report. The Treasurer shall send a quarterly composite state mission report to recognized state Missionary Baptist periodicals to be published.

Those Missionaries recommended by the messengers to the churches to receive designated funds shall receive all funds designated to them as received by the Treasurer. They shall report monthly all funds received on the field toward their salaries to the Treasurer. Checks shall be sent to the sponsoring church.

First, in the event a Missionary becomes incapacitated, he shall receive full salary for six (6) months, upon request by the sponsoring church.

Second, in the event of the death of a Missionary on salary, his salary shall be given to his widow or dependent children for the ensuing six (6) months as funds are available.

#### **Section 4. Responsibility of the Sponsoring Church.**

It is the responsibility of the recommending church to take the lead in publicizing the needs of their Missionary and raising funds for the various projects as well as the salary of the Missionary.

It is the annual responsibility of the recommending church to furnish a written recommendation for their Missionary to the Clerk for the Missionary Committee thirty (30) days prior to the annual messenger meeting.

#### **Section 5. Full Salaried Missionaries**

Each full salaried missionary is considered a full time missionary, devoting full time to his mission work. He shall not at any time engage in full time or part time secular employment.

#### **Section 6. Time Off the Field**

Full salaried missionaries shall be given a three (3) week leave of absence annually with pay. Money received for services rendered during this time need not be reported towards salary.

#### **Section 7. Recognition of Church-designated Missionaries.**

We recognize all church designated Missionaries as Missionaries, whether or not they are recommended for the support by the messenger assembly.

#### **Section 8. Missionary Support and Training.**

As funds are available above paying salaries, each salaried and designated Missionary will be reimbursed up to \$500 annually for ministry/leadership development expenses. These may include seminars, retreats, travel expenses to attend such events, books, or other training material. Expenses will be submitted to the Treasurer for reimbursement.

**Section 9. Suspending any section of the Mission Policy.**

Any section of the Mission Policy may be suspended provided the change is presented in writing on the first day of the annual messenger meeting and tabled until some subsequent session and then adopted by a majority vote of the messengers.

**Section 10. Amending the Mission Policy.**

This Mission Policy may be amended at a regular messenger meeting of the association by a majority vote of the messengers, providing the amendment be offered in writing on the first day of the messenger meeting, tabled, and acted upon some subsequent session.