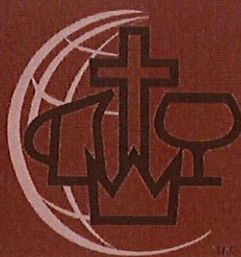




The Pastor's Guide to Alliance Missions

Pray, Give, Go, Send





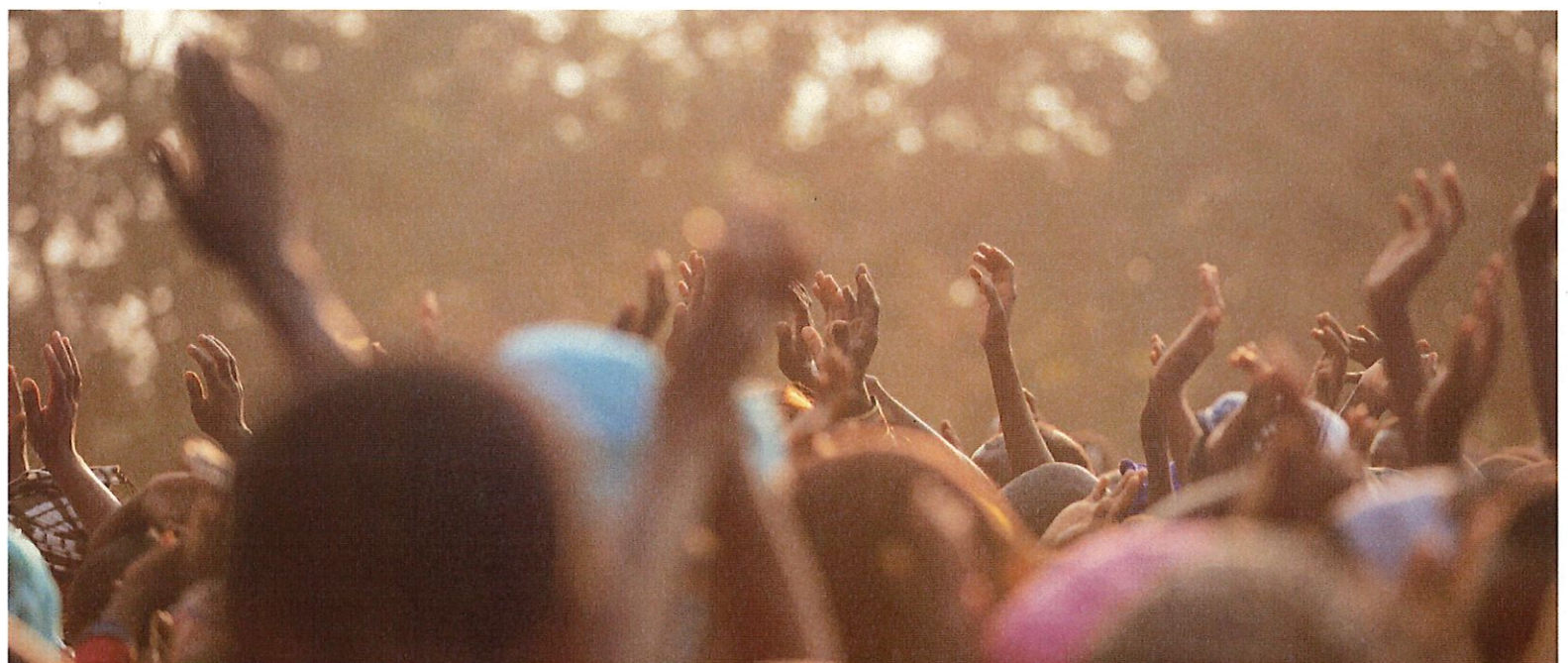
Alliance Missions Simplified



An Alliance Among Denominations

The Christian and Missionary Alliance is unique among the denominations because we were formed as an alliance of churches of various denominations in order to take the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

We have been taking the Gospel to the nations for 120 years and have a long established reputation for being one of the foremost and most effective mission agencies. The Alliance aims to evangelize and plant reproducing, self governing churches with solid leadership and the ability to send. We target the “least reached” people groups without access to the gospel. The group of believers who worship in our worldwide fellowship of churches is 6 million strong because of a God-blessed, time-honored, effective missions strategy.





The 4 Mission Branches

There are four major branches of Alliance missions overseas.

