



Missions Policy

Jersey Shore Baptist Church Missions Statement

Believing that the great commission was given to the Apostles as representatives of believers of all ages and therefore believing that it is the duty of every local church to evangelize the world, we commit ourselves to the task of encouraging each member of the church to be totally involved in praying for, giving to, and being willing to go to the uttermost parts of the earth, if called upon by the Lord.

Our Church Desire

Along with effectively reaching our community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the people of Jersey Shore Baptist Church have a burning desire to see the Word of God brought to the lost around the world. We are currently supporting around thirty missionaries monthly, which is made possible by the sacrificial giving of God's people in our church. We believe that if we are faithful to do as much as we can to reach this lost and dying world around the globe, God will also bless us here at home.

What is Missions?

There is a great difference between the words, "mission," and "missions." The mission of the church includes its entire scope of activities. It includes the upward aspect or what we classify as worship. It includes the inward aspect, which is building up the believers, also called edification. The outward aspect of the church's mission is the evangelization of the lost. The word "missions" is a specialized word and indicates the ministry of the church beyond its borders.

I. Church Missionary Personnel

- A. Pastor
- B. Missions Director
- C. Missions Committee
 - 1. Made up of Ministry Team leaders
 - 2. Individual members interested in missions
 - a. Committee to meet quarterly
 - b. Consider needs of missionaries
 - c. Consider the progress of each missionary
 - d. Pray for laborers and for missionaries on the fields
 - e. Encourage involvement of members with missionaries

II. Missionary Personnel

- A. Qualifications

1. Must be recommended and supported by his or her sending church.
 2. Must be approved by and affiliated with a reputable mission organization, unless completely overseen and under the direction of their local church.
 3. Male missionaries must meet the qualifications for a pastor as stated in 1 Timothy
 4. Must agree with the doctrine and philosophy of our church (See attached Doctrinal Statement).
- B. Expectations
1. To maintain regular communication with the church
 - a. Letter or other correspondence at least once per quarter.
 - b. Report to church while on furlough when able.
 - c. Keep the church informed as to any change in ministry such as changing fields, sending church, or missions' agency, etc. Note – changing any of these will result in a review to determine continued support.
 2. To be faithful to perform the ministry as was stated to the church when seeking support.
 3. National church planters both here in the U. S. and abroad will be supported for two years maximum for each church plant, which will be considered individually. Any support beyond the first two years will have to be considered on an individual basis.

III. Missions Organizations

- A. Must be compatible with church in doctrine and philosophy
- B. Must show proof of financial accountability and integrity
- C. Must recognize and honor the authority of the local church
- D. Must communicate with church concerning missionaries and missionary issues
- E. Missions' organizations must recognize that they are service organizations that have only designated authority. (Designated by the local church.)

IV. Missionary Support

- A. To start the month the missionary is approved by the church.
- B. To end when the missionary ceases to be an active missionary or in some way becomes disqualified as a missionary of our church.
- C. Amount
 1. For missionaries for whom we are the sending church:
 - a. First year on deputation: \$200 per month.
 - b. After first year: \$200 per month.
 2. For other missionaries: \$50 per month
 3. For retired missionaries (minimum of 30 years of service)
 - a. Continued full support for those who remain active in missions service or full-time Christian service.

- b. For those who are not actively involved in missions, the support will be decreased fifty percent.

D. Projects and Organizations

1. American missionaries to foreign countries
2. Missionary support organizations
3. Church planters in the U.S.A.
4. National Church Planters
5. Evangelists
6. Prison Ministries

- E. Since we believe that Biblical missions is evangelism, edification of believers, and the establishing of indigenous Baptist churches, a minimum of fifty percent of the missions' budget will be used to support church planting missionaries.

V. Missions Conference

- A. To be conducted annually
- B. Personnel
 1. Preferably 2 or 3 missionary families
 2. A conference speaker or speakers
 3. Special music
 4. Possible Representatives from Bible colleges
 5. Possible Representatives from missions' organizations
- C. Activities
 1. Preaching nightly
 2. Missionary presentations
 3. Missions Banquet
 4. Youth activity with missionaries / soul winning
 5. Scripture Assembly Project – (needs to be funded separately)
- D. Offerings and expenses for the conference
 1. Budget \$250 each month for conference from missions' budget
 2. Each missionary to receive love offering and expense check
 3. Speakers and other guests to receive love offering and expense check (To be determined by Missions Director, Committee, and, or Pastor.).
- E. Meeting of Missions Director, Pastor, and key ministry leaders immediately after the conference to evaluate the effectiveness of the conference and to consider changes that need to be made in future conferences

Statement of Faith

1. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be verbally inspired Word of God, as the Holy Spirit prepared, taught, and directed the writers in their writings; the final authority of the faith, life, and church establishment; inerrant in the original writings, and preserved inerrant in the King James Version for the English speaking world. II Timothy 3:16, II Peter 1:20-21, Psalm 12:6-7, I Cor 2:13, Psalms 12:6-7, Psalms 119:89.

2. We believe in one true God eternally existing in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Co-eternal in being, co-identical in nature, co-equal in power and glory, having the same attributes and perfections. Deuteronomy 6:4, II Corinthians 13:14, I John 5:7.

