**Mission Council subcommittee of Sonia Bodi, Melanie Myatt, Cam Traut and David Ivaska met to brainstorm these possible steps in ‘Building Leadership and Capacity for Mission at First Pres’.**

**Building Leadership in Mission**

1. within our Mission Council
* Director of Missions to invite / delegate council members to help with a specific task (for example, hosting a class, hosting a mission partner, assist Mission Assistant with a task, work on a subcommittee, share a testimony, etc.)
* Encourage current members to step forward if they feel called to be more or differently involved in a mission effort.
* Consider how we ourselves may benefit from training in mission (for example, ask Melanie Myatt in her upcoming training on using gifts in mission and sharing her story of being a person of peace)
* Anticipate new Session or Trustee members each year who have a keen interest in mission and encourage them to list their preference.
1. with our Mission Perspectives Class
* Keep our eyes open for and hear out those attending our Perspectives Missions Class, God’s Story, whom God is stirring to be involved in mission. A few years ago, two of our current Mission Council members, Susan Wilkins and Dick Warnecke, were so moved.
* Periodically remind those attending that one of our desired outcomes for this class is to encourage each one to consider how God is calling them to be involved in mission. Also remind them of this broader definition of mission – partnering with God to build His kingdom where you are planted.
* Encourage people to share their stories of how Good is stirring them into mission
1. within our Local Mission Initiatives
* Ask our various local mission initiatives and partners what volunteer positions are open or what help their ministry needs.
* Find new ways to either personally invite people to help or to advertise these opportunities and how to get involved.
1. with our Mission Partners
* When we have a mission partner speaking in the class, highlight this in the First Pres weekly e-newsletter and perhaps involve them in that Sunday morning service, or at least highlight that in the announcements.
* Invite our mission partners to share stories how they are building leaders in their area of mission and how we might pray with them in those efforts.

1. with Future Mission Trips or Training Events
* Follow up our earlier discussion with Jim and Amy McAuley leading a training weekend for us at First Pres followed by a group joining them in a further work-study mission trip connected with their work with the
* Take advantage of this season of minimal travel to begin planning for what our next short term-mission trip will be. Consider what kind of servant leadership training would be most helpful.
* Consider another church wide mission awareness event with mission partner(s).

**Building Capacity for Mission at First Pres**

1. Communicating with the Congregation
* Continue praying for our mission partners in the e-newsletter & Sunday morning prayers.
* Consider inviting mission partners to speak in our Sunday services.
* Meet with Director of Communications, Jim Teague, and brainstorm with him how to keep mission in the forefront of our congregation.
* Invite Tessa Myatt as one of our new youth members of the Mission Council to help us use creative and current ways of communicating with the younger generations.
1. Encouraging Prayer and Financial Support for Missions
* Give a dedicated time in our Mission Council meeting to review, evaluate and make new plans for the monthly mission prayer group knowing that Ron Ehresman who has led this effort for decades, is moving in August to Indianapolis.
* Consider what fresh initiatives could strengthen our commitment to prayer for mission.
* Consider the Pray As You Go app that people like to use. Is there was a way to have people sign up for a time or day where they would commit to pray for our mission partners. So we could either fill one whole week with prayer, or a month, or even a year with people just agreeing to pray one day a month at noon or something like that. Basically just that we challenge people to make prayer part of our church's routine and that we are all on the same page for a common goal (to have a prayer a day for year or an hour of prayer every day for a month or something like that).
* Follow up with Trustees and Session the recent letter from Mission Council that addresses three major concerns regarding how funds are given to Mission.
* Consider how we might invite members to consider either endowment giving to mission or other ways to increase their giving.
1. Cooperating with Staff and Ministries within the Church
* Meet with them over time to hear what may be their own unique interest or commitment in mission (for example, Deacons with some of their outreach efforts, youth with their mission trip, etc.)
1. Offering Volunteer Training

 **Currently our Perspectives Mission Class is helping with these two efforts. We may want to start thinking what we could do to follow up this class.**

5**.** Providing Opportunities to Serve and Learn