

Mission Guidance and Strategy

Kossuth Street Baptist Church

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1. Biblical Mandate

As a part of God's universal church, KSBC is commanded to join in the effort to proclaim the Gospel among every people (*ethne*), gathering disciples into indigenous, reproducing churches, so that God will be glorified and people will be blessed (Mt 28:18-20; Hab 2:14; Rev 7:9-12; Gen 12:1-3; Acts 14:23; 15:41; 20:17-35).

2. Purpose Statement

The KSBC missions team exists to glorify God by mobilizing the body of KSBC to (1) value and experience missions, and (2) send and support missionaries--so that people from every tribe, language, people, and nation can have a growing relationship with Jesus Christ (Acts 1:8; 3 Jn 1:5-8; Rev 5:9-10; 7:9-10).

3. Mission Team Functions

3.1. Education

We believe that where there is no on-going vision, mission concern perishes (Pr 29:18; Col 4:18; 1 Co 14:8). Therefore, we will help the congregation learn about, grow in, and commit to what missions is and why it matters. This will include both extensive education so that missions permeates the church body, and intensive education (short, focused experiences that move people to life commitments).

3.2.Mobilization

We believe that the whole church is called to the Great Commission (Lk 24:33-39; Mt 16:18-19; 3 Jn 1:5-8; 1 Co 12:12). Therefore, we will spur and encourage everyone to become actively involved in missions. Six ways to become actively involved in missions are becoming a: learner, intercessor, sender, welcomer, mobilizer and goer. To learn more about these mission involvement categories, please visit www.6ways2reach.org

3.3.Oversight

We believe that details matter (Jn 6:12; Acts 6:1-7; 1 Co 12:28). Therefore we will give careful attention to (a) determining and periodically re-evaluating criteria for mission partnerships, (b) establishing new partnerships, (c) supporting and evaluating existing partnerships, and (d) recommend and oversee an approved annual missions budget.

3.4.Strategy

We believe that prioritization is essential for effective ministry (Ro 15:20; Gal 2:7; 1 Co 1:17; 1 Co 9:26). Therefore, we will identify and prioritize our ministry goals (what we want to see accomplished), and methods (how we will pursue our goals) in coordination with, and with the approval of, the elders.

4. Mission Strategy

This strategy applies to all new partnerships after the adoption of this document. Existing partnerships will remain in place and will be evaluated per the usual time table.

4.1.Focus areas

The following represent our “missions DNA,” i.e., what we are passionate about within missions. We strongly aim to partner with mission efforts that include focus on one or more of the following:

1. **Church planting** – We believe that the Gospel advances through the establishment and growth of churches, not merely isolated believers (Mt 16:18; Eph 3: 10; Acts 14:23; 15:41; 20:17-35).
2. **Compassion ministry** – We believe God cares about the poor and the oppressed, their spiritual *and* their physical/social/financial needs (Lk 4:16-21; Ps 140:12; Ps 10:14; Is 41:7; Js 2:5). A critical value for a compassion ministry partnership is that it be connected to a local church. This could mean our missionary partner either (a) collaborates with local, in-country evangelical churches to accomplish compassion ministry, or (b) is part of a team whose goal is to plant a local church.

3. **Campus ministry** – We believe God has placed us in a strategic location to reach and disciple students and scholars who can then either become involved in local church ministry or help establish or strengthen churches in their home cultures/countries.

4.2. Essential criteria

We look for mission efforts that demonstrate the following qualities:

1. **Gospel-focused** – Does this effort uphold the centrality of the Gospel to the advancement of God’s kingdom (Ro 1:16; Lk 24:44-49)?
2. **Local church-centered** – Does this effort affirm the importance of working with and through the local church (both on the mission field, if a church is present, and at KSBC) to accomplish God’s mission (Acts 13:1-3; 14:23; 15:41; 20:17-35)?
3. **Partnership/exchange** – Will this effort support a mutual, back-and-forth relationship between the mission field (and the people there), and KBSC (our people) (Phil 1:3-5; 4:16; 2 Co 9:10-15; Ro 1:11-12)?

4.3. Strategy Objectives

In all of the items below, we may distinguish or have different standards for missionaries for whom we are their sending church, versus those for whom we are a supporting church.

4.3.1. Church Planting Worldwide

1. Evaluate existing missionaries to gain a better understanding of their ministry as it relates to our strategy.
2. Strengthen our partnership with current church planting missionaries to enhance their ministry and our involvement.
3. Locate and target unreached people groups.
4. Partner with national churches utilizing connections with KSBC missionaries, to build them up or assist in planting daughter churches.
5. Mobilize national churches to send out missionaries to unreached areas or peoples.

One Year and Three Year Objectives

1. **Evaluate existing missionaries to gain a better understanding of their ministry as it relates to our strategy by:**
 - developing a survey form for our missionaries both to evaluate them and learn goals of their ministry. For those not sent by KSBC, coordinate with the sending church to obtain the desired information in the least disruptive manner for the missionary. (1)
 - visiting select church planting missionaries on the field to view and evaluate their ministry first hand. (3)

2. Partner with current church planting missionaries who meet our strategy to enhance their ministry and our involvement by:

- communicating with our church planting missionaries (Richner, Stillwell, Hornbrook, S. Patton, etc.) to discover ways we might assist and partner with them in a greater way. (1)
- visiting select church planting missionaries to view their ministry first hand and develop a partnership plan with their help. (3)
- striving to provide a greater portion of financial support for current, effective missionaries. (3)
- as the Lord leads, providing people and resources to our church planting missionaries for staff and projects. (3)
- developing support teams for each KSBC missionary, beginning with those sent by KSBC. (3)

3. Locate and target unreached people groups by:

- contacting mission agencies for information on newly developing ministries to unreached people groups they are involved with. (1)
- surveying our congregation to see if they have family or contacts in unreached people areas, and look for interest or passion by KSBC people in a particular people group. (3)
- researching unreached people groups on our own, and target a region of the world to send missionaries. (3)

4. Partner with national churches with connections to KSBC missionaries by: 1) assisting them in planting daughter churches, 2) sending out their people as missionaries or, 3) by providing support for local Bible training programs or seminaries.

- Communicate with our missionaries to learn of national churches they work with who may want or need help to reach out beyond their congregation. (1)
- Survey and visit those national churches we have involvement with to determine their desire, readiness and ability to send out missionaries or start a daughter church. (3)
- Determine needs and provide training to national churches regarding their role as a sender, utilizing proven strategies, instruction and short term teams. (3)

4.3.2. Compassion Ministry

As stated above (section 4.3.2), compassion ministry partnership should involve partnering with one of our missionaries, a national church, or an effort leading to a church plant.

1. Survey our congregation to assess giftedness and resources for compassion ministry. (Medical, construction, funding, etc.)

2. Assess the Lafayette community for compassion ministry opportunities.
3. Communicate with our missionaries and partnering agencies to determine compassion ministry opportunities.

One and three year objective ideas:

1. Assess our congregation as to strengths and passion related to compassion ministry by:

- conducting a congregational survey to determine compassion related, individual mission interests, skills and passions. (1)

2. Assess the Lafayette community for compassion ministry opportunities by:

- developing and task a committee to assess and prioritize compassion ministry opportunities. (1)
- selecting a compassion ministry to partner with and lay out a strategy to begin the ministry with appropriate funding. (3)

3. Communicate with our missionaries and partnering agencies to determine compassion ministry opportunities by:

- surveying our missionaries and agencies to receive their input on compassion ministry opportunities they are associated with. Develop a list, prioritize and select opportunities that fit our passion. (3)

4.3.3. Campus Ministry Goals

1. Partner with missionaries to international students on the Purdue campus who embrace our strategy focus and essential criteria.
2. Develop strategies to train and involve KSBC people and resources in the international student ministry, both lay and those interested in career missions.
3. Develop strategies to welcome international students and assimilate them into the KSBC community.
4. Assist campus missionaries in discipling and preparing students for return to their country.
5. Assist campus missionaries in discipling and preparing students for vocational ministry or cross-cultural ministry.

One Year and Three Year Objectives

- 1. Partner with missionaries to international students on the Purdue campus that God sends our way, who embrace our strategy focus and essential criteria by:**

- educating KSBC people of the wonderful “missions ministry” opportunity they have locally. (1)
- improving communication and cooperation between our campus missionaries and KSBC by hosting quarterly meetings between mission team members and the missionaries. (1)
- supporting our partner missionaries by providing meeting space, financial support, and other resources at the disposal of KSBC. (1)
- provide people and space for special international events, meals and classes. (1)
- support the Crosswalk Project with people and finances. (1)
- provide opportunities for staff internships to those interested in full time ministry. (3)

2. Develop strategies to train and involve KSBC people and resources in the international student ministry by:

- develop or locate a “Guide to International Student Ministry” to aid workers in the area of culture, appropriate conversation, spiritual strategy. Secure help of involved Christian international students. Disseminate to international student workers. (1)
- developing a list of KSBC people wanting to be involved in international student ministry, or an “E-bulletin which lists service opportunities. (1)
- developing ways to involve senior saints in international ministry. (For example, at the monthly senior breakfasts, invite international students twice a year.) (1)
- training people to work with international students on improving English conversation and vocabulary, and mentor international students. (3)

3. Develop strategies to allow international students feel welcome and a part of KSBC by:

- developing a “foyer greeter program” for internationals and secure a coordinator.
- assisting with international student transportation needs by developing a list of people willing to pick up international students and transport to KSBC. (1)
- provide opportunity for international students to be involved with two KSBC services per year. (1)
- developing a program to get international students into American homes. (For example promote the International Friendship Program.) (3)

4. Assist campus missionaries in discipling and preparing students for return to their country by:

- creating a “Staying Connected” discipleship program for international students. (3)
- developing a “referral network” in China where we can connect international students when they return to China. (3)
- developing a strategy to follow up semi-annually with former students to determine if they are still connected to a church or in career ministry. (3)

5. Assist campus missionaries and ministers in discipling and preparing students for vocational ministry or cross-cultural ministry by:¹

- helping campus missionaries to identify candidates, and develop training experiences, for potential vocational and cross-cultural ministry. (3)
- helping church campus ministry staff to identify candidates, and develop training experiences, for potential vocational and cross-cultural ministry. (3)

¹ The two objectives in this area are intended to encompass efforts to identify and develop vocational pastoral and cross cultural ministers by both campus missionaries (those focused primarily on outreach to internationals) and campus ministry staff (those focused primarily on evangelizing and discipling domestic and/or undergraduate students).