



ESSENTIAL MISSION PARTNER CONNECTIONS

Cultivating relationships of mutual support and encouragement are central to our Christian faith. The Essential Mission Partner Connections below are designed to help nurture a sense of connection and solidarity between mission congregations and their partners.

For Ministries Receiving Mission Partner Gifts:

1. Write a *Thank You Letter* acknowledging the gift and partnership
2. Include all Mission Partners on newsletter mailing list (paper and/or electronic)
 - a. Acknowledge mission partnerships in newsletters
3. Provide a quarterly brief written update on the ministry to all Mission Partners
 - a. What have mission partnerships made possible?
4. If possible, lay and/or clergy leadership visit each Mission Partner annually
 - a. Sunday worship, Church Council, Sunday forum
 - i. Main purpose to say “thank you” for partnership
 - ii. Foster mutual partnership
 - iii. Encourage continued partnership
 - iv. Share ministry stories
5. Include Mission Partners in the weekly Prayers of the Church
6. Write a letter in September of each year to each Mission Partner
 - a. Express thanks for partnerships
 - b. Briefly describe how the partnership has made a difference
 - c. Ask to be included in their ministry plans for the next year
 - i. Briefly describe how this partnership will make a difference
 - d. Follow up with a phone call to address and questions/concerns

For Ministries Providing Mission Partner Gifts:

1. Write a letter to each Mission Partner with initial gift
 - a. Briefly explain how and why the partnership is desired
 - b. Is this a one-time gift or is there more to follow?
 - c. Describe how they might foster a mutual partnership
2. Keep the Mission Partnerships before the congregation
 - a. Newsletters/bulletins/prayers of the church
 - b. Invite lay/clergy leadership of the Mission Partner for an annual visit
 - i. Worship – temple talk
 - ii. Church Council meeting
 - iii. Sunday forum

Just as a body, though one has many parts, so it is with Christ.
(1 Corinthians 12:12)