

**Kevin Cauley** Chairman

## **World Outreach Committee** Report to the 39th General Assembly





Phil Linton Director of World Outreach

## **Summary of Work, 2018-2019:**

- 1. In December 2018, we launched a monthly email newsletter, *The Reach* (replacing the defunct, hardcopy The Globe).
- 2. We reversed our long-standing aversion to running short-term mission programs and started working on three summer opportunities to help EPCers love their Muslim neighbors. Our first trip, Summer Mission Jam for high school students, will take place July 8-13 in Hamtramck, Michigan.
- 3. We made significant progress in building strong, well-coordinated, working partnerships between all our various sub-groups (Co-op and WO Direct workers, Engage 2025, ITEN, IBAM, Mobilization, Member Care).

### **Recommendations to the 2019 General Assembly:**

1. **Recommendation 39-24:** That SAT-7 be approved as an Approved Mission Agency (details to follow).



#### Work of the Committee in 2018-2019:

The World Outreach Committee focused significant energy on the topic that rose out of the January 2018 World Outreach Summit—how World Outreach can serve the people and congregations of the EPC to increase life-giving, missional involvement. Two results were:

- 1) The creation of a monthly, electronic newsletter, The REACH.
- 2) The creation of inexpensive, accessible short-term mission trips that put EPC participants into relationships with Muslims.

Each issue of The REACH (launched in December 2018) is built around a story. The story is always from one of our WO global workers, one of our EPC congregations, or the Bible. And it always leads to a gentle ask, call to action, or tool to be used. It's completely shareable, easy to forward, and easy to subscribe to (and unsubscribe from).

Our short-term mission "menu" starts this year with a summer trip for high school students to Hamtramck, Michigan, July 8-13. Our "player-coaches"—Steve Woodworth, Mark V, and Shakil K—have an amazing week planned for our students. Summer Mission Jam will move to Fremont, California, in the summer of 2020, and we'll add a week-long trip for adults, singles, and whole families in San Diego!

The severe trials of several of our workers during the past year sobered the committee and drove us to prayer. In addition to the physical, emotional, and relational attacks our global workers endured, we also saw how interconnected we are with Christian brothers and sisters outside of the EPC. One significant occurrence during our 2½ year Call to Prayer for spiritual breakthrough among the Malay people was the abduction and disappearance of Malaysian pastor, Rev. Raymond Koh. In a response of recommitment, the WOC is extending that Call to Prayer for another two years, with a target end date of June 2021.

The Committee oversaw redeployment into several many areas, both geographic and tactical. The magnitude of the plight of Muslims in India without access to the gospel led us to try something new—setting up a program to disciple and train Indian Christians to reach their Muslim neighbors. The Chinese government's crackdown on all religious groups has led us to redeploy fluent Chinese-speakers to focus on Chinese students outside of China. And several of our global workers are at various stages of operating businesses that benefit communities, build natural relationships, and give ample opportunities to share the gospel.

Building on the last year's new candidate assessment and appointment event, we hosted an improved, weeklong ENGAGE, which resulted in the appointment of 10 new EPC World Outreach global workers (and their 10 children).

The World Outreach Committee would like to express a special thank you to the tremendous leadership at World Outreach. Under the direction of Phil Linton, Associate Director Jason Dunn, the WO office team in Orlando, the WO U.S. Team (Mobilization, ITEN, IBAM, Muslim Field, and Member Care leadership), and our 130 adult global workers, we



take the gospel of Jesus Christ to hard places. We ask our churches, our presbyteries, and all GA commissioners to join us in expressing our thanksgiving to God for His blessing of such extraordinary leadership in our great missionary endeavor, and to thank these leaders who serve "above and beyond" simply for the glory of God, the love of His Church, and for the sake of bringing the Good News that all nations may call upon the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

### **Recommendations to the 2019 General Assembly:**

#### **Recommendation 39-24:**

After reviewing its history, statement of faith, mission statement and financial audit, the WOC recommends that SAT-7 be approved as an Approved Mission Agency.

#### **Committee Members:**

TE Kevin Cauley (Chairman), Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic
TE Chris Bear, Presbytery of the East
TE Brad Buescher, Presbytery of Great Plains
TE Rick Dietzman, Presbytery of Pacific Northwest
RE Phyllis Ellsworth, Presbytery of Midwest
RE Al Johnson, Presbytery of the West
RE David Miller, Presbyter of Rivers and Lakes
RE Pat Tucker, Presbytery of Central South
TE Phil Linton, WO Director (ex officio), Presbytery of Florida and the Caribbean

#### **Committee Meeting Dates:**

October 17-18, 2018—Orlando January 9-10, 2019—Orlando April 23-24, 2019—Orlando

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Cauley Chairman Phil Linton

Director of World Outreach

# **SAT-7 Supporting Document**

EPC World Outreach Mr. Phil Linton 5850 T.G. Lee Blvd., Suite 510 Orlando, FL 32822

December 1, 2018

Dear World Outreach Committee:

Greetings from SAT-7 USA. SAT-7 appreciates the important work of the EPC. We appreciate the EPC churches, individuals within the EPC that prayer for, encourage and financially support the ministry of SAT-7. The work of SAT-7 across the Middle East and North Africa has many long term and rich relationships with the Presbyterians. To strengthen the relationships and ministry partnerships, SAT-7 respectfully request that the EPC consideration of SAT-7 as an Approved Missions Agency.

