

Church Missionary Support

God sends cross-cultural missionaries all over the world to share the Gospel. We believe the local church is called to love, support and pray for full-time missionaries, especially as they are sent by their sending organization, serve their overseas partner organization, and visit their partner churches at home.

SENT

- Complete the [Mission Partner Support Template](#).
- Find a lay person to serve as an advocate for the mission partner. They will be the key communicator between mission partner, church, and MCN as an organization. They commit to actively seek ways to make ongoing connections between what is happening overseas and what is happening in the home congregation. Connect the advocate to [MCN](#) (churchpartners@missionofchrist.org).
- Meet with the mission partner and lay advocate for prayer and support. Ask questions. Pray together. Share how you will support them and ask about any specific items needed before they travel.
- Provide the mission partner with a list of email addresses to be added to their newsletter list (pastor(s), DCE, mission board chair, secretary, etc.).
- Schedule a commissioning time during Sunday worship before the missionary is sent. This MCN [order of commissioning](#) can be used.
- Assemble a small and light (easy to pack!) sending gift. Possible ideas:
 - Items specific to your church or city (t-shirt, pen, sticker, etc.)
 - [Amazon gift card](#) OR specific items needed
 - Devotional or prayer book
 - A handwritten card from the ministry team and/or letters from day school students

SERVE

- Connect a small group, day school class, or Sunday school class for ongoing prayer and support. For ideas of how to do this, see [Adopt a Mission Partner](#).
- Pray regularly in worship for the mission partner and their work. Use specific requests from the mission partner's newsletter or reach out to ask how you can pray. Advocates should provide regular prayer updates for the pastor.

- Make mission partner prayer cards and newsletters available at church. (Ask the mission partner before sharing a newsletter digitally.) Share stories and prayer requests from their social media or Mission of Christ Network's social media (@missionofchristnetwork on Facebook and Instagram).
- Meet tangible needs of the missionary and/or partner organization. After the mission partner has been settled overseas for several months, reach out to ask if there are tangible needs or projects the church can partner on.

VISIT

- Be proactive about scheduling Sunday worship time during furlough for the mission partner to share about their ministry. Mission partners could do an interview with the pastor during the service, share a post-church announcement, lead a Bible class, do a Sunday school opening, give a children's message or chapel message, present during a lunch or desserts night, visit an LWML group, etc.
- Before the mission partner travels to the US for furlough, reach out to ask about any support they may need. Do they need a car to borrow? A place to stay? Gift cards for gas? Children's items such as a pack-n-play or car seat?
- Host lunch with the mission partner (including any family) and with church ministry leaders.