1. **International Ministries**

This is the traditional church planting arm of the CMA. Long term missionaries are well trained, equipped with language study, and sent in to win people to Christ and establish churches with the long term view of establishing a national church that is planting churches, independent, governing itself, and sending missionaries of its own.

2. **Marketplace Ministries**

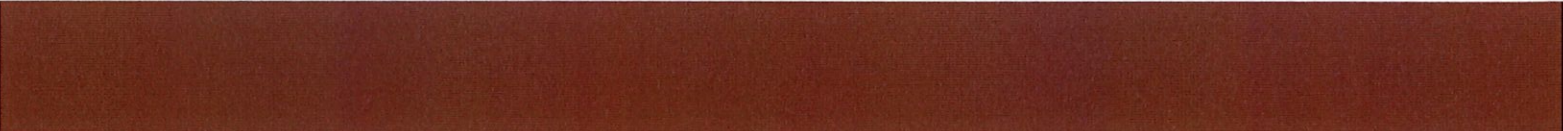
Marketplace ministry was established to provide a viable on-ramp for Christian professionals with a call to missions to serve in secular marketplace positions. Alliance lay professionals are enabled and used to build up local churches and reach areas of the world that lack access to an established church. These folks often serve in creative access countries.

3. **Envision**

This arm of the CMA exists to identify and develop missional leaders who innovate, establish and strengthen communities of faith through short-term missions trips, and internships.

4. **CAMA** (Compassion And Mercy Associates)

CAMA is the relief arm of the CMA that focuses on demonstrating God's love through word and deed. Focused on development projects, medical care, micro-enterprise initiatives, relief from national disasters, and political fall-out, CAMA seeks to partner with like-minded organizations to serve people in need while sharing the Gospel.






The “How To” of Alliance Missions




How to handle GCF offerings



People may designate a portion of their offering to the Great Commission Fund or CAMA on the bottom of their check. They may also give on-line at the Christian and Missionary Alliance website (cmalliance.org). We encourage you to make GCF giving an option if you have an on-line giving option for your church.

Where to send your money

Offerings For the Great Commission Fund may be sent to:

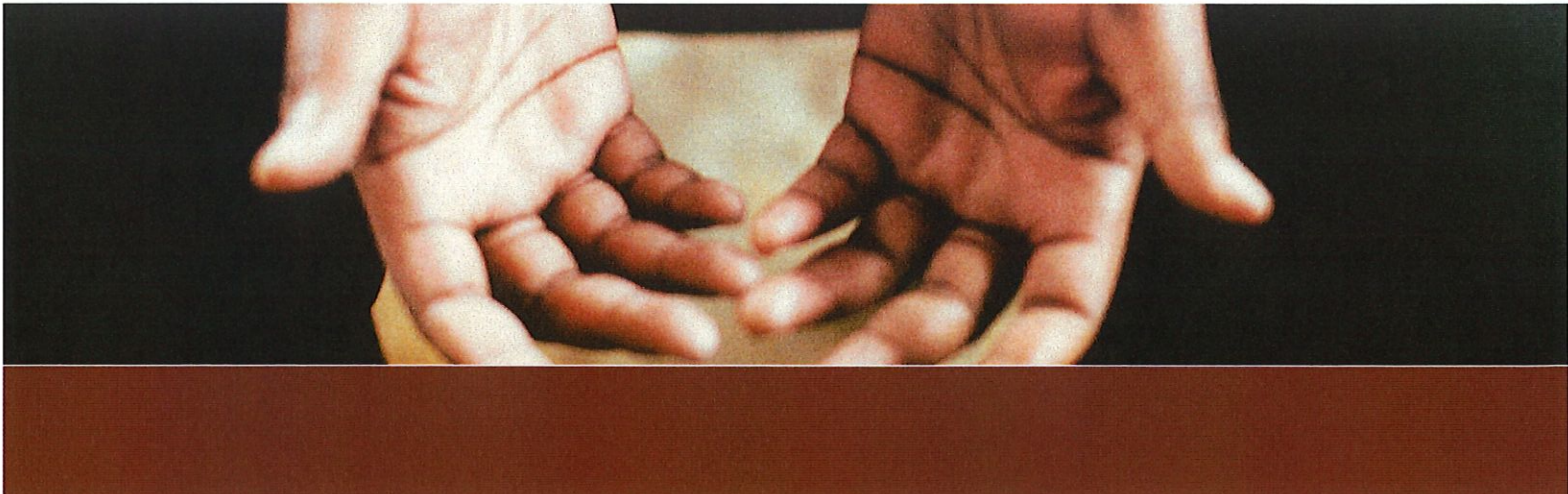


Payable to us (C&MA) and sent to the address below:
The Christian and Missionary Alliance
8595 Explorer Dr
Attn: Donor Services
Colorado Springs, CO 80920

When they receive a gift they send a receipt back quickly. For the next gift they can tear off the lower portion of that receipt and mail in the envelope provided.

