

Who serves on the ONA Board?

The Board of Outreach North America is made up of 17 people selected in one of two ways.

1. Upon election, the chairman of the church Extension/Outreach North America Committee in each of the Synod's presbyteries automatically becomes a member of the ONA Board. These members provide a two-way channel of communication between the Board, the individual presbyteries and churches throughout the Synod.
2. Synod appoints six at-large members and the Women's Ministry Board also appoints a representative.

Members serve up to six-year terms, elect their own chairman and committees and hold two scheduled meetings each year.



For more information, contact:

Dr. Alan J. Avera
ONA Director

ARP Center
One Cleveland St., Suite 110
Greenville, SC 29601

Phone:
1-864-232-8297 Ext. 229
Toll free: 1-800-849-2771 Ext. 229

E-mail:
ona@arpsynod.org

Website:
www.outreachnorthamerica.org

An ONA Publication / May 2005

THE ROLE AND
RESPONSIBILITIES
OF

*Outreach
North
America*

IN THE
GENERAL SYNOD
OF THE
ASSOCIATE
REFORMED
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

OUR MISSION AND MINISTRY:

A partnership with ARP churches, presbyteries and General Synod

Our purpose is to work with our presbyteries to introduce people to Jesus Christ. The Board of Outreach North America is charged by the General Synod of the ARP Church with planting and renewing churches in the United States and Canada.

These are some of our responsibilities:

1 START NEW CHURCHES IN COOPERATION WITH OUR PRESBYTERIES

Currently more than three dozen ARP missions in the U.S. and Canada are being supported by ONA and/or our presbyteries. These missions are led by church planters who endeavor, with God's help, to deliver the Gospel so that people's lives and hearts are changed as they come to know the Lord Jesus Christ. Financial support is offered in two ways:

- a. **Synod-supported missions:**
The ONA Board provides financial support over the first three years to missions recommended by their presbyteries and approved by the Board of ONA for support. Synod supported missions are in strategic locations and have church planters who have been approved by ONA.
- b. **Presbytery missions:** Presbyteries may also initiate and support church plants independently of Synod support. ONA staff is available to assist and encourage presbytery missions.

2 RECRUIT AND TRAIN MEN TO BE MISSION DEVELOPERS

We seek to identify men with the gifts needed for a ministry in church planting and provide them with the training, counsel and support they need to become successful church planters. To do this, we:

- a. recruit potential church planters; assess their church planting skills, knowledge, attitudes and gifts; and help match them with an appropriate geographic area;
- b. offer training seminars and retreats for mission developers and their wives;
- c. provide counsel and support to our church planters;
- d. offer internships for potential church planters;
- e. provide mentors for our church planters.

3 PROMOTE CHURCH HEALTH AND PROVIDE RESOURCES FOR RENEWAL IN ESTABLISHED CHURCHES

Outreach North America continually researches renewal resources and our churches' needs so we may offer more effective training, and so we may provide a variety of tools to our congregations to:

- a. renew the spiritual lives of members and their families;
- b. regain their commitment to evangelism and outreach work in their communities;
- c. strengthen the vision and ministry of the congregation.

4 ENCOURAGE EVANGELISM AND PROVIDE RESOURCES FOR EVANGELISM

Some specific ways we do this:

- a. support special evangelism programs throughout the Synod;
- b. assist churches and presbyteries with evangelism programs and emphases;
- c. provide resources for evangelism.

5 SUPPORT MULTI-CULTURAL MINISTRY

ONA serves as a facilitator for ethnic groups who adhere to Reformed theology and wish to become part of the ARP Church. Within the past few years our Synod has

- a. welcomed the Pacific Presbytery, made up primarily of Korean congregations;
- b. welcomed our first Chinese (Mandarin-speaking) mission;
- c. worked with World Witness to form the ARPConnect ministry to Muslims;
- d. continued to support Hispanic missions.

6 WORK WITH CONGREGATIONS INTERESTED IN AFFILIATING WITH THE ARP CHURCH

We serve as an initial contact for congregations considering affiliation with a Reformed denomination, and provide assistance and guidance to those who make official requests for affiliation with the ARP denomination.

Transforming lives in

North America for the glory of God by introducing people to Jesus Christ.

