

From the Missions Committee . . .

The Missions Committee invites you to celebrate 2024 as the newest year of FPCP's faithful witness to the world. We believe that every Christian is called, empowered and sent to live as part of God's mission through Jesus Christ, whether it be in our neighborhood or someplace faraway. For that purpose, the Missions Committee has continued its work of:

- Deepening relationships with local and global coworkers
- Sponsoring activities to cultivate missional awareness and spiritual growth
- Creating opportunities to expand our capacity for engaging with others through worship, hospitality and co-labor

Here is a summary of 2024 Missions Committee activity:

- **Throughout 2024 - Rev. Bohdan (pictured right) and Inna Kulitskiy** and the needs of **Bread of Life Church** in Ukraine were communicated in constant streams of messages, videos and requests for prayer. The personal cost of ministry is deeply affecting this young family and their team of church leaders. However, they do not stop being conduits of God's grace, sharing the gospel with hundreds of people, several of whom have been baptized. The Bread of Life team has planted four new churches and Bible study groups in nearby villages. Bread of Life remains a trustworthy source of distribution for food, medicine and fuel. This year, they are focusing more on children's programs, ministry to special needs children and care for widowed mothers. FPCP has been blessed to be a blessing in this special relationship formed in 2018, four years before the war began.



- **July 19-30 - New Pathways** visits Pittsburgh. Under the leadership and coordination of Lisa Anderson-Umana (Christian Camping International for Latin America), Susan Quam (FPCP), Sharon Boone (Outreached Arms) and Patrick Myers (Ligonier Camp and Conference Center), hospitality and events were planned for 20 visitors from several Central and South American countries. Collectively called New Pathways, the CCI team worked for four years to write, edit and launch an outdoor-themed curriculum rooted in Latin American culture. Their time in Western PA was a celebration of their accomplishment and an opportunity to thank churches, like FPCP, for their support.



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- **July 27-28 - Rev. Shawn and Mrs. Silvia Harmon** (*pictured right*), mission coworkers with The Antioch Partners, came to teach and preach on the theme, “Hear and See Before You Go” (Isaiah 42:18-43:13). The newlywed Harmons serve in Italy among Muslim refugees. This was their first time in the US since Shawn was deployed to Italy in 2021.
- **October 4-6 - Rev. Erik Burklin** (*pictured below*), President of China Partner, came to teach, preach and serve communion on FPCP’s Missions and World Communion Sunday. His theme was “GO NOW” (Matthew 9:35-38). A special offering was received for the ministry of China Partner, as it continues to go and serve the church in China.



- **November 6 - Liz Wasel of Sojourner House** met with Susan Quam, Denice Claudon and Judy Shipley. It was a meaningful reconnection after the disruption of COVID. The discussion focused on ways to get re-engaged. One result will be FPCP’s resumption of Mother’s Day gift-giving to the mothers in recovery at Sojourner House.
- **November 11-12 - World Mission Initiative Conference** at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Through FPCP’s interactions with and support of WMI, four members of the church were able to attend. The well-received theme was “*Mission in the Margins: Lessons and Practices from the Global Church.*” It featured a delegation of church leaders from Malawi and South Sudan.

• **December 1 - Sharlene Dominick** (*pictured right*), Founder and Executive Director of Garden Home Ministries, came to FPCP to give witness to her faith and bring the church up to date on recent developments at **Sunflower House**. Susan Quam and Judy Shipley met several times with Ms. Dominick throughout the year and visited Sunflower House monthly to spend time with the residents and facilitate Bible study and prayer.



The Missions Committee members are
Rev. John Dickey, Jon Muha, Susan Quam, Walt Seigfried, Bill Shipley and Judy Shipley.

If you would like to know more about the work of the Missions Committee, or the people and organizations supported by the annual Missions Budget, please send an email to the church office (info@fpcp.org) or speak to a committee member directly.

Judy Shipley, Chair, Missions Committee