

HWC Missions

Purpose | Definition | Values | Convictions

Our Purpose

Why does the separate HWC Missions Program exist?

The Missions Budget and Committee of Hayward Wesleyan Church exist to help our church take the love of Jesus to the hurting in our community and to the seeking in our world. We will work to:

- 1) Strategically deploy people and resources around the world to bring lost people to Jesus.
- 2) Inspire and equip every person at HWC to be actively involved in the Great Commission.
- 3) Raise up workers to train and serve in cross-cultural missions.

Our Definition of “Missions”

What church projects are and are not considered “Missions”?

Missions is reaching across barriers and outside our comfort zone to reach others with the Good News of Jesus, both in the U.S. and abroad.

Our Vision

By the power of the Holy Spirit, we will see lives and communities transformed by God in cultures where, currently, people either have no access to, or no working concept of, the Good News.

Our Values

1. Serve Locally: We care deeply about the Hayward area and devote 20% of our mission resources to local Christian ministries—places where our church has hands-on opportunities to serve our neighbors.
2. Reach Globally: We grieve that 4 in 10 people globally have no access to the Gospel. To bring light where there are no Christians, churches or Bibles, 70% of our resources will go to cross-cultural evangelism, discipleship, and church development. Over time, we will focus more and more on unreached cultures.

Definition of “unreached”: Cultures lacking sufficient Christian believers (usually under 2% evangelical) to evangelize their own people without outside help.

3. Love Boldly: We want a love for the lost to mobilize our church and raise up new missionaries. The balance of our budget, 10%, will go toward missions education, discretionary grants, and short-term mission assistance for our members.

Convictions: A “Filter” to Guide Our Partnership Decisions

What core values do we hold that will drive our vision and strategy?

1. Scripture and Prayer – Our efforts—and those of our partners—will be grounded in prayer and the Word of God, and spring from our genuine love for Jesus Christ. Only when we seek God’s wisdom and power can we see fruit from our plans and programs. (*Matt: 6:10, Matt. 9:37-38*)
2. Missions as DNA – Missions is not a program, but part of our church’s identity. As a body, we are commanded to go and make disciples of all nations. We will challenge and equip every person at HWC to be involved by going, giving and/or praying. (*Matthew 28:19-20, Mark 16:15*)

3. Unreached People – We will prioritize the 3.4 billion people (4 in 10) who have little or no access to the Good News (no Christian witness, church, or Bible). We grieve that currently less than 3% of missionary work targets these unreached people groups. ² (*Rom. 15:20*)
4. A Holistic Gospel – As He encountered people, Jesus met both physical and spiritual needs. We affirm mission work in fields such as poverty relief, education or health care, and others as ways to express God's love and to move people to a next step of faith, as the Holy Spirit leads. This approach is essential in closed-access countries, in particular. (*Romans 10:17*)
5. Discipleship and Leader Training – We believe Christian maturity is important, especially in recently evangelized regions. We will invest in pastor and leadership training so that national churches can become compelling witnesses and multiply. (*2 Tim. 2:2, Matt. 28:19-20*)
6. Church-Centric – We believe the church is God's primary instrument to accomplish His will in the world. Whenever possible, we will partner with a like-minded local church in the culture we're attempting to reach, not just a para-church or independent organization. (*1 Cor. 12: 12-27*)
7. Co-Development – We will practice cultural humility. Any development projects we invest in will be based on close cooperation with the local people and their priorities. The project must be sustainable by the community after our church's involvement has ended. (*Philippians 2:5-8*)
8. Innovation – We will stay informed about new mission strategies and be open to new movements of God in which we can participate (*3 John 5-8*). Examples of current trends are:
 - National workers – Supporting native Christians in reaching their own people, without the cost and barriers faced by Western missionaries. (*Advancing Native Missions.com*)
 - Digital evangelism – Communicating with seekers who are exploring Christianity online. (*Global Media Outreach.com*)
9. Selective partnerships – Over time, we will work to reduce our mission partners to <10 and fund a larger proportion of their support. We believe fewer, deeper relationships will improve our impact and inspire greater participation from our church body. (*Matt. 25:14-30; 1 Peter 4:10*)
10. Aligned and Accountable – Our mission partners will align with the core tenets of the Wesleyan Church and be accountable to a reputable organization such as Global Partners, YWAM, or other sending agency. They will also welcome our own periodic evaluations. (*Titus 2:1, Heb. 13:17*)

¹ Joshua Project

² Global Frontier Missions

Strategy

(To be documented in annual priorities, budget and communication plans.)