

# Missions' Proposal

## **Background:**

With the retirement of the Ritzmans and the Dycks we currently have \$716 per month available for missions.

## **Proposal:**

1. Begin supporting Eric Belz, who serves with the EFCA's mission agency Reach Global, at \$500 per month.
2. Increase Greg and Heidi Carlson's support, who serve with Cadence International, from \$218 per month to \$525 per month.
3. This will require us to increase our 2025 missions' budget by \$1008 or \$84 a month.

## **Rational:**

1. Over the past 4 years we have been developing a relationship with Eric Belz and learning more about his ministry to pastors in Africa. And at the end of 2024, the elders and missions committee spent over 2 hours asking Eric deeper questions about his ministry and approach to missions. We believe Eric's ministry with reach global is vitally important to the Church in Africa because it equips current leaders to rightly teach God's Word and it requires them to pass on their learning to others as well.
2. Over the past 5 years Greg and Heidi Carlson have been laboring with Cadence to minister to our local military. This ministry happens primarily in their home which functions as a hospitality house for our local military. The work has been hard but in the past year, things have started growing. Greg has made connections with key leaders in the Navy and been granted access to Bangor to expand their work. Recently Greg, shared that their support was at least \$2,000 short every month. We want to help meet that need.
3. As the elders talked over support levels, cost of living, and inflation with our deaconess of missionary care, Christy Lofall, we felt it was proper to push our missions budget up, to provide adequate support for these missionaries in our current economy.