



MAY 2019



**10 Things You Should Know about Missions and the Local Church**  
By Andy Johnson

**1. The mission of missions is primarily spiritual.**

I hope we can agree that the church should especially care about eternal suffering. The church is that unique gospel community chartered by Jesus Christ himself. Consequently, it should especially labor to fulfill its unique mission to guard the gospel, proclaim the gospel, and disciple those who respond in repentance and faith to the gospel.

If our churches fail at that mission, no matter what other good things we do, we will have failed in the unique mandate that Christ has given us as churches. It is good to do other good things, and our churches may make different decisions about engaging in good works and social action. But it is the stewardship of the gospel that remains utterly unique to the Christian church. We must keep first things first. That is the priority of Christian missions.

**2. The mission belongs to God, for his glory, on his terms.**

God intends not only that his mission would go forward but that it would go forward on his terms. He means to get glory by showing that the mission is his and that his power sustains it. Any effort on our part to change or broaden the mission, or to substitute our ideas for God's, runs the risk of trying to rob God of his rightful glory. And trying to rob an all-knowing and all-powerful God of the thing he is most passionate about in all the universe is breathtakingly stupid and ultimately pointless. God says: For my name's sake I defer my anger; for the sake of my praise I restrain it for you, that I may not cut you off. Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tried you in the furnace of affliction. For my own sake, for my own sake, I do it, for how should my name be profaned? My glory I will not give to another. (Isa. 48:9-11)

**3. Global missions is primarily through the local church.**

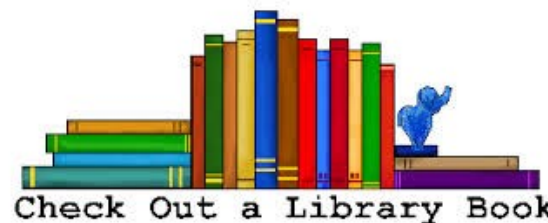
In one sense the commission to missions was given to every individual Christian. But in another sense it was given primarily to local churches. Each of us individually is called to obey Christ's command to make disciples who know and obey his Word. But how does he intend us to do that? His Word is clear—normally we are to pursue obedience, build up disciples, and plant other churches through the local church. The local church makes clear who is and who is not a disciple through baptism and membership in the body (Acts 2:41). The local church is where most discipling naturally takes place (Heb. 10:24-25). The local church sends out missionaries (Acts 13:3) and cares for missionaries after they are sent (Phil. 4:15-16; 3 John 1-8). And healthy, reproducing local churches are normally the aim and end of our missionary effort (Acts 15:41; Titus 1:5).

**4. The Bible says a lot about how to approach missions.**

It would be cruel for God to know what he wants, but then leave us to figure it all out. God would never treat his children that way. Throughout his Word, God has given us a treasury of instructions on the global mission of the church—what it is and how to approach the mission in faithfulness and joyful confidence. We love and honor him not merely by working toward the final goal he's given—worshippers from every language, tribe, people, and nation—but also by using the means he has decreed. And he has told us that his global mission will advance through holy lives, faithful prayer, gospel proclamation, and healthy reproducing churches.

**5. The local church can equip missionaries.** The role of the local church is not merely to assess but also to actively equip missionaries. We may not know a lot about specific cultures, learning languages, or even historical issues that shape a people's attitudes toward the gospel. But the local church is the perfect place—God's appointed place—to grow Christian character, encourage general fruitfulness, and transmit sound Bible doctrine. We shouldn't let a few things we might not know keep us from faithfully and assertively stewarding the responsibility for missions God has given churches. Churches are where faithful missionaries are made. If our churches do a good job in our basic responsibilities, then we have all we need to raise up godly missionaries.

**The other 5 Things You Should Know about Missions and the Local Church will be continued in the June Newsletter.**



**Deaconess of the Month:**  
**Maay Garzon**  
**Communion is Sunday, May 5**

If you have events and need bulletin inserts made please send me the information by Tuesday of each week.

If you have an activity or event and need to use the church, please contact Pam to check the church calendar for availability of date. Fill out the activity sheet available on the counter in the office and return to Pam.



