



## **Cooperative Agreement between Avant Ministries (AM) and EPC World Outreach (WO)**

This agreement is meant to govern missionaries *\*names removed for security\**

### **Appointment and Membership:**

1. The appointment of the missionary shall be subject to the approval of both agencies in accordance with the standards established by each agency.
2. In the event that the one agency requests confidential materials gathered by the other, such materials shall be shared with the understanding that the materials shall be kept confidential by that agency.
3. The missionary shall have dual membership status with both EPC World Outreach and Avant Ministries.

### **Authority and Liberty:**

4. While on the field, the missionary shall be under the jurisdiction of AM, sharing equally in privileges and responsibilities as any other member and being subject to the policies and direction of AM. In case of a crisis (serious illness, death, abduction, natural disaster, etc.) while the missionary is on the field, AM accepts responsibility to lead the crisis response, with WO's support.
5. While on home service (excluding while traveling to and from the field), the missionary shall be under the jurisdiction of WO. In case of a crisis while the missionary is in the US, WO accepts responsibility to lead the crisis response, with AM's support.
6. The missionary is subject to AM's normal policies regarding submission to authority and conflict resolution. Final discipline as relates to theology and morals rests in the proper church court of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.
7. Whenever a major change is being considered in the missionary's ministry responsibilities or field location, AM leadership shall consult WO leadership prior to any decision. The concerns of both agencies will be given due consideration in reaching a mutually acceptable decision.
8. AM shall annually provide WO a field supervisor's evaluation of the missionary's progress, and the upcoming year's projected goals.
9. The missionary will have liberty to present a Reformed understanding of the gospel in culturally appropriate ways.

**Finances:**

10. The financial policies of AM shall govern the missionary. Should AM financial policies not meet WO minimum requirements regarding matters such as retirement, health insurance, or continuing education, additional funds may be raised at WO to meet those minimums.
11. AM and WO will exchange information to produce a missionary budget document delineating salary, housing, insurance, retirement, and all other budget items (including all agency fees) necessary for the full support of the missionary. This document will provide the target for determining when full support has been reached. AM and WO will further share financial information at least annually, regarding funds received at both agencies for the missionary's ministry.
12. AM and WO will reduce the normal administration fees they charge the support account of the missionary to reflect the administrative cost-savings of a Co-op agency partnership.
13. Before the missionary departs for the field (and subject to periodic review) WO will commit itself to a level of monthly support to AM for the missionary's ministry. When the missionary is cleared to begin field service, WO will begin monthly transfers of these funds to AM (subject to availability, and maintaining a balance in the WO account equal to three months of the missionary's WO needs, such as admin and conference fees).
14. If sufficient funds to cover salary are not available in the missionary's support account at AM, AM's policy is to reduce the salary/housing allowance, until the missionary is back to full support.
15. The missionary shall not solicit constituencies of either agency for personal funds or ministry projects without the approval of the respective agency.

**Duration of This Agreement:** A review of cooperative agreements will be conducted every three years while a missionary is active and after seven years of inactivity the agreement becomes null and void.

**Signed by Avant Ministries**

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed by EPC World Outreach**



Name: Phil Linton

Title: World Outreach Director

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**EPC WORLD OUTREACH**

5850 T.G. Lee Blvd., Suite 510  
Orlando, FL 32822  
407.930.4239 | [www.epcwo.org](http://www.epcwo.org)

**Agency Contact information:**

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Phone</b>
<b>AM CEO</b>			
<b>AM Personnel</b>			
<b>AM Finance</b>			
<b>WO CEO</b>	Phil Linton	<a href="mailto:Phil.l@epcwo.org">Phil.l@epcwo.org</a>	407-930-4270
<b>WO Personnel</b>	Jason Dunn	<a href="mailto:Jason.d@epcwo.org">Jason.d@epcwo.org</a>	407-930-4257
<b>WO Finance</b>	Catherine Rutter	<a href="mailto:Catherine.r@epcwo.org">Catherine.r@epcwo.org</a>	407-930-4473



## Mission.Vision.Values

### **Our Mission**

To glorify God by helping others enjoy His presence through planting and developing new churches in the unreached areas of the world.

### **Our Vision**

To make a difference in time for eternity by rapidly planting and developing churches where none exist.