The monetary goal

The stated church goal is to work toward 10% of your budget being allocated to the Great Commission Fund.





Setting Reasonable Goals: A Solid Missions Program


Every church supports Alliance missions

- Mission Moments. 5-10 minutes to highlight Alliance missions each month.
- Missions Events. Yearly mission event/week with a visiting missionary.
- Mission Projects. Present project needs for missionaries and take offerings.
- Missions Team. Build a missions team of lay people with a heart for missions to promote Alliance missions, in every ministry, on a regular basis in your church.

The Pastors Role

- Encourage, support, develop a team
- Monthly missions moments time in the service
- Teach the theology of missions to your congregation
- Encourage giving to the Great Commission Fund

The Team's Role

- Plan Mission Moments and present up front
 - Plan Missions events and coordinate with missionaries and District.
 - Promote Alliance missions throughout other ministries. (Youth, Women's Ministries, Children's Ministry, Men's Ministry)
 - Develop prayer support
- 



Developing an Effective Church Missions Team



Qualifications of a Missions Team Leader

- Is passionate about seeing the nations worship Jesus
- Someone who is teachable and willing to learn
- Leadership and/or administrative gifting
- Can articulate publicly with clarity and passions (or delegate this)
- Is willing to learn about CMA mission efforts
- Available to devote time and effort
- Works well with others
- Leadership and/or administrative gifting
- Can articulate publicly with clarity and passions (or delegate)
- Is willing to learn about CMA mission efforts

The job of promoting missions in a church can be a big task. We highly recommend churches work early to build a strong team to share these tasks with the pastor.

The five responsibilities regarding the missions committee are:

- Assisting the pastor in administering a year-round missions program
- Planning and promoting an annual missions conference
- Recruiting candidates
- Promoting financial support
- Promoting prayer support
- Integrating missions throughout the other ministries of the church

We understand that this is a work in progress and it may take some time as you are working to grow your church.



