

Eastwood Church of Christ & Ministering Couple

Statement of Understanding

This document details an agreement between the Eastwood Church of Christ and the individuals that shall henceforth be called the Ministering Couple for the purpose of establishing a mutually beneficial partnership in local and global ministry in the name of Jesus Christ and to His glory.

1.0 General Parameters & Terms

1.1 The congregation agrees to be represented by the Ministry & Mission Work Group and the designated consultant in all matters related to this Statement of Understanding.

1.2 It is understood that the Ministering Couple is acting on their own behalf. Agreements reached between the Ministering Couple and the Eastwood congregation do not necessary imply an agreement with any other person, group, or entity unless otherwise specified in writing and added to this Statement of Understanding as an addendum.

1.3 The Eastwood congregation agrees to collaborate with the Ministering Couple in creating a nurturing spiritual environment conducive to their spiritual growth and professional development during the period of their ministry at the Eastwood Church in preparation for their placement in a cross-cultural mission field to be determined.

1.4 The Eastwood congregation further agrees to assist the Ministering Couple in developing and implementing a plan for fulfilling the terms of their commitment to their chosen mission as well as spiritual support and oversight during the duration of their commitment. This plan will include a revised Statement of Understanding outlining the nature of the partnership that will exist between the Eastwood church as an oversight congregation and the Ministering Couple after their placement in the field.

1.5 The Minister Couple agrees to work under the direction and mentorship of the Ministry & Mission Work Group and the designated consultant during the tenure of their local ministering commitment. The Ministering Couple further agrees to partner with the Eastwood congregation in implementing the Congregational Ministry Plan as outlined in an addendum to this Statement of Understanding.

2.0 Specific Responsibilities of the Eastwood Congregation

In order to fulfill the terms of this agreement, it is the responsibility of the Eastwood congregation to provide support and guidance to the Ministering Couple during the tenure of their employment from (date) to (date) by providing:

2.1 A salary of \$30,000 a year to be paid in equal monthly increments on the first day of each month during the agreed-upon tenure of their local ministry.

2.2 A Mission Start-Up Fund with a minimum of \$10,000 to be used toward the Ministering Couple's chosen mission when they are launched into the field. The fund is for mission start-up only, will be provided only as the Ministering Couple enters a cross-cultural mission field at the end of their local ministering tenure at the Eastwood Church, and only as the Ministering Couple and the Eastwood church mutually reach a mission oversight agreement as described in section 4.2 of this Statement of Understanding.

2.3 An allowance of \$1000 a year to be used for traveling within the continental United States for the purpose of raising support for the mission prorated monthly during the agreed-upon tenure of their local ministry.

2.4 Payment of water bill.

2.5 A parsonage located on church property for the agreed-upon tenure of their local ministry.

2.6 A food allowance in the form of perishable and nonperishable pantry items provided regularly by the members of the congregation and local supporting entities.

2.7 Office space located in the church building.

2.8 Preparatory and preventative counseling and consultation provided by Tom Moore, MA, M.MFT, LPC, LMFT to assist the Ministering Couple in developing and maintaining spiritual, relational, and emotional health pre and post placement in the field.

3.0 Specific Responsibilities of the Ministering Couple

In order to fulfill the terms of this agreement, it is the responsibility of the Ministering Couple to demonstrate due diligence in assisting the congregation in implementing the Congregational Ministry Plan and preparing themselves for effective service in their chosen mission field by:

3.1 Providing Bible-based preaching and teaching under the direction of the designated consultant that is effective in preparing the Eastwood congregation to fulfill the Vision God has cast for the congregation as reflected in the Congregational Ministry Plan.

3.2 Collaborating with the designated consultant to develop and implement a plan of spiritual and professional development designed to equip the Ministering Couple to function optimally as a co-partner with the congregation in local ministry as well as preparing the Ministering Couple for service in their chosen cross-cultural mission field.

3.3 Collaborating with the Ministry and Missions Work Group and the designated consultant to develop a set of realistic short-term and long-term goals for successfully fulfilling their commitment to their cross-cultural mission.

3.4 Participating with congregational ministry leaders in assisting them in implementing local outreach ministries as outlined in the Congregational Ministry Plan.

3.5 Practicing good stewardship of available resources by appropriately caring for and maintaining the living and work space provided them as part of this agreement as well as paying any and all personal expenses and/or debts not specified in section 2.0 as a congregational obligation.

4.0 Fulfillment or Termination of this Agreement

4.1 This agreement will be fulfilled when the Ministering Couple has successfully completed their commitment to their chosen cross-cultural mission as agreed upon by the Ministering Couple and the Eastwood congregation.

4.2 Prior to the Ministering Couple's placement in the mission field, this agreement may be terminated at any time by the Eastwood congregation or the Ministering Couple with sixty (60) days written notice of intent. In the case of termination by either party each party is released from any and all obligation under this agreement.

4.2 At least six (6) months prior to the completion of the Ministering Couple's tenure of employment as ministers at the Eastwood congregation, a new Statement of Understanding will be developed that specifies the roles and responsibilities of the Eastwood Church as an oversight congregation to the mission and the Ministering Couple as their missionaries in the field.

The signatures below indicate that the signees have thoroughly read, understand, prayed over, and agree to the stipulations in this Statement of Understanding:

Representative of Ministering Couple

Date

Ministry & Missions Work Group Leader

Date

Acting Congregational Consultant

Date