

Sun & Shield Baptist Church Missions Policy

Just previous to His ascension into heaven, in Acts one, our Lord told His disciples that they would be witnesses unto Him in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. We believe this command to be incumbent upon the local church today also. To fulfill this responsibility, it is needful for a church to help God-called men and women reach those fields of service. This may be accomplished through a local church missions program. For this reason the Sun and Shield Baptist Church has developed its Faith Promise Missions program. As a part of this ministry we have adopted the following missions policy.

I. MISSIONARY CANDIDATES

A. The candidate considered for support by Sun and Shield Baptist Church must meet the following criteria:

1. Must be an active member of a local, Baptist church which is also their sending church (Acts 13:1-3). They may also be sent by a mission board in addition to their local church.
2. Must meet the spiritual qualifications of church leaders as found in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1.
3. Must have submitted a doctrinal statement for approval to Sun and Shield.
4. Must have presented their missionary burden before the congregation of Sun and Shield and meet with the pastor.
5. Must submit a statement of Christian experience / resume.
6. If taken on for support, the missionary agrees to correspond with Sun and Shield at least quarterly.

II. MISSIONS SUPPORT AGREEMENT

A. All missionary projects supported by Sun and Shield shall be given a "support termination / renewal date."

1. Each missionary supported by Sun and Shield shall come up for renewal / termination at the end of each four year term.
2. Missionary must have an interview with Sun and Shield during renewal time, preferably in person.
3. Termination will be at the end of furlough (foreign missions) unless missionary has been approved and support has been renewed.

4. Additional information may be requested from the missionary as well as a personal interview.

B. Sun and Shield's Mission Support Agreement may become void when the ministry of the missionary alters significantly such as:

1. Change in doctrinal position of missionary.
2. Change in field of ministry.
3. Changing mission boards or leaving mission board to work independently.
4. Accepting outside employment not related to ministry.
5. Problems of a moral / ethical nature.
6. Failure to correspond with Sun and Shield on a regular basis.

III. MISSIONARY FINANCIAL SUPPORT

A. Missionaries taken on, by faith, for support will have support continue for one four year term unless they are short term missionaries. They will then be reviewed for support renewal or termination. The missionary must receive 70% of the votes cast in the business meeting.

B. Support level will be determined by faith in the following manner.

(Amended March 2005)

1. Church family missionaries-- to be determined at the discretion of the Pastor and deacons with the approval of the congregation. (currently a base amount of \$100.00 per month.)
2. Foreign missionaries-- currently a base amount of \$35.00 per month with increases as the Lord allows up to \$50.00 per month.
3. Home missionaries -- currently a base amount of \$25.00 per month with increases as the Lord allows up to \$35.00 per month.

C. The church may not drop the monthly support of a missionary while they are on the field unless there is a violation of the missionary support agreement. See Section II, Article B. Dropping a missionary for support may be done only by the church membership at a regularly scheduled business meeting.

Amendments

FIRST AMENDMENT

The following is an addition to the church missions policy approved by the congregation at the quarterly business meeting on March 17, 2005.

Under article II, section B, MISSIONS SUPPORT AGREEMENT

7. Missionary church planters in the United States will only be supported for a four year term at the same church. At that time they will no longer be considered a missionary but a pastor like any other. (This item does not apply to missionaries who are working cross culturally.)

SECOND AMENDMENT

The following is an amendment to the church missions policy approved by the congregation at the quarterly business meeting on March 17, 2005.

Under article III, section B, MISSIONARY FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Item 1-- Church family missionaries base support amount will be increased to \$200 per month.

Item 2 -- Foreign missionaries base support amount will be increased to \$50 per month with increases, as the Lord allows, up to a ceiling amount of \$75 per month.

Item 3 -- Home missionaries base amount will be increased to \$35 per month with increases, as the Lord allows, up to a ceiling amount of \$50 per month.

THIRD AMENDMENT

The following is an amendment to the church missions policy approved by the congregation at the special business meeting on February 28, 2016.

Under article III, section B, MISSIONARY FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The base support amount will be increased to \$50 per month for ALL missionaries. The ceiling amount for all missionaries under Item 2 and Item 3 will be increased to \$100 per month.

FOURTH AMENDMENT

The following is an amendment to the church missions policy approved by the congregation at the quarterly business meeting on April 24, 2016.

Creation of a Special Needs Fund

Pastor with the consent of a majority of the deacons may send up to \$1,000 from the church missions account to a missionary's special emergency need.

Restrictions to the use of the special needs fund is as follows;

- It can be used up to three times per year.

- It cannot be used for the same missionary twice in the same year.

- Its emphasis is on emergency situations;

 - medical issues, having to leave the field suddenly, etc.