### **Our Values**

At the heart of our organization is our deeply rooted belief that our Creator has allowed us to be part of His redemptive plan. In honoring Him and each other through the process. We hold firm to these core values which are the epicenter of how we conduct ourselves, engage in relationships and approach our work. There are additional values honored and expected within our organization, but these three are differentiators for our organization.

- **Care:** We are a mission that recognizes the people of the Creator. In our pursuit of and obedience to God, we will relentlessly care for others. We will also care for those in our mission and in our team while not neglecting those in need around us.
- **Collaborate:** We are a mission that recognizes the plan of the Creator. God allows us to participate with Him to redeem creation. It is through partnerships with other believers, united in the common task, that we see God's kingdom expanding. In our pursuit to obey God and make Him renowned we will receive an eternal reward.
- **Create:** We are a mission that recognizes the power of the Creator. His wisdom and power are the source of our creativity and ability. As stewards of the time God has given us, we will use innovative methods to creatively engage with people whom God brings across our path, sharing His redemptive plan to plant the church where there is no church.

**Avant Ministry Philosophy** is rooted deeply in the Scriptures and is built upon four theological elements of God's power:

- **The Power of the Gospel** – Dependence on the power of the gospel empowers us to evangelize with confidence and gives us the ability to plant the church. (Romans 1:16)
- **Divine Serendipity** - God is already at work in the places we send our teams. The task is to discover the divine opportunity God provides to proclaim the truth of the gospel. (Acts 17:16-34)
- **God's Ability** - God is more than able! Because of God's power at work in us and through us, we believe we can develop mature, reproducing churches in a shorter time frame. (Ephesians 3:20)
- **The Primacy of Prayer** - Our struggle is not against flesh and blood. God defeats the forces of Satan and provides avenues for His truth and He does so in response to the prayers of His people. (Colossians 4:2-4)

Avant Ministries

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2121 Henderson Highway • Winnipeg MB R2G 1P8 • 866. 812. 8268  
avantministries.org

## **Our History**

- *Since the 1890s, Avant Ministries has been passionate about reaching the unreached.*  
Formerly known as Gospel Missionary Union, Avant is one of the oldest missionary sending agencies in the United States and Canada. Early Avant missionaries were some of the first North American missionaries to travel to distant places, entering Ecuador in 1892 and Mali in 1913. They suffered illness, persecution, separation from family and friends and sometimes death in order to share the gospel with people who had never heard it. We're proud of the legacy we inherited from them.
- Today we demonstrate our commitment to the church through planting churches in unreached places, partnering with established churches and participating in church support ministries. We believe the church is God's instrument for preserving and proclaiming the gospel, uniting believers and transforming communities. It is through a local church working in its own culture that the greatest problems of our time can be addressed, as the gospel first changes an individual's life and then spreads throughout the community.
- Today in Ecuador strong, nationally-led churches exist among three different ethnic groups: the Shuar in the jungle, the Quichua of the Andes Mountains, and the Spanish-speaking communities living in cities and on the coast. The Malian national church is now a respected and growing presence in a country where Islam and animism has a stronghold. Our passion is to see these stories repeated in communities around the world.
- There are still places on earth where the church does not yet exist. These are the places that we desire to go. Through church planting, church partnership, church support ministries and business, we hope to see churches spring forth from those places: mature, nationally-led churches that desire to plant more churches, first in their own city, and then all over the world.

## **Doctrinal Statement**

### **The Bible**

We believe in the verbal, plenary inspiration of the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New testaments, inerrant as originally given, God's final written revelation of Himself and His will, and the sole authority for all faith and practice.

(2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:21)

### **The Godhead**

We believe in God, who is revealed in Scripture as subsisting in three distinct persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, yet one in being, essence and power. (Matt. 3:16-17; 28:18-19; 2 Cor. 13:14; Gal. 4:6-7; Heb. 9:14; 1 John 2:22-23)

### **The Lord Jesus Christ**

We believe in the supernatural birth of Jesus Christ, who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, the incarnate Son of God, Emmanuel, God with us. (Matt. 1:20-23; Luke 1:35)

We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is very God, the express image of the Father, the One by whom and for whom all things were created and consist.

(John 1:1-3, 14; Col. 1:16-17)

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We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ lived a sinless life, that He died as a perfect substitutionary sacrifice for the sins of all people, and that the believer's justification is made sure by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead.

