Great Commission Meeting

January 29, 2020

Present: Peter Steffen (Chair), Jide Nzilibe, May Tchao, Dick Warnecke, Caryl Weinberg, (Excused: Sonia Bodi, Hugh Parry)

Peter opened the meeting with prayer.

Review of financials:

Allocation of 4.5%: $25,768

Carry Over according to one spreadsheet: $25,000 (Gifts to the operational fund – not the endowment)

On another spreadsheet the amount is said to be: $21,579: Peter attempting to clarify with the business office.

The decision was made to distribute $45,000 at this meeting and hold on further distributions until the amount is clarified.

Requests:

1. Tavriski Christian Institute: In 2019 we committed to $15,000/year times three years toward training of leaders/church planters in Afghanistan. This is year two. Caryl gave an update from the leadership of TCI who were at FPCE in November 2019.
2. David Ivaska (Guest) presented proposals from International Fellowship of Evangelical Students (IFES) – Middle East North Africa Region. IFES now in 18 countries. GCF has given strategically to their emerging leaders movement. Note: Emerging Leaders (A two year “internship” – which GCF has supported before.) Six have become national General Secretaries. Six have become national staff. Two of three have become active volunteers.
   1. Potential projects: Regional Student Conference in Alexandria Egypt for students of 18 countries: Request: $15,000 (Total Conference cost $46,000)
   2. Second Staff Person for Palestinian IFES Students to work with Nader Gneim: Half Time: $7500; Full Time: $18,000
   3. IFES/MENA Publishing: Distribution of Arabic Bible Commentary and Dave’s book “Be Not Afraid” in Arabic.
3. Langham Partnership Proposal:
   1. Sri Lanka: Request by Langham Partnership on behalf of Colombo Theological Seminary to invest in development of indigenous writers, expansion of relevant titles, sales networks and more in the Tamil language, and minority Sinhala language in partnership with Langham Publishing. The aim is to provide resources for teachers and students at the seminary, and all believers coming from Hindu and Buddhist backgrounds. The request is for $20,063 each year for four years.

Decisions:

It was moved by Dick Warnecke, seconded by May Tchao and unanimously approved that we distribute the funds as follows:

1. $15,000 (year two) to Tavriski Christian Institute for their training program with Afghani leaders/church planters.
2. $15,000 to the IFES/MENA region:
   1. $7,500 for the Alexandria Student Conference 2020
   2. $7,500 for a half time staff person for IFES in Palestine
3. $15,000 to Langham Partnership (USA) for Tamil and Sinhala language publications at Colombo Theological Seminary in Sri Lanka.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer.