

# Missions and Outreach Committee

"BYLAWS BITS" — MARCH 2016

With hyperlinks in blue

First Church is engaged throughout the community and around the world, often partnering with other organizations to bring the light of God's love to others



by helping to address their needs. The [Missions and Outreach Committee](#) is at the center of this important activity.

Here is an opportunity for you to know more about this key ministry and to share your thoughts about the draft language proposed for inclusion in the revised bylaws to be presented at a congregational meeting for ultimate approval. The draft bylaw provisions relating to Missions and Outreach are as follows:

**PURPOSE:** The Missions and Outreach Committee (M&O Committee) provides management and direction for First Church's participation in, and fulfillment of, our Lord's Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20) to reach out with the Gospel message of Jesus Christ.

**ROLES AND DUTIES:** To further its purpose, and not in limitation of its actions, the M&O Committee shall have the following roles and duties:

1. Develop and maintain a Charter to define the responsibilities of its members to fulfill the mission of First Church.
2. Propose, encourage, sponsor, recommend and support mission and outreach activities.
3. Carry out the direction of the Executive Board and keep the Church Council informed of the activities and progress of the M&O Committee.
4. Apportion First Church's financial resources to support local, national, and international programs.
5. Commission subcommittees as necessary to support M&O programs and activity.

**AUTHORITY:** The M&O Committee shall have authority to meet the foregoing enumerated duties and, in doing so, shall coordinate with and regularly report to the Executive Board.

**ACCOUNTABILITY:** The M&O Committee is accountable to the Executive Board, and the M&O Committee Chairperson is a member of the Church Council.

**MEMBERSHIP:** The M&O Committee shall be composed of active members of First Church with a passion to fulfill our Lord's Great Commission. The Chairperson shall be elected by the First Church Congregation at its Annual Meeting. The Chairperson shall serve for two years, and may serve for two consecutive two-year terms and is then ineligible to serve again for two full years.

The Committee—**Tina Balmer, Amber Bird, John Davis, Anton Hertle** and **Steve Soderberg**—encourages any First Church member to share his or her views regarding updating the bylaws. This can be done by mail, email, or notes to the Committee delivered to any Committee member, the Board chairperson, the chairperson of the Research and Long-Range Planning Committee (R&LRP), or the senior minister. Notes to the Committee may also be dropped off with the church receptionist, for the R&LRP mailbox. For your convenience, the current First Church Bylaws are available at [firstchurch.org/bylaws](http://firstchurch.org/bylaws) and at the Church Office.