



The Heart Of Missions

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN | MARCH 2018

Mission Possible Informational Potluck

The informational potluck will be held Sunday, March 11th at 4pm in Centennial Hall. Bring a side dish to share and table service to eat with. Never gone on a Mission Possible trip? No problem! New people are welcome! Don't feel you have enough skills? There is something for every skill level to do. Can't come every day? Then come for one or two days! This year's trip is flexible! Leaders expect to travel June 7th through June 10th.

Gratitude for Our Children's Mission Work

Seniors who receive care through Faith in Action (a CMD partner agency) expressed many thanks for the Valentine's bags made by the children of the church. The following are a few of the stories: One woman received hers and gave a huge smile, saying it was very thoughtful for her to receive a Valentine. One gentleman said the volunteers were doing good work and was glad the volunteers were working with a local church to serve others. Some bags were left on doorknobs of seniors who were not home, and one woman called later in the day to say "thanks" for the gifts; she said it was nice to know someone was thinking of her. One woman was nearly speechless, but thanked the volunteers and wished them a Happy Valentine's Day; *a few days later she let them know that she loved the little bear and homemade card and that she sleeps with the bear every night.* One care receiver pulled out each item from the bag and expressed gratitude; *she later said she now turns on the tea light every night and it, "lights up her life."*

STORIES ON BACK: SHOP AT SALT & LIGHT TO HELP SOLVE POVERTY | MISSION FUNDS AVAILABLE FROM G.A. ECIRMAC FUNDRAISING BANQUET | CARE FOR CREATION LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN URBANA |



Challenges to Sustainability in Central Illinois

Public Seminars Sponsored by the First Presbyterian Church of Urbana
11 a.m. Sundays, April 8, 15 & 22

From the time European immigrants first settled the rich prairies of Central Illinois, the area has offered its inhabitants a livable environment with diverse flora and fauna, highly productive farmland, space for development, and abundant clean water. But the ecosystem that has sustained both the human and natural community is increasingly threatened. This seminar series will explore some of the threats and consider how citizens can engage to reduce them.

Sunday, April 8 – Threatened and Endangered Amphibians and Reptiles in Illinois: Who are they, what habitat changes imperil them, and why does their status matter?

Chris A. Phillips, Herpetologist, Illinois Natural History Survey, Prairie Research Institute, University of Illinois; former member of the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board.

Sunday, April 15 – The Mahomet Aquifer, Our Source of Abundant Fresh Water: Does a growing human population, increasing agricultural and industrial use, and contamination threaten sustainability of the aquifer?

Allen Wehrmann, former head of the Groundwater Section of the Illinois State Water Survey and currently a Senior Groundwater Engineer with INTERA Incorporated.

Sunday, April 22 – Development in Champaign County: Does the county's Land Resource Management Plan protect the long-term viability of agriculture and the land resource base, ensure urban development that is compact and contiguous to already-developed areas, and guarantee social and economically desirable use of these resources?

Frank DiNovo, retired Director of Planning and Community Development with the Champaign Regional Planning Commission and currently a member of the Champaign County Zoning Board of Appeals

In the Fellowship Hall of First Presbyterian Church at 602 West Green Street, Urbana
Parking available in a church lot across Orchard Street from the hall.
www.firstpresurbana.org



The Presbyterian Mission Agency has informed us that there are funds available for various missions through the General Assembly Mission Restricted Funds.

Instructions and the application are available from the Church Office for those interested.

Money is available for several areas, including medical research, advocacy for the environment, and providing homes for the aging.

Want to help solve poverty? You can do so by shopping! **Salt & Light encourages folks of all walks of life to support their new ministry location in Urbana by shopping for groceries in their new full grocery store!** When you shop, you support the ministry. The word from Community Mission Deacons is that the fresh veggies are better than at least one major grocery retailer in town! You can shop Salt & Light's new location at 1819 South Philo Road in Urbana.

ECIRMAC will hold their **Annual Fundraising Banquet on April 14, 2018**. Please save the date. Attendees are asked to RSVP by April 5, 2018. The banquet will be held at the Round Barn Banquet Center. Tickets are \$75 each or \$550 for a table of eight. Tickets are available at ECRIMAC offices at 302 South Birch Street in Urbana. ECIRMAC provides services to refugees, immigrants and their families who settle in East Central Illinois. In the past 12 months, ECIRMAC has served over 2,000 clients!