

The Heart *Of Missions*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN | MAY 2018

Sandy Carr, Tireless Mission Volunteer, Recently Honored

Sandy Carr was honored April 7, 2018 by the Austin's Place committee at an end-of-the-season gathering to thank all the volunteers. She was crowned with a tiara with 11 stars-one for each year of staying overnight with the homeless during winter season. This includes her time spent when the shelter was hosted by First Presbyterian Church of Champaign. The event was held at the same place as the shelter-First United Methodist Church of Champaign.

Please join in congratulating Sandy on her well-deserved recognition.



Pastor Matt Invites Mission-Minded Individuals to a Special Conference, October 8-11, 2018

When we look at the intersection of today's headlines and God's concern we see topics like racism, #metoo, immigration, and violence. In each of these discussions, the common thread is **power**. It is the same when we look at the topics of spirited discussion in our churches, like the budget, mission, stewardship, and recruitment of leaders. **And yet power is something we rarely talk about, analyze, or organize around, even though we're dealing with it, using it, or finding ourselves without it, all the time.** This conference will examine the biblical, theological, and sociological understandings of power and the church's relationship to it. When do we build power for the gospel, and when do we resist the powers that oppose it? How is power *necessary* for congregational leadership, and when does it divide? How do we wield power in the church in unifying ways without diminishing Jesus' radical call to discipleship? For more information, go to www.montreat.org/better-angels. Interested? Contact Kristi Corbin.

Pentecost Offering will be taken in worship on May 20th. The Pentecost Offering supports youth in a variety of ways.

40% of the Pentecost Offering will stay within our congregation, to be distributed by Mission Team to local youth programs.

60% of the Pentecost Offering will go to various PC(USA)-supported programs that benefit youth, including: Young Adult Volunteers, Ministries with Youth, and Children At-Risk.

Please consider donating.

Missions Kiosk

Learn about our missions, pray for our mission program, and easily donate items if you choose.

After much waiting, praying, and planning, we have our missions kiosk! I hope you have enjoyed being able to learn more up-to-date information about Missions in Westminster Hall with our new board and missions kiosk interactive touch screen monitor. (Unfortunately, the monitor began demonstrating technical problems within the first two weeks of use, and Pastor Eric has shipped it off for repair; we will have it up and running again asap).

At the kiosk center, you can read updates and prayer materials and watch short videos about our mission ministries. Updated pamphlets are available for missions committees. There are even clearly labeled and accessible donation baskets for making easy material donations to partner agencies! (Please see posters on the bulletin board about accepted items and article below). We hope you enjoy!

The Kiosk was funded completely by donations lovingly set aside by Sally from Denny Hutton's memorial fund.

Harry Bremer Traveling with Marion Medical Mission, Once Again

Harry Bremer recently contacted us from Texas saying, "I felt called to consider Marion Medical Mission this year, and just heard yesterday that I am accepted for the 1st group - leaving the states Sept 14, and returning home Oct. 8. This will be my 4th trip with them. I hope that Champaign Pres continues to support this valuable and needed mission work."

Please keep Harry in your prayers. Our World Missions program does indeed continue to support Marion Medical Mission in their work to prevent illness and disease in rural parts of Africa by providing clean water.

Immediate Needs

Our supported agencies have communicated some immediate needs. Perhaps you can help?

Canteen Run: travel size toiletries, new socks, individually wrapped snack items (can be dropped off at missions table basket and the deacon will deliver)

Courage Connection: twin sheets and new towels (can be dropped off at the missions table basket and the deacon will deliver)

Crisis Nursery: All sizes Ziploc bags, Clorox wipes, snacks like goldfish pretzels, or granola bars (Please deliver to Crisis Nursery or contact Kristi Corbin for help).

Jesus is the Way has several pressing needs: repairing and resurfacing the parking lot, toilets need to be replaced, funds to buy paint to repaint residents' walls, toiletries, paper goods, and canned food for meals. (Please deliver to Jesus is the Way Prison Ministry in Rantoul or contact Kristi Corbin for help).

Prayer Request

Please join in praying for our church members and staff who are visiting our sister church in Cuba this month.

Kemmerer Trip

The trip to Kemmerer Village was a big success. The trip was reported to be enjoyable, informative and enlightening. We give thanks for the work they do at Kemmerer. Pastor Matt was able to meet the horse Kemmerer won last year. Thank you for your votes!

