

Reformed Church in America
Classis of the Southwest Leadership Team

Minutes of Leadership Team Meetings by e-mail on July 10, 2013.

MEMBERS PRESENT BY e-mail: Rev. Dr. Jim Poit, Rev. Dr. Randy Wieland, Rev. Gary Jarvis, Rev. Dr. Ted Vandenberg, Rev. Dr. Gene James, Pastor Richard Caballero, Wayne Ribbens, and Lynn Fischer.

Rev. Gary Jarvis, Regional Strategist submitted the following for Leadership approval:

The Mission Southwest Team has approved the ministry structure that they would like to operate with. They are asking both The Classis of the Southwest, RCA and Classis Arizona, CRCNA to approve the structure as well, so that we begin to work collaboratively in good order.

Recommendation: Classis of the Southwest Leadership Team approve the ministry structure via email meeting.

The recommendation was approved by e-mail vote 2013/18

Respectfully submitted

Lynn Fischer, Stated Clerk
Classis of the Southwest, RCA

Attachment: Mission Southwest Ministry Structure

Mission Southwest, Ministry Structure

Team Meeting – June 21, 2013

Team Contribution

Mission Southwest will develop a vital church multiplication movement within the Classis of the Southwest (RCA) and Classis Arizona (CRC). Mission Southwest will develop an ecosystem¹ that foster a church multiplication movement and will engage in the healthy planting of new churches.

Team Structure

Mission Southwest will consist of 4 voting representatives from the Classis Arizona (CRCNA) and 4 voting representatives of the Classis of the Southwest (RCA). In addition to these there will be ex-officio members from each classis as needed. From among these team members 1 chairperson will be elected and 1 clerk will be elected, and 1 treasurer who may or may not be on the team will be charged with disbursement of funds, accounting, and budget development support under the Mission Southwest's Authority. Team members may be selected from the entire body of Christ within Classis Arizona (CRCNA) or the Classis of the Southwest (RCA) including Ministers, Commissioned Pastors, Elders, Deacons, and Church members.

Sub-Teams

Mission Southwest will empower sub-teams to develop within Mission Southwest in order to develop a healthy Church Multiplication ecosystem. Each sub-team will have one or two leaders from Mission Southwest who can recruit anyone they want to serve on their teams. These sub-teams will be focused on one of the following areas.

EVALUATION: discerning planter gifts and places

1. Assessment center events.
2. Assessor and behavioral interview training.
3. College and Seminary recruitment and "farming."
4. Internships for emerging planters.
5. Demographic research for strategic plant deployment

EQUIPPING: training experiences for church planting work

1. Planter pre-launch (THRIVE) training.
2. Planter "in service" training in smart classroom or face to face format.
3. Planter formal training: Institute for Global Church Planting at CTS.
4. Annual regional planter summit.
5. Training for plants transitioning from founding to second pastoral leader.
6. Community development training for urban impact and sustainability.

EMPOWERING: coming alongside the planter to support and guide

1. Specialized coach training.
2. Individual planter coaching.
3. Planter networks and clusters led by trained facilitators.
4. Planter refreshment retreats (THRIVE SUSTAIN)
5. Zone gatherings for shared learning and collaboration.

EXPANDING: raising up parent congregations and funding

1. Annual parenting EXPONENTIAL event.
2. FRESH START intervention and training with congregations in decline
3. Monthly parenting webinar/smart classroom.
4. Local/regional parenting networks with trained facilitators.
5. Church Planter fund development training.
6. Local/regional/national funding Pentecost campaign.

ENTREATING: Aligning with God's Movement through Prayer.

1. Prayer events
2. Training for prayer warriors
3. Connecting church planters with prayer teams.
4. Infusing prayer into the entire church multiplication movement.

Team Responsibilities

1. Design and develop an effective ecosystem for a Church Multiplication Movement
2. Research and make recommendations to churches and Classes of potential planting opportunities.
3. Adopt, and assess potential planting opportunities that churches and Classes are recommending.
4. Develop funding sources for a Church Multiplication Movement.
5. Develop an annual budget that details funding sources, and costs of all ecosystem, and church planting projects. This budget will also include a contingency reserve for unforeseen projects that arise through the year.
6. Propose the above mentioned budget to the Classis Arizona (CRC), and Southwest Classis (RCA) for approval and accountability.
7. Make recommendations and proposals for Church Planting and ecosystem projects that arise through the year to the Classis Arizona (CRC), and the Southwest Classis (RCA).
8. Make financial disbursements to project commitments that are approved by the Classis Arizona (CRC), and the Southwest Classis (RCA).
9. Collaborate with CRC and RCA churches, assemblies, agencies, and institutions in the work of developing a vital church multiplication movement.
10. Strategically collaborate with other ecumenical partners that will expand Mission Southwest's capacity for planting CRC and RCA churches. Mission Southwest will be guided by these principles in its collaboration.
 - a. Mission Southwest will not financially support non-CRC/RCA plants
 - b. The collaboration can be shown to be mutually beneficial to Mission Southwest's cause and the partners cause.
 - c. The collaboration is strategic for Mission Southwest in that it will help plant more CRC/RCA churches.
11. Report progress, challenges, results, and financials to the Southwest Classis (RCA) and Classis Arizona (CRC).
12. Inform RCA and CRC churches of vision, progress, challenges, and results of Mission Southwest.

Team Accountability

1. Mission Southwest will set up appropriate support and accountability structures for health and successful Church Planting within the RCA and CRC Classis.'
2. 2 RCA representatives of Mission Southwest will be on the Classis Leadership Team (RCA). They will present proposals to the Classis Leadership Team (RCA) from Mission Southwest. They will also give reports of progress, challenges, results, and financials of the activities of Mission Southwest.
3. Mission Southwest will share reports of progress, challenges, results, and financials to the Classis Administrative Team (CRC) and to the Classis, through the Stated Clerk.
4. According to its By-laws, Classis Arizona (CRC) or its Classis Administrative Team will have authority to make decisions regarding financial proposals from Mission Southwest that impact CRC ministries and Church Plants.

5. According to its By-laws, the leadership team of the Classis of the Southwest (RCA) will have authority to make decisions regarding financial proposals from Mission Southwest that impact RCA ministries and Church Plants.
6. In those circumstances where joint-ministries or sharing of resources for a ministry or church plant are involved, both Classis have the authority to make decisions regarding these financial proposals in accordance with their By-laws.
7. Mission Southwest will be accountable to the Classis of the Southwest (RCA) and the Classis Arizona (CRC) for its behavior, outcomes, and financial management of Mission Southwest budgets and accounts.

Financial Structure

Mission Southwest will set up a bank account under the Classis of the Southwest's 501(c3) for the purpose of managing inflows and outflows of Church Multiplication Funds. Each Classis will contribute to this account agreed upon in the annual budget, and Church Multiplication disbursements will come out of that account. A Treasurer will be empowered to manage the Mission Southwest funds.