

Philosophy of Local and Global Engagement

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

Acts 1:8

Statement:

As an outflow of our mission statement (to bear witness to the beauty of Christ for the glory of God and the good of the world) our Philosophy of Local and Global Engagement provides opportunities for Threshold Church to help others encounter the saving love of Christ.

We will partner with gospel-centered* organizations to create missional opportunities for our church body. Through these we will share the love of Jesus in word (proclamation and testimony) and actions, and teach those we serve about Christ, who is the only hope of salvation.

Criteria for Partnership:

1. Commitment to proclaim Christ through word and actions.
2. Theological alignment with EPC Essentials (<https://epc.org/about/beliefs/>).
3. Relational connection (current or future) to Threshold.
4. Cross-cultural humility and competence.

Local Strategy:

1. Prioritize engagement efforts in the Weddington and western Union county with gospel-centered organizations and missionaries.
2. Form partnerships with those organizations so we can more effectively serve and learn how to minister to our entire community.
3. Seek to involve Threshold with ethnically different community partners.

National Strategy:

1. Prioritize engagement efforts in the Southeast region of the US with gospel-centered organizations and missionaries.
2. Form partnerships with organizations focused in the Southeast region.
3. Seek to involve Threshold with existing organizations and service opportunities.

Global Strategy:

1. Prioritize engagement efforts based on a clear understanding of spiritual need in that part of the world--whether Africa, Asia, Europe, or Latin America.
2. Form partnerships with gospel-centered people and organizations so we can humbly and effectively come alongside the Global Church as we cross cultures.
3. Engage our congregation to be more in tune to God's heart for the entire world as well as the needs of the world.
4. Support those engaged in biblical/theological leadership development.

We Affirm: *(this section could be apart of Starting Point so new members know this is our missional heart)*

- We will prioritize bearing witness to the Glory of God in all activities and functions we participate in.
- We will invest in local, national and global efforts and support those that clearly proclaim the love of Christ through word and actions.
- We will engage in short-term team participation, through camps, outreach, projects, biblical teaching, and professional skills (not final list).
- We will corporately and individually pray for our teams, partners, and the expansion of the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

*Gospel-centered defined by organizations/missionaries/individuals that are aligned with the EPC essentials of the faith [found here](#).

Approved by the Session on February 20, 2023