

We are honored that you are interested in partnering with First Pres as we seek to glorify the name of the Lord and colabor with Him as he advances His Kingdom. Our conviction is that Jesus Christ is the only hope of the world–and what a delight that he invites us to belong to Him and to each other and the communities we inhabit as He brings His people to Himself! We seek partners that have an eye for holistic care and concern for developing and empowering local leaders that are best equipped to serve their own context. Here are some general guidelines we look for as we consider applications.

Local Organizations: Our local partnerships are based on our First Pres core value *The City: Our identity is deeply rooted in Orlando. Our Christlike leadership in the city matters. We stay and we serve without expectation or condition, because we are part of the social fabric of the city.* We seek partners that are diagnosing the greatest needs of our community and are working to close gaps in a continuum of care.

Global Organizations: Our global partnerships prioritize the development of the Church, because the local body of believers is best equipped to love and serve her own community. In order to be considered for partnership, global organizations and ministries will need to adequately represent two of the five values listed below.

- 1. *Global church planting*-historically new Christians and new churches spread the gospel the fastest. Reaching the unreached is our priority.
- 2. *Training local pastors*—we hope to increase the number of pastors around the world who have access to theological training through a seminary education.
- 3. *Economic stability*—we partner with ministries who are committed to the growth and economic stability of the people they serve. These ministries are equipped to serve the poor with non-toxic methods preserving dignity and offering hope.
- 4. *Mobilizing First Pres covenant partners*—we seek partners that provide opportunities for First Pres covenant partners to gain a vision of the Kingdom as every tongue, nation, tribe, and people.
- 5. *Joining First Pres covenant partners in global ministry*–we desire to support Kingdom building initiatives that First Pres covenant partners lead and engage with around the world.

Individual Missionaries: We have the unique privilege of being home to several parachurch organizations here in Orlando, bringing many vocational missionaries to covenant partnership with our church family. Therefore, we prioritize partnerships with missionaries that are called out of First Pres and are involved in the life of our covenant family (for at least one year before application). However, we also prayerfully discern opportunities to partner with missionaries that might call another church home as their ministry interests align with where the Lord is leading us.

Application Process: Our application process opens once a year for review by our committee that stewards this portfolio of partnerships. If you are interested in applying, <u>please fill out the contact form</u> to be sent the application via email when it opens. Our application opens in October and remains open until November. Our committee reviews applications thereafter and submits recommendations to our Session for approval in January, with any applicable financial support being sent in February each year.

I would be honored to meet any of you and hear your story and calling into ministry. I take these meetings year round and you can <u>schedule yourself on my calendar here</u>–let's grab coffee, my treat! These meetings are not required for application but rather for our mutual encouragement and benefit. If you have any further questions, please feel free to email me at <u>arossi@fpco.org</u>. I look forward to hearing from you!

In grateful partnership,

alexa rossi

Alexa Rossi Director of Mission