

## **Short Term Missions Request for Funding Policy**

### **Definition:**

The short term mission fund is an account of monies set aside to provide financial assistance to people associated with Windom Evangelical Free Church who are engaging the mission field on a short term basis. Short term is considered as less than one year.

### **Purpose:**

The intention of short term mission funds is to encourage Christ followers to be involved in fulfilling the Lord's commandment to "go and make disciples of all the nations". In this limited exposure to the mission fields the expected and hoped for results are twofold:

- One is for short term missionaries to get a clearer vision of the need to reach lost souls for Christ and use that vision to support the work of full time missionaries.
- The second is for some participating individuals to see missionary work first hand and consider it becoming their own life's calling.

### **Criteria of Short term mission projects:**

Funds will only be appropriated to organizations and projects based on the following criteria.

- The sending organization is a Christian non-profit whose doctrines, beliefs and purposes are in keeping with those of the WEFC.
- Individuals that are requesting funds are professed Christians who are demonstrating a desire to share their faith.

### **Funding:**

Any monies within the STMF belong solely to the Windom EFree Church, and all rights to use of said funds by individuals are given up. The uses of all funds are decided by the STMF Board. Money is received as a donation without any donor ownership or control implied.

Therefore, individuals interested in using the STMF as an adjunct for fund-raising are **strongly** encouraged to **first** seek application and **approval** of their desired trip **before** funds are submitted.

STMF is a non-budgetary account of the Windom Evangelical Free Church. That is to mean it does not receive monies through the general fund of the WEFC. It is an independent account that relies on the giving of individuals who wish to promote the purposes of the STMF. Monies may be given in two ways:

- Undesignated funds: Giving that has no specific designation will be allocated based on the sole discretion of the STMF committee.
- Designated funds: Giving may be designated to specific individuals to help finance a specific short term mission project that has met the criteria of STMF **and has been approved for fund raising through STMF**. In the event that the proposed mission trip is

cancelled or the designated individual decides not to participate in the trip the funds will be deemed as undesignated funds (unless the individual requests the funding be held until another approved specific trip is undertaken).

**Structure:**

The STMF will be governed by the Missions Ministry Team of WEFC. The Missions Ministry Team shall appoint three members (STMF Board) to administer the fund. Those members shall be responsible to receive and allocate money from the STMF and give financial accounting to the WEFC overseer board. The members of the STMF Board shall appoint among themselves a chairman, secretary and treasurer.

**Allocation of funds:**

Individuals wishing to receive financial assistance must submit STMF application form. Forms will be available on-line through the church website and in the WEFC office. Once an application is approved favorably, any individual that has funds designated to a particular project in their name will be entitled to that full amount. If they request less than that amount the balance shall then be deemed as undesignated funds. The applicant may request any amount that they may deem as appropriate for their situation. The governing STMF board will make final determination of the amount given. Monies shall be appropriated only to sending organizations. The STMF treasurer will be responsible to distribute the funds.

Approved on 2-16-12 by WEFC Missions Ministry Team