

## Missions Plan: 2024

The response of this church to our missions plan was amazing in 2023. We set a goal of \$22,000 to give to missions over and above our regular tithes (giving to the General Fund). As of December 31, 2023, we gave \$31,051 to missions! That's 141% of our goal and we are thanking God for His generosity being poured out through this church family.

With that in mind, here is our plan for 2024.

Some important factors in how we choose our missions partners and designate funds are as follows:

1. It is better to give more money to less people than to spread small amounts of money to many people. Why? \$500 doesn't significantly impact the yearly budget for a Global Worker but support in the thousands of dollars does. Plus, a significant investment also means a deeper connection to the work that they are doing and a chance to build relationship with them.
2. It is vital that the mission, vision, core values and DNA of the local church match up with the missionaries. Then, our missions families truly are an extension of the local church in the world.

Jesus said to his followers, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

We can't be everywhere but we can leverage what we have to be obedient as the Spirit prompts and enables us.

In "Jerusalem" we have committed \$3000 to Ray of Hope this year. A significant portion of that is for providing meals at least six times this year (more as the need arises) and whatever is remaining at the end of the year will be given as a cash gift.

In "Judea" we have committed \$6000 to Anthony & Barbara Pennings and their work in Manitoulin. They are making significant inroads for the gospel and shining a beautiful light. They are there, from us, representing Christ and we are honoured to get behind that.

In "the ends of the earth" we have committed \$6000 to Jeremy & Teresa Feller in Ethiopia. Jeremy is the PAOC's Regional Director for the continent of Africa after more than a decade of incredible ministry in Ethiopia and surrounding countries. God is working through them to break the orthodox and Muslim religious strongholds in northern Africa. Amazing. We are excited to commit these funds to their ministry this year.

In “Samaria” we have a very special opportunity that will come to fruition this year. We have shifted our funds from Hector & Ruth Aragon in Guatemala to our own Margaret Pfeiffer, who will be launching as a Global Worker later this year. We have committed \$6000 to her general budget this year, and an additional \$8000 to help to launch her into her new ministry by covering the cost of her language school training. Margaret will be coming alongside the Aragons and be involved primarily in the Child Care Plus program which reaches over 500 children in 17 locations throughout the country. She will also assist with administration and social media, host short-term teams and potentially run summer camps... which we know she will excel at!

We are continuing to support Ian and Tiffanie Rowley in Cambodia and committing \$2000 to them this year. The Rowleys are having a great impact for the gospel in southeast Asia with university students and through ChildCARE Plus. We are honoured to partner with them as they minister to the next generation – a passion we share here at Freedom.

All in all, we’ve again committed \$31,000 to missions this year.

What is unprecedented this year is that we ended 2023 already working on our 2024 goal! The surplus in the Missions Fund was \$5,387 and we decided to use it to get working toward our \$31,000 goal.

So, now, our goal is \$25,613.!

As always, you are invited to dig in and open your hearts to a new level of generosity this year. Maybe you will connect with a specific family and want to support them monthly. Maybe you will want to take a portion of your tax return and give it to this missions goal for where it is most needed. Maybe you will make a savings plan in your budget so that by the end of the year you have set aside some specific money to extend the life-transformation work outside of these walls.

We will continue to share about our missions partners over the coming months - their stories, prayer requests and what God is doing through their ministries. We have a missions committee who are going to make sure what we all know that Freedom Church is investing in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth.

We know that we can’t out-give God. When we reach out to meet a need, when we give sacrificially, we know that He honours and blesses those gifts. Let’s link arms and see how we can literally impact the world through the generosity of the local church.

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## **Here's how to give and what happens to your gift...**

- When giving via e-transfer, PayPal or with an offering envelope, mark "Missions" and the amount you are designating. For example, you might write: Missions - \$500.
- Any money that is designated to a specific missions partner will be given to them. For example: Fellers - \$200
- Money given to "Missions" without a specific mission partner designated will be collected as General Missions and will help us reach the amount that has been promised to each missionary or ministry.