(Matt. 28:6-7; Rom. 3:24-25; 1 Cor. 15:4-8; Heb. 2:9; 4:15; 1 Peter 3:18)

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ ascended to the right hand of God, where He is the High Priest and Advocate for His people. (Acts 1:9-11; Rom. 8:34; Heb. 7:25; 9:24; 1 John 2:1)

We believe in the imminent coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in the air to receive His church unto Himself. (John 14:3; 1 Cor. 15:51-52; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; Titus 2:13)

We believe in the subsequent, visible and premillennial return of the Lord Jesus Christ, with His church, to establish His promised worldwide kingdom on the earth. (Zech. 14:4-11; Rev. 19:11-16; 20:4-6)

### **The Holy Spirit**

We believe in the personality and deity of the Holy Spirit, who convicts of sin, who is the supernatural agent in regeneration, and who, at the moment of conversion, baptizes and seals the believer into the body of Christ, immediately indwelling him or her. (John 14:16-17; 16:7-11; 1 Cor. 12:12-14; Eph. 1:13-14)

We believe that it is the duty and privilege of each believer to be filled with the Holy Spirit, who illumines, guides and energizes the believer, enabling him or her to maintain a consistent Christian walk. (John 16:13; Gal. 5:16; Eph. 5:18; 1 John 2:20, 27)

We believe that the ascended Christ gives gifts through the sovereign will of the Holy Spirit for the edification and unity of the body of Christ. (1 Cor. 12:4-12; Eph. 4:7-13)

### **Angels**

We believe in the reality and personality of angels, both good and fallen, including Satan, the great enemy of God and man, whose opposition is ever increasing but whose ultimate doom is sure.

(Job 1:6-7; Ps. 103:20; Matt. 4:11; Luke 2:13; Heb. 1:14; Rev. 20:10)

### **Man**

We believe that Man was created, male and female, by a direct act of God, fell into sin and thereby became depraved and guilty before God; that the first man and woman were married by God and that biblical marriage is between a man and a woman only. Sexual intimacy is to occur only within the context of marriage so defined. (Gen. 3; 1:27; 2:19-25; Ps. 51:5; Isa. 64:6; Rom. 1:21-23; 3:23; 5:12, 21; Eph. 5:31)

### **Salvation**

We believe in salvation uniquely by the substitutionary atonement of Christ by grace through faith in His shed blood to accomplish man's redemption from sin and reconciliation to God. (Rom. 3:24-26; 5:9; Eph. 2:8-9; Titus 3:5; 1 Peter 1:18-21)

### **The Believer's Position**

We believe in the sonship of all born-again believers in the family of God, their justification, sanctification and eternal redemption being fully provided for and assured in the finished work of Christ on Calvary and in His continued intercession. (John 1:12-13; Rom. 5:1; 8:14-17; Gal. 3:26; 4:5-7; Eph. 1:13-14; Heb. 7:25; 1

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Peter 2:9; 1 John 3:2; 5:11-13)

### **The Resurrection**

We believe in the bodily resurrection of all people, each in his or her own order: the saints to everlasting life in God's presence, the wicked to conscious and everlasting condemnation in hell. (Matt. 25:46; John 3:18, 36; 5:28-29; Rev. 20:5-6, 11-15)

### **The Church and Its Mission**

We believe in the Great Commission as the primary mission of the church.

- The preaching to all the world of the gospel of the grace of God
- Teaching converts to obey the Lord in baptism by immersion in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- To remember Christ's death till He comes, in observance of the Lord's Supper
- To be always careful to live godly lives in the world
- To pursue fellowship and seek ministry in visible, organized churches

(Matt. 16:18; Acts 1:8; 13:1-3; 114:23; 1 Cor. 1:2; 4:17; 12:12-13; Eph. 1:22-23; 5:23-27; Col. 1:18; 1 Thess. 2:14; Titus 2:11-15)

*Avant Ministries holds and teaches a non-charismatic position regarding the modern-day manifestation of spiritual gifts.*

### **ECFA Membership**

Avant Ministries is a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability. See following pages for ECFA member profile with financial summary, from [ecfa.org](http://ecfa.org). See also: <https://avantministries.org/financial-accountability>.



Kansas City, MO  
**Founded:** 1892  
**Tel:** (816) 734-8500  
**Website:** <http://www.avantministries.org>  
**Top Leader:** Mr. Scott Holbrook  
**Donor Contact:** Mr. Don Weaver  
**Member Since:** 5/8/1991



*A higher standard.  
 A higher purpose.*

## - Financial Data

### Revenue:

<b>Cash Donations:</b>	\$15,636,312
<b>Noncash Donations:</b>	\$0
<b>Other Revenue:</b>	\$1,037,707
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	\$16,674,019

### Expenses:

<b>Total Expenses:</b>	\$16,973,145
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<b>Excess (or Deficit) for the Year:</b>	(\$299,126)
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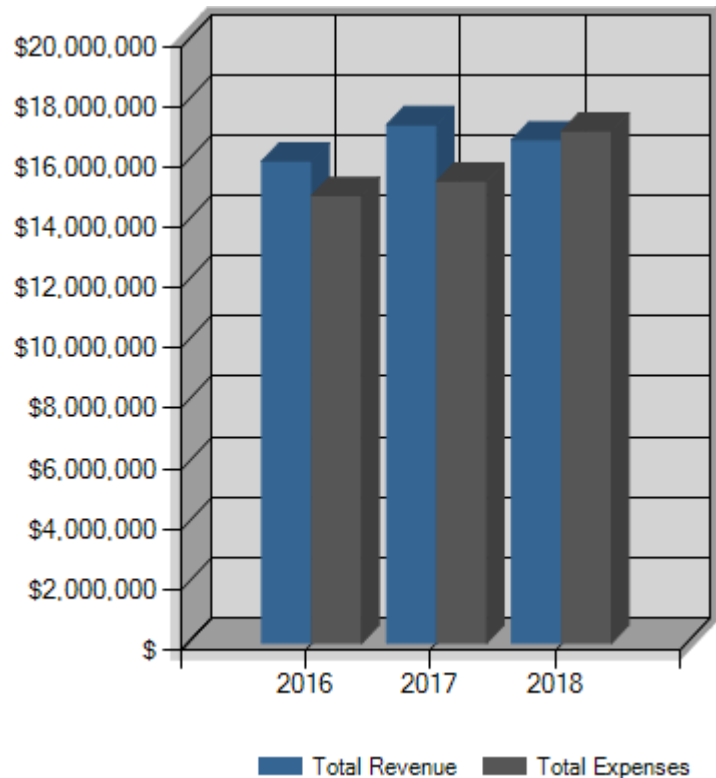
<b>Other:</b>	\$0
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<b>Total Change in Net Assets:</b>	(\$299,126)
<small>Revenues and Expenses are rarely equal.</small>	

<b>Total Assets:</b>	\$20,260,644
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<b>Total Liabilities:</b>	\$2,581,588
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<b>Net Assets:</b>	\$17,679,056
<small>Nonprofits need operating reserves.</small>	



Data for year ended Dec 31, 2018. Per the organization's financial statements



## - Other Links

Donate: <https://avantministries.org/give/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AvantMinistries>

Comparative Financial Data			
	<u>12/31/2016</u>	<u>12/31/2017</u>	<u>12/31/2018</u>
<b>Revenue</b>			
<b>Cash Donations</b>	\$14,806,017	\$15,302,723	\$15,636,312
<b>Noncash Donations</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Other Revenue</b>	\$1,172,350	\$1,879,917	\$1,037,707
Total Revenue	\$15,978,367	\$17,182,640	\$16,674,019
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>Program</b>	\$11,761,330	\$12,013,733	\$13,169,767
<b>Administrative</b>	\$2,114,095	\$2,312,052	\$2,570,684
<b>Fundraising</b>	\$962,408	\$983,180	\$1,232,694
<b>Other</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue	\$14,837,833	\$15,308,965	\$16,973,145
<b>Excess (or Deficit) for the Year</b>	\$1,140,534	\$1,873,675	(\$299,126)
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Change in Net Assets	\$1,140,534	\$1,873,675	(\$299,126)
<b>Total Assets</b>	\$18,630,793	\$20,474,908	\$20,260,644
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	\$2,917,380	\$20,474,908	\$2,581,588
<b>Net Assets</b>	\$15,713,413	\$0	\$17,679,056