3. We believe the Father is the one and living God: an infinite and intelligent Spirit. Exodus 20:2-3, John 4:24, Genesis 1:1, John 1:18.

4. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is the Son of God and God the Son. We believe in His pre-incarnate deity (John 1:1), that He is equal with God in being (John 10:30), Virgin Birth (Luke 1:35), Perfect Incarnation (Phil. 2:7), sinless life (Heb 4:15), substitutionary death (II Cor 5:21), bodily resurrection (Acts 1:3), ascension (Acts 1:9-11), priesthood (Heb 2:17), imminent pre-tribulational, premillennial coming of Christ for His saints (I Thes 1:10, 4:13-18), and His coming again with His saints to set up His 1000 year Kingdom on the earth (Rev 19).

5. We believe in the blood atonement of Jesus Christ for sin. I John 1:7, Hebrews 10:12.

6. We believe God the Spirit (Holy Spirit) is a Divine Person equal with the Father and the Son and of the same nature; that He was active in the creation: that in His relation to the unbelieving world He restrains the Evil one until God's purpose is fulfilled; that He convicts of sin, of judgement and of righteousness; that He bears witness to the Truth of the Gospel in preaching and testimony; that He is the agent in the New Birth; that He baptizes believers into the Body of Christ, seals, guides, teaches, witnesses, sanctifies, fills for service in soulwinning, and helps the believer. I John 5:7, Gen 2:26, II Thes 2:7, John 16:8-11, John 15:26-27, John 3:5-6, I Cor 12:13, Eph 1:13-14, John 16:13, John 14:26, Romans 8:16, II Thes 2:13, Acts 4:31, Romans 8:26-27.

7. We believe in the reality and personality of Satan; that he is a created being, once known as the anointed cherub that covereth; that through pride he fell; that he is the "god of this world" and the "prince of the power of the air"; that the judgement already passed on him will be executed at the Revelation of Jesus Christ; and that ultimately he will be cast into the lake of fire. Is.14:13-19, John 8:44, Eph. 2:2, Rev. 20:10, Ez. 28:13-15.

8. We believe in the Genesis account of the direct creation of the universe and man by God. We do not believe in the process of evolution. Gen 1:1, Ex. 20:11, John 1:1-3, Heb. 11:3.

9. We believe in the voluntary fall of man resulting in total depravity and that all men are condemned because of one man's sin (Adam). All men are born sinners and need of justification of Christ to save them. Gen 3, Romans 5:12,18-19.

10. We believe that salvation is by grace through faith in Jesus Christ and is offered and available to all people. We believe in order to be saved, sinners must be born again; that the new birth is a new creation in Christ Jesus; that it is instantaneous and not a process. It is not obtained by any work a man can do. Eph. 2:8-9, John 3:3, John 3:6-7, Romans 10:13, II Cor 5:17.

11. We believe in the eternal security and assurance of the believer. Once saved, we are kept by God's power and are secure in Christ forever. John 6:37-40, 10:27-30, Romans 8:1.

12. We believe in the eternal bliss in heaven for all who are saved through Christ's shed blood. We believe in a literal hell and eternal damnation for all who are lost. John 14:1-6, Rev. 20:11-15.

13. We believe that a local Baptist Church is a congregation of immersed believers, associated together by a covenant of faith and fellowship of the gospel; that it has the absolute right of self-government, directed by the Holy Spirit and answerable only to Christ; that in all matters of membership, polity, government, discipline, and benevolence the will of the church is final. Acts 2:41-42, I Cor. 11:2, Eph. 1:22-23, 5:23-24, Col. 1:18.

The offices of the church are Pastor and Deacons. Their qualifications being

found in I Tim. 3 and Titus 1. The true mission of the church is found in the Great Commission given by the Lord in Matt. 28:19-21.

14. We believe that the ordinance of the local Baptist Church are baptism and the Lord's supper. Baptism, the only Biblical mode of believer's baptism, is by total immersion in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit by the command of God (Matt 28:19, Romans 6:4-5). The Lord's Supper, the commemoration of our Lord's death by the bread and the fruit of the vine, is always preceded by self-examination (I Cor 11:23-28). We believe the Lord's Supper is for baptized believers only.

15. We believe that civil governments are of Divine appointment for the interests of good order of human society; that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed except in things opposed to the will of God as expressed in His Word and interpreted in the light of this constitution and confession of faith. (Romans 13:1-7, Titus 3:1, I Peter 2:13-14, 17)

16. We believe that all "who name the name of Christ" as their Saviour should live in such a manner as not to bring reproach upon His name. We believe also that separation from all religious apostasy as well as worldly and sinful pleasures and associations is commanded by the Lord. II Tim. 3:1-5, Rom. 12:1-2, 14:13, I John 2:15-17, II John 9-11, II Cor. 6:14 to 7:1 inclusive.

17. We believe in the bodily, personal, imminent, premillennial return of our Lord Jesus Christ; that He will come before the great tribulation to catch away His bride, the church; that all who are His shall then be caught up to meet Him in the air; that at the end of the tribulation He will come with His church to the earth to judge the living nations and set up His 1000 year kingdom. I Thes. 4:13-16, Matt. 25:31-46, Rev. 19:11-21.