



Mission Engagement 101 White Paper

- Event:** A five-session (spread over five months) global mission engagement and educational opportunity for individuals and congregations in the Presbytery of Scioto Valley. Each event will focus on a different, foundational aspect of global mission in the 21st century and will additionally feature conversations with mission co-workers from around the world.
- Rationale:** The history of global mission is known equally by what God has done in and through it *and* as an unwitting aid to colonialist and racist injustices. To do global missions well today, then, requires a commitment to understanding the foundation of God's work around the whole world *and* wisdom to not repeat past mistakes. Put in another way, if the greatest challenges facing 19th- and 20th-century global mission were travel and language translation, then the greatest challenges facing 21st-century global mission is holistic cultural engagement and the avoidance of paternalism or other unjust power relations. If a lot of that last sentence seemed confusing to you, it won't after you complete Mission Engagement 101.
- Cost:** It's free! And, in fact, congregations that have three or more members attend all five sessions will receive a \$250 grant from the Presbytery of Scioto Valley to be used for global mission in and through your congregation. Additionally, all attendees to all five sessions will receive a certificate of recognition from the Presbytery.
- Dates/Time:** All sessions will be held on Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. to noon via Zoom. The specific dates are as follows: January 23, February 20, March 20, April 17, May 15

Details: Below is a list of topics and mission coworkers for each session

****Session 1 (January 23) – “What is mission? What is our mission? Why do we do mission?”**
Conversation with Michael and Rachel Ludwig, serving in Niger

****Session 2 (February 20) – “New Testament Models of Mission”**
Conversation with Mark Hare and Jenny Bent, serving in Costa Rica

****Session 3 (March 20) – “Power and Money in Mission, historically and today”**
Conversation with Jed Hawkes Koball and Jenny Valles Koball, serving in Peru

****Session 4 (April 17) – “What is Presbyterian about doing mission? How do congregations plug in?”**
Conversation with Victor Makari and Doug Dicks, serving in Israel and Palestine

****Session 5 (May 15) – “Next steps--where do we go from here? Growing engagement in global mission in your congregation”**
Conversation with Dan and Elizabeth Turk, serving in Madagascar

Registration: Email Les Sauer at lessauer@hotmail.com to receive a Zoom link before each meeting.