Here is the requested information on SAT-7.

**SAT-7 History:** As Dr Terence Ascott rushed around busy Cairo streets one day in the late 1980s, he spotted something in his neighborhood. Sitting on a cement floor in an unfinished building was a family watching television. Staring at this strange sight, he came to a stark realization. The majority of the population in Egypt and across the Middle East could not read. Although he had been in publishing for several years, he perceived that many, like this family, would never have the opportunity to read about the love of God. That day a vision was born. Dr Ascott no longer just saw one family but millions. It was a realization that birthed a dream: to establish Christian satellite television that would reach across the Middle East and North Africa. Today, SAT-7 broadcasts in three languages, through four channels, 365 days a year.

SAT-7 Description: Based in Cyprus, SAT-7 is a Middle East based Christian satellite television ministry broadcasting 24/7 throughout more than seventy countries in the Middle East and North Africa. The network supports channels: SAT-7 ARABIC, SAT-7 KIDS in Arabic, SAT-7 PARS in Farsi and SAT-7 TURK in Turkish. The ministry's mission is to build the Church through non-political and non-partisan, biblically based programming, more than 80% of which is produced in the Middle East by Middle Easterners. In a region characterized by high illiteracy rates and closed countries, SAT-7 broadcasts uncensored Jesus' message of love, forgiveness, and hope to more than 30 million regular viewers—women and children, rich and poor, urban and rural—in the privacy of their homes. SAT-7's convergence of theology, technology, and timeliness positions it for greater impact for such a time as this. <a href="https://www.sat7usa.org">www.sat7usa.org</a> and <a href="https://www.sat7.org">www.sat7.org</a>

**THE VISION OF SAT-7:** To see a growing church in the Middle East and North Africa, confident in Christian faith and witness, serving the community and, contributing to the good of society and culture.

# **SAT-7 Supporting Document**

#### SAT-7 LONG-TERM MISSION PRIORITIES

- A. TO MAKE THE GOSPEL AVAILABLE TO EVERYONE IN THE MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA (MENA), especially to those who would never otherwise have the opportunity to hear it, and to:
  - CHILDREN, who are the least reached but most important audience and the main hope for change in tomorrow's MENA. There are 150 million children in the MENA region under the age of 16
  - WOMEN, who remain generally isolated from the Gospel and whose potential for influence has always been under-estimated
  - The ILLITERATE, whose only source of uncensored information is satellite TV
  - Those in CLOSED HOMES, in closed countries, who may never even have met a Christian before
- B. TO ENCOURAGE, SUPPORT, AND EMPOWER THE CHURCH IN ITS LIFE, WORK AND WITNESS FOR CHRIST, especially in areas of political turmoil and Christian persecution and to be a catalyst for spiritual renewal, church growth, discipleship and social change in the fast changing MENA region.

**SAT-7 Financial Accountability:** SAT-7 is a member of MissioNexus, as well as ECFA and publishes their 990s on web site https://www.sat7usa.org/financial-accountability/

Our thanks and appreciate for your consideration of this request.

Dennis Wiens | SAT-7®

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# **SAT-7 Supporting Document**

### SAT-7 Statement of Faith

SAT-7 believes that true faith in God can only come through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, as expressed in the Nicene Creed and Lausanne Covenant.

The Nicene Creed, later called the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed, is one of the oldest and most widely recognized ecumenical professions of faith used in Christian liturgy. It has been cited as perhaps the best description and definition of Christianity ever written. In its 381 version, the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed states:

We Believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten from His Father before all ages, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made.

Who for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried, and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father. And He shall come again in glory to judge both the living and the dead; and His kingdom shall have no end.

We Believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. We Believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And we look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen

The Lausanne Covenant is one of the more influential modern statements of Christian faith, a longer document including a specific reaffirmation of the Nicene Creed and an elaboration of fifteen beliefs. The Covenant was written and adopted by 2,300 evangelicals from 150 nations at the International Congress of World Evangelization held in Lausanne, Switzerland.

The Lausanne Covenant commits the Christian Church by applying the Gospel in relevant ways (evangelism, education, edification, transformation) in a rapidly changing world. The Covenant expresses a desire to obey and honor God by sharing Christ and Christianity among people—loving them—and within all cultures—respecting beauty but rejecting sin—across the globe. Read the full English language text of the Lausanne Covenant.

These statements of faith ground SAT-7's Vision and Mission and guide the organization in program production, selection, and airing, personnel and policy decisions, and ministry with its viewers and supporting constituency.