

The Heart of Missions: First Presbyterian Church of Champaign's Missions Magazine

February Missions Events and Meetings

Mondays-Thursdays: *English as a Second Language Classes*
9-11am on Second Floor of Education Building

Tuesdays: *SAFE House Psychology Classes*
1:30 pm in Westminster Hall

February 13: *Compassion Peace and Justice*
4pm in Westminster Hall

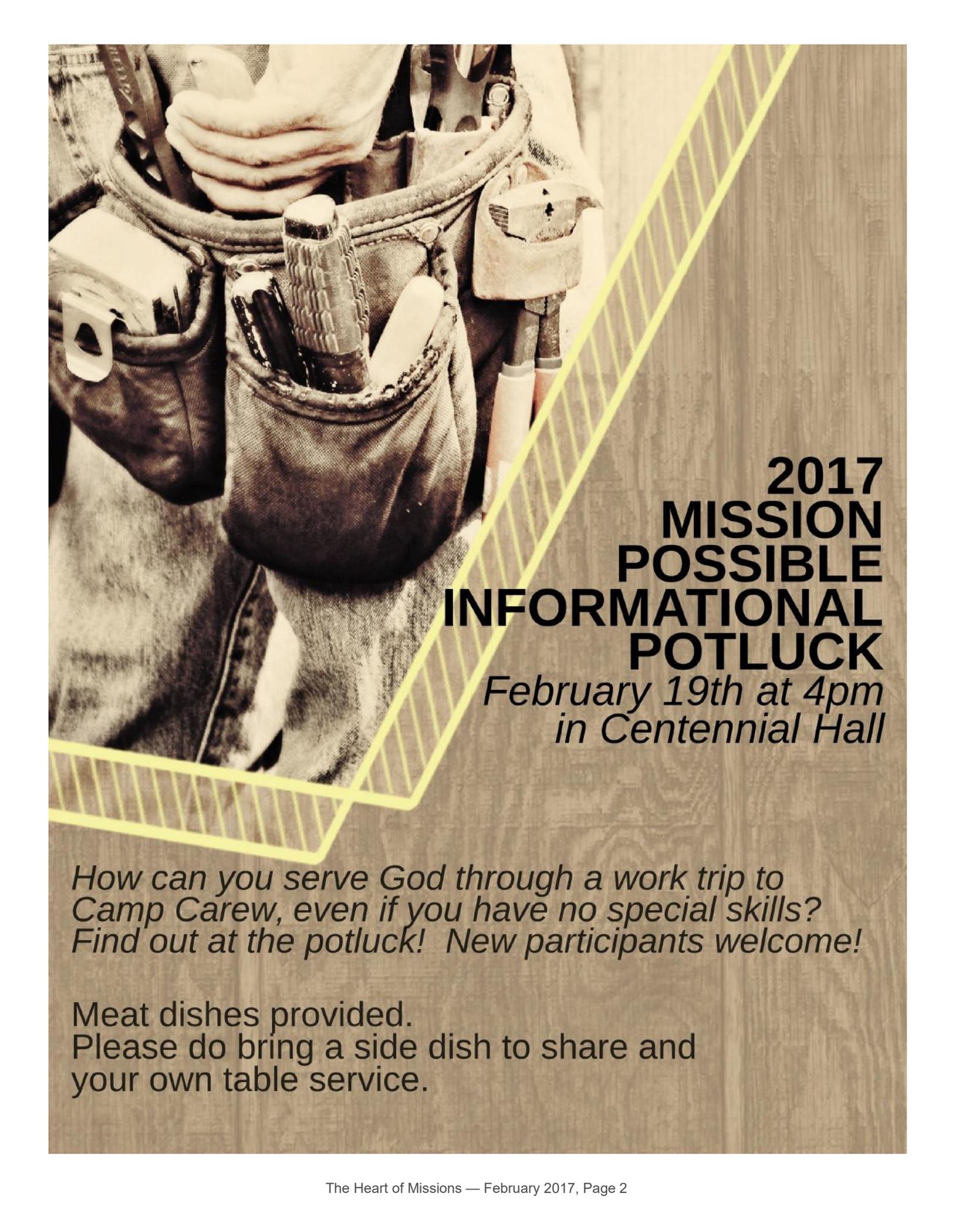
February 7: *Mission Team*
Noon in Westminster Hall
Note: This is one week earlier than normal due to Staff Appreciation Lunch

February 28: *Community Mission Deacons*
6:30pm in Westminster Hall

World Mission: To be determined

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**2017
MISSION
POSSIBLE
INFORMATIONAL
POTLUCK**

*February 19th at 4pm
in Centennial Hall*

*How can you serve God through a work trip to
Camp Carew, even if you have no special skills?
Find out at the potluck! New participants welcome!*

Meat dishes provided.
Please do bring a side dish to share and
your own table service.

Mission Possible

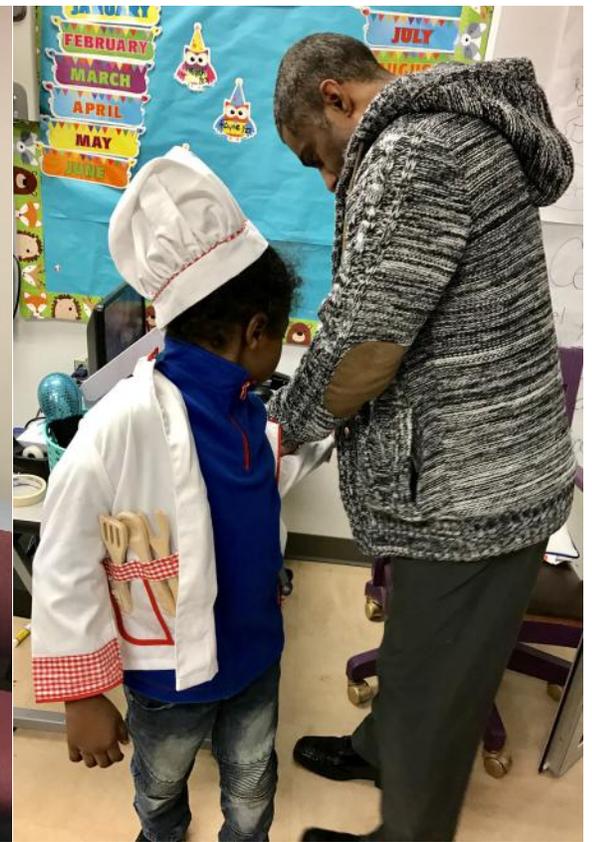
Come join Mission Possible for its 26th year! We are going to Camp Carew May 14-20. Our church supports Camp Carew, as it is in our Presbytery. The camp is located south of Carbondale, IL.

To hear more about this trip, come to a potluck in Centennial Hall, Sunday, February 19, at 4:00 pm. Please bring a table setting and a dish to share. Beverages will be provided.

At this meeting, you will learn more about Mission Possible, and hear about past trips. There will be information about housing, transportation, devotions, and medical/liability forms. Possible projects will also be discussed. Most important, you will hear about the wonderful fellowship that develops with others.

Contact committee members should there be any questions: Jim Andrews, Harry or Charlene Bremer, Bill Gamble, Dave McNattin, or Gene Morgan.

Please email Kristi Corbin at kristi.corbin@firstchurchchampaign.org and tell her that you will be coming to the potluck.



Oh, the places you can go!

Presbyterian Women wