

Mission Commission Minutes
Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Present: Dennis Bricker, Bryson Dean, Marty Stoltzfus, Jim Brenneman, Tim Krabill, Lyubov Slashcheva

1. Tim opened the meeting with prayer.
2. Minutes of the August 31 meeting were reviewed and approved. It was noted that, during the Fall Congregational Meeting on Sunday, September 18, the congregation voted to establish a new line item for IC Compassion in the amount of \$1000 in the FMC Spending Plan for 2016-2017.
3. The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, October 18 at 3:30 p.m.
4. Goals for this year:
 1. Re-establish the International Volunteer Exchange Program in our community for next year.
 2. Identify and implement an Advent giving project.
 3. Educate, inform, and solicit support for the various mission ministries at FMC through the monthly Focus on Mission and other means.
 4. Offer a discerning, supportive sounding board for persons at FMC who are experiencing a passion/calling to engage in a new ministry.
 5. Promote the Mission/Service Grant Program.
 6. Support the congregation's continuing concern around immigration-related issues.
 7. Assist the Iglesia Zoar mission in achieving a more established and sustainable presence.
5. We put planning for January Interterm on hold until our next meeting.
6. Iglesia Zoar update: We discussed plans for Jose, Raquel, and Emma's visit to Iowa September 24-October 4. Jim has made arrangements for various speaking engagements and fundraising opportunities. He is hoping to arrange lunch time or other informal small group meetings mid-week.
7. R-1 visa update: Tim reported that FMC is in the process of hiring David Leopold, Max's attorney, to also represent our congregation for the purpose of filing the necessary forms and petition for the visa for Max. Tim has supplied Mr. Leopold's office with information and documents as requested, and will provide whatever additional items may be required. Central Plains Mennonite Conference is covering the cost of Mr. Leopold's fee and expenses for this case.
8. With help from the Jr. MYF and their sponsors, we assembled 100 complete MCC School Kits on September 4, and received \$815 in donations from the congregation.
9. Focus on Mission schedule:
 - August—Michael Darby, MCC SALT, Bolivia (14th)
 - Sept.—Miguel Portillo (18th)
 - Oct.—Gloria V., Honduras Playground Project (23rd)
 - Nov.—Advent Giving Project
10. We will send \$250 to the Center for Worker Justice from the Mission and Social Concerns line item for organizational affiliate dues for this year.

11. Other: In support of our goals of encouraging people to consider mission assignments and raising awareness of the Missions/Service Grant, Lyubov shared interest in leading a group discussion on mission focused around a study of the book, On Being a Missionary, which she received as a gift during a visit to India. We encouraged Lyubov to contact Christian Education Commission for suggestions about how and when such a group might be formed and gathered.

12. The meeting was adjourned.