

GLOBAL MISSION MEETING MINUTES

May 18, 2020 via Zoom meeting

Zoomed in: Ron Vandeberg, Wayne Corey, Roger Marty, Linda Olson, Bonnie Dirks, Gudrun Sindermann, Pete Ellestad, Pastor Kelli, Linda and Jim Ellestad

Background: Previous meeting was in February. Activities since then were a Puerto Rico fund raising breakfast on February 23 and on March 15 a packing event for goods being taken on the Uganda mission trip. Alas, due to the Corona virus pandemic neither of the mission trips to Puerto Rico or Uganda took place.

Uganda / Walk-4-Water

- Should we hold Walk-4-Water this fall? Discussion points were:
 - Clean water is still important to Uganda, although right now getting food is a major challenge and much more of a worry than having safer water.
 - Many people in USA are unemployed, perhaps don't have money to donate, and may themselves need help to meet their basic needs.
 - Many local business that donated to the walk-4-water with cash donations or gifts for the silent auction are shut down and how they will recover is TBD.
 - What will the social distancing guidelines be in autumn? Covid is particularly harsh on older folks.
 - W-4-W is running some virtual walks with everyone walking individually rather than in groups.
 - Skipping the walk for a year will hurt the event, and momentum will need to be rebuilt for next year's event.
 - With the current unknowns and future trends about Covid lockdowns, we don't know how we would plan an event now.
 - The financial picture of the church is unclear.
 - With so many people who are underemployed or unemployed, and many people and organizations needing support, this is not a good time to ask for donations.
- Given all the points, the decision was made to NOT hold a traditional Walk-4-Water this year.
- After seeing how Covid plays out, we may still be able to plan some sort of stripped down event. Walk-4-Water has been doing some virtual walks. Some are setup with people walking individually rather than in a group. Perhaps we could have a McFarland Lutheran team participating in a virtual walk.
- The Ugandan mission team was planning to take money from our Global Mission budget for needs that became visible while in Uganda. Since the trip did not occur, we agreed to take the funds and donate to H-4-K for use to support Ugandan villagers. The Covid lockdown in Uganda is much stricter than our USA lockdown and many have no means of getting food. Ron will get latest budget info to determine how much remains in our budget and then submit check request. [Post meeting note: \$750 check request was submitted].
- Wayne will draft a letter thanking our past business contributors for their support of Walk-4-Water and tell them that there will not be a walk this year. Letter will need to be addressed to individuals and then sent.

Next meeting TBD