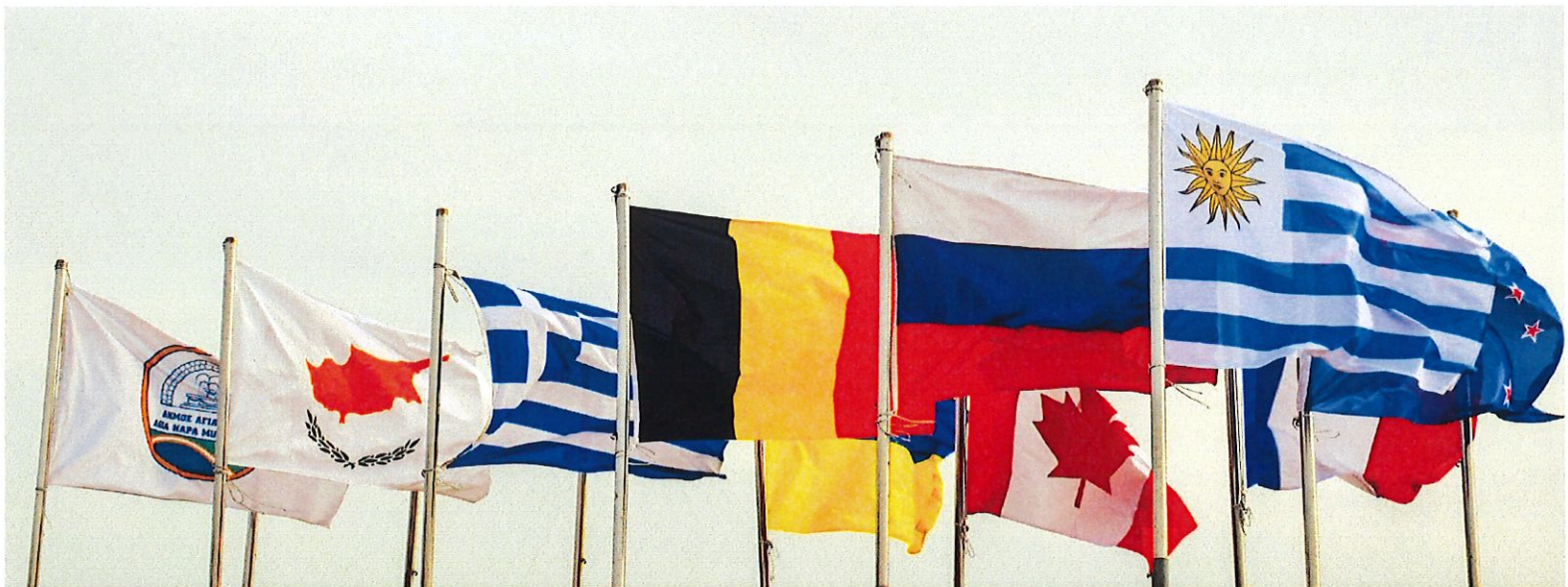


Steps to Setting Up a Missions Team

- Pray about the way to incorporate missions into your church
- Pray for leading in forming a team
- Evaluate what is being done presently
- Recruit interested and passionate people to the team
- Write a mission statement (ie: To mobilize, inform and inspire the congregation and its resources for maximum contribution to the Great Commission)

Broad Description of Areas of Oversight

- Missions Conference
- Short-term missions
- Internationals outreach
- Promoting Prayer for our missionaries and the world
- Missions education on Biblical mandate for mission, current missions progress/ need
- Mission incorporation into Women and Men's ministries
- Identifying and encouraging youth called to serve
- Missionary communications/care both on the field and on home assignment





Missions Team Responsibilities

The Missions Team/Committee could be responsible for some or all of the following areas, either as a team or with 'action team leaders' for each subtitle.

This usually depends on the size and involvement of the church. The responsibilities could begin with a few and be expanded to include more; also they are not limited to those mentioned below.

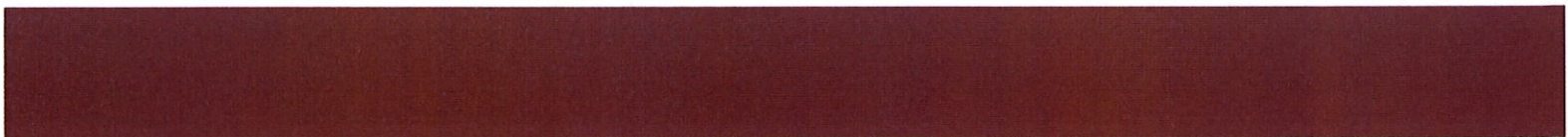
A. Team Leader/Committee Chairman

- Recruits committee members
- Leads regular (quarterly?) meetings
- Prays for committee members on regular basis
- Meets individually with committee members to assess and assign areas of responsibility
- Provides connection between committee and Board of Elders/ Pastor
- Encourages and assists Missions Conference leaders

B. Missions Conference

- Lead & coordinate the planning and execution of the annual Missions Conference and additional missions weekend(s)

C. Short Term Missions (STM)

- Maintain awareness of STM opportunities within the C&MA and outside the C&MA
 - Promote/publicize STM opportunities to the congregation
 - Assist in coordination, recruiting and selection of teams sent from church
 - Review STM applications and make recommendations regarding church support
 - Serve as point of contact for those interested in short-term missions
 - Help coordinate training for those going on STM
 - Maintain awareness of those going on STM. Help keep them connected with the church and make everyone aware of their needs (prayer, financial)
- 




- Provide follow-up for those returning from STM. Helping them to report back to congregation. Encouraging them to pursue long-term involvement in the Great Commission

D. Missions Prayer Mobilization

- Compile & update prayer requests for missionaries, unreached peoples, national churches, persecuted church, need for more laborers
- Distribute requests through all appropriate means
- Provide weekly prayer requests for bulletin
- Promote informed prayer for missions – encourage, educate people on how they can do it
- Promote missions prayer cells
- Mobilize prayer support for missions conference. Develop and implement plans for promoting prayer through the conference