**Monday,**  
**May 27**

**Fox River Baptist Church**  
**2600 E. Henry Street**  
**Appleton, WI 54915**  
**920-734-6162**  
**Website: foxriverbaptist.com**  
**Email: office@foxriverbaptist.com**  
**Office Hours:**  
**Tuesday & Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon**

### ***Birthdays:***

1—Ian Dohms  
4—Ryan Smith  
6—Janice Jourdan  
9—Linda Hoffman  
16—Shari Middlestead  
17—Scott Smith  
26—Pastor Tim  
28—Kara Pogreba  
29—Tommy Mlodzik



### ***Happy Anniversary***

8—Walter & Dawn Delaney

### **St Joseph's Food Pantry**

Each month we will collect non-perishable food items. Place your food items on the table provided in the foyer.



### ***Evening Service***

*May 5  
No Evening Service*

*Sunday, May 19, 6 pm*

*Sunday, May 12, 6 pm  
Sunday, May 26, No Prayer Mtg.*



### ***Fox River Baptist Vision Statement***

*We desire that everyone who enters Fox River Baptist Church grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ and grow in authentic, loving, familial relationships to make the name of Christ known in our community and world, all for the glory of God and joy of all.*

### ***Nursery Schedule***



**May 5**  
Gene Pogreba & Bryce Middlestead  
**May 12**  
Jeff Middlestead & Ian Dohms  
**May 19**  
Stephanie Smith & Elle Pogreba  
**May 26**  
Catherine Smith & Kate Pogreba

### ***Usher Schedule***



**May 5**  
Rob & Sam Mlodzik  
**May 12**  
Bob Abitz & Gene Pogreba  
**May 19**  
Jeff Middlestead & Jerry Kroehler  
**May 26**  
Ron Van Asten & Keith Brown

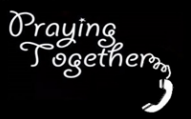
### **Financial Update**

March 31-April 28, 2019  
Budget needed weekly: \$ 2606.00  
Received: \$ 2300.00  
Contact Rob Mlodzik with questions.



Online giving is available on the website:  
[www.foxriverbaptist.com](http://www.foxriverbaptist.com). Contact Bill Olson if you have any questions.

### **Praises & Prayers**



Here at FRBC, we have a prayer chain meant for the sharing of prayer request needs and for sharing praise for the awesome & mighty work God does in our lives. Please feel free to share any praise or request at our new prayer request email address:

**[prayer@foxriverbaptist.com](mailto:prayer@foxriverbaptist.com)**

**Care to be part of the prayer chain?** Email or call Shari Middlestead: [shari@middlestead.com](mailto:shari@middlestead.com) (920)209-1989 or Renee Brown: [eener654@gmail.com](mailto:eener654@gmail.com) (920)428-5306

### **Missions Sunday**

**May 5**

John and Lori are serving as Mobilization Specialists, Monthly Deployment Advisors. They are advising and coaching newly appointed Converge missionaries during the period of time appointees complete their many requirements to reach their field. Converge has a comprehensive program of creating missionary support teams, developing needed missionary skills and preparing for successful departure. Having been missionaries in the Philippines for more than 25 years, John and Lori know what it's like to raise support, leave family and friends and pack belongings. In their role of advising/coaching new missionary appointees, the De Cleenes are multiplying nearly three decades of worldwide church planting efforts by helping new appointees reach their field fully prepared. By continuing to raise their own financial support, John and Lori help decrease the costs for the missionary appointees they train. They will be speaking during the worship hour.

Delaney Hoffman is the daughter of Jay and Linda Hoffman. This past spring break, Delaney was privileged to have an amazing opportunity to attend Cru's Urban Immersion spring break conference in Los Angeles, CA from March 23-March 30. During the trip she worked in partnership with urban ministries, experiencing training in evangelism and cross-cultural ministry, and growing in community with others from her campus. She will be sharing with us about her experiences during the Sunday School Hour.

Mark and Nancy Wildenberg have for the last 8 years been involved with Missions in the Dominican Republic. Mark and Nancy just spent some time there during the month of March, ministering and serving indigenous pastors, an outreach ministry, and a ministry to men and women who are suffering with addiction. Mark and Nancy will be sharing during the potluck about their recent visit and what they see as the needs for the church in the D.R.

**Potluck Lunch to follow Sunday School. Sign up on the sheet in the foyer.**