



# Harvest Focus Workshop

“Bringing FRESH FOCUS  
to Your Role  
in God’s Call to the NATIONS”

## Benevolence Assessment & Review Tool (BART)

<sup>18</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matt. 28:18-20; see also Mark 16:15, Luke 24:45-49, John 20:19-22, Acts 1:8)

**The heart of BART, and ALWM’s full Harvest Focus workshop,  
is reflected in this quote from Rev. Dr. Carl Braaten:**

**“The church spends prime time on concerns for which it has no unique competence, but neglects the one thing needful which only the church, and no other agency in the world, has been commissioned to accomplish. ... The apostolic mission of the Gospel created the church; we call it evangelism. God has given the church this commission to go with the Gospel to all who do not yet, or who no longer, believe. It is an assignment God has given to no other people in the world. If the church does not proclaim the message of salvation in the name of Jesus to those who do not believe, it will not get done. There are lots of people who know nothing about the gospel of Jesus Christ, yet who care a lot about the earth and the integrity of creation. They march at the front lines for peace and justice, are working for a new international economic order, and give their lives to establish democratic freedom. These are all good things which the Gentiles seek, and God knows that we need them all (Matthew. 6:32). But all these important activities are no substitute at all for the good news of God’s justification of poor sinners and the spiritual deliverance of all persons oppressed by sin and the terrors of death and the devil. Christians alone have been called and ordained through their baptism to address all the Gentiles with the news of God’s salvation so that they may hear and believe.”<sup>18</sup>**

### STEP ONE

1

For each ministry, project, mission agency, or missionary your congregation supports, answer the following questions:

1. Amount of Support Monthly or Annually \_\_\_\_\_

2. Geographical Area of Ministry Activity

- Local
- Regional
- National
- Global

☉ For Global Missions, answer questions 3-5

☉ For local / domestic mission, proceed to question 6

### 3. For Global Work

- a. Country \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Reached \_\_\_\_\_ or Unreached \_\_\_\_\_  
(Missiologists define unreached as less than 2% evangelical Christian. Visit [Joshuaproject.net](http://Joshuaproject.net) and look up the country for information: % Christian, other Religions, and # of unreached people groups, etc)
- c. Mission Agency  
No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ (if Yes) Please list here: \_\_\_\_\_  
For example: World Mission Prayer League, Lutheran Bible Translators, ALWM, etc)
- d. Do you support: The agency mission  
or
- e. Western Missionary (name) \_\_\_\_\_  
or
- f. Indigenous Pastors / Global Workers (name) \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. Ministry Type

- Gospel Focus: Bible Translation, Proclamation & Disciple making, Church planting, Leadership training, etc.
- Human Need: Medical, Human Trafficking, orphans, education, etc
- Disaster Relief
- Combination of the above.

(**Note:** unless a ministry specifically says they purposefully share the Gospel as they work to meet human need, they probably do not. For example, Lutheran World Relief explicitly states at their website that they “do not evangelize”. One of my supporting churches discovered that the quilts they used to make and send via LWR *could not include a note saying, “this is given in the love of Jesus Christ by friends at St. John Lutheran Church.”*)

### 5. Missionaries & Indigenous Global Workers.

- a. Denomination \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Sent by whom (agency, denomination, etc) \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Are visits by your Pastor and/or Short-term mission teams encouraged / welcome? \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Do they communicate regularly with the congregation? How often? Visits? \_\_\_\_\_
- e. Do they provide financial information when requested? \_\_\_\_\_

### 6. For Local & Domestic Ministry

- a) Non-Profit organization / ministry name (Habitat for Humanity, crisis pregnancy center, food pantry, etc) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) Is it a Christian Ministry? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- c) Do they purposefully share the Gospel through their involvement with people?
- d) Are volunteers welcomed? Needed? \_\_\_\_\_
- e) Do they communicate regularly with the congregation? How often? Visits? \_\_\_\_\_
- f) Do they provide financial information when requested? \_\_\_\_\_

## STEP TWO

# 2

Gather together information collected from Step 1 for all of your current mission support / benevolence.

1. What percentage of your current financial support is Global?
2. How much, if any, is invested in the Unreached & Unevangelized?
3. What percentage of current financial support is local / domestic?
4. What percentage of current financial support is goes to Gospel-Focused, Kingdom Building ministry?
5. Do the above results reflect your core values as a congregation? Why or why not?
6. Are your criteria for distributing benevolence rooted in Biblical principles and commands? Consider this alternative or expanded definition of Benevolence:

**“Our congregation’s Investment in carrying out the Great Commission (Go & Make Disciples) & the Great Commandment (Love your neighbor as yourself)”?**

- Did you know that:
- **82% goes to Home ministries** of local churches (mostly Christian nations): \$734 billion [2]
- **12% goes to Home Evangelism** in same Christian nations: \$107.5 billion [2]
- **Only 6% of this “tithes” goes to anything Missions: \$52 billion ( 5.8%, 2022).** [2]
- **Only 1.7% of “Missions Giving” (of the 6%) goes to work among Unreached Peoples** Estimated \$880 million (1.7% of the \$52b for anything “missions”) [3]
- *For every \$100,000 that Christians make, they give \$1.70 to the unreached.*
- Source: Traveling Team [Missions Statistics — The Traveling Team](#)

# 3

## STEP THREE

Where to from here? Develop an action plan to:

1. Educate your leaders and your congregation, as we “*don’t know what we don’t know*”!
  - ☉ Consider hosting an ALWM **Harvest Connection Seminar** to expand your vision in a special missions weekend. (visit [alwm.org/about](http://alwm.org/about) for “what people are saying about ALWM!”)
  - ☉ The book ***Igniting a Passion for Missions: A Guide for Church Leaders*** is a helpful resource for similar content. **Order at [www.alwm.org/books](http://www.alwm.org/books)!**
2. Prayerfully consider the balance between domestic vs global mission support, as well as Great Commission vs Great Commandment ministries.
3. Re-allocate support to Gospel Focused Ministry.
4. Re-allocate support for unreached and least reached peoples.
5. Contact ALWM Director Bill Moberly for further assistance at [missionshelp@alwm.org](mailto:missionshelp@alwm.org).