E. Internationals Outreach (IO)

- Maintain awareness of opportunities and resources for outreach to international students and immigrants
- Promote involvement of congregation in IO
- Provide education/resources for those interested in IO
- Connect those interested in IO with opportunities
- Develop and implement plans for promoting IO through the missions conference


F. Missionary Communications/Care

- Maintain contact with missionaries on the field
- Make sure the church sermon tapes, bulletins and news items are sent to the missionaries on the field, in order to help them remain connected to 'their church'
- Promote "adoption" of the missionaries by members of the congregation
- Make sure that missionary prayer letters are displayed & distributed
- Assist missionaries to integrate with the church when on home assignment
- Make sure that confidentiality is maintained regarding missionaries serving in closed or sensitive fields
- Seek to link current church and/or district missionaries with missions conference as much as possible (video links, telephone links, etc.)

I. Visual Promotion

- Develop and maintain visual aids in the church facility (banners, flags, maps, "hall of fame", prayer letter "Center.")
- Provide materials for Moment for Missions
- Visual reminders and aids for Great Commission Fund
- Provide missions PowerPoint slides to be incorporated into pre-worship service "leader" on regular basis
- Display banners, flags and posters for conference
- Coordinate use of Alliance Video Magazine during morning worship, prayer meetings, men's & women's meetings

*Since the size of the committee is dependent upon the size, need and vision of the local church, the following members are given as optional choices to include as committee members.






Planning a Missions Conference/Event

The missions conference or missions event is a crucial part of maintaining a connection between your congregation and missionaries. Responsibility for planning the event should fall on the shoulders of the Missions Team. The Biblical model is Paul reporting back to the churches. (Acts 14:26-28)

- Pray for God to choose the best missionary for what your church needs to hear.
- Choose a date that is far enough away from other big events so that you will get a good attendance.
- Try to schedule events that will hit every major group within your church. Some ideas would be:
 - Youth--pizza followed by a short intro by missionary, followed by questions and an "altar call" for young people feeling the call on their life to go into missions.
 - Men's group--we have done a hike, fishing outing, or breakfast.
 - Women's group--A Saturday morning brunch with slides and speaking, mother-daughter event, hike and lunch, cooking session (we are probably one of the few churches who regularly does hikes!!)
 - Sunday school--Missions flag parade, "show and tell" by missionary, missionary stories.
 - Small group. This is one of our better ideas, I think. Having a missionary visit a small group informally allows people to really connect on a deeper level and the prayer time is usually special.
- Send a detailed questionnaire to the missionary about housing needs, wants, dietary needs, schedule plans, etc. We find it very helpful to ask the missionary directly how busy he or she wants to be. Answers vary widely and we then plan accordingly. After receiving these answers, find an appropriate host home. Make sure the host home has a good, solid internet source and is comfortable with guests (I know, sounds obvious.)

- 
- Figure out transportation.
 - Prepare a packet for missionary, including church directory, maps to each event, detailed schedule, information about city.
 - Put together a schedule with all info necessary--phone numbers, times, addresses, contact info. It is helpful to have the host family on the missions team or in close contact to ease communication. Arrange to have missionary visit the church building and meet the staff the first day, if possible.
 - Either do a sign-up sheet or create a schedule for lunches and dinners with families in the church. This is probably the most valuable thing we do, but it can sometimes be too much for the particular person. Find this out in advance, and then line up families who have a heart for missions, who volunteer, or who have youth that is interested in missions.




Presenting a Mission Moment

A Mission Moment should be used on a regular basis in each church of the CMA as an effective tool to educate your body of the work, mission, and progress of our our International Workers, and on occasion, national workers of our Christ Centered, Acts 1:8 family. However, it is encouraged that local and national ministries be highlighted on other weeks and International Alliance Missions be highlighted monthly.

I define a “**mission moment**” as a tiny, powerful example of how our organization is making an impact. It has to be a people story. Mission moments put a face on what you do. They are stories and examples that can be repeated by others because they are short and inspiring.

A Mission Moment should be kept to a 3-5 minute time frame, unless a longer time is agreed to by the pastor.



**Ideas for Mission Moments:**

- a short video clip from Alliance Snapshots
- a short interview or report from someone in your body who has returned from a short term mission trip,
- a SKYPE interview with a worker familiar to your church
- interview with someone leaving for the field in order to pray for them.

These are only a few options. Use your imagination! The point is to inspire your body to be a part of the Great Commission.

