

Missions Committee June 2023 Update

Be With Spiritual Growth Do No Harm Cross Significant Boundaries Empower vs. Enable Develop Mutual and Respectful Relationships Ensuring an Ongoing Experience Be With Spiritual Growth Do No Harm Cross Significant Boundaries Empower vs. Enable Develop Mutual and Respectful Relationships Ensuring an Ongoing Experience Be With Spiritual Growth Do No Harm Cross Significant Boundaries Empower vs. Enable Develop Mutual and Respectful Relationships Ensuring an Ongoing Experience Be With Spiritual Growth Do No Harm Cross Significant Boundaries Empower vs. Enable Develop Mutual and Respectful Relationships Ensuring an Ongoing Experience Be With Spiritual Growth Do No Harm Cross Significant Boundaries Empower vs. Enable Develop Mutual and Respectful Relationships Ensuring an Ongoing Experience Be With

How is God calling St. James's to engage in missions in 2023 and beyond?

The team read and discussed two books, *Toxic Charity* and *Going Global with God*, and were guided by a brief Mission Video by Sam Wells.

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January-February 2023 Discernment Process

The Missions Committee initiated a discernment process open to the entire congregation. The restuls of a parish-wide survey overwhelmingly indicated the importance of missions to our congregation and the desire to be involved in this work.

March-May 2023 Committee Formation

A new Missions Committee was formed and met regularly for a time of prayer, reading, reflection, and discussion. This faithful, invigorating, and productive process culminated in a new Missions Statement and Guiding Principles.

Summer 2023 Alignment Analysis

We have engagements planned with our current mission partners and, at the conclusion of each experience, we will assess whether the current relationships are consistent with our new Mission Statement and Guiding Principles.

> Current mission partners include Project Homes here in Richmond, OLR in Honduras, Hurley Community Center in Appalachia and Harvest of Hope on the Eastern Shore.

Fall 2023 Looking Ahead

If the current relationships are not consistent with our new Mission Statement and Guiding Principles, we will either make plans to adjust the partnerships to more closely align with our direction or consider a new mission partner. We will also begin research aimed at identifying and evaluating possible future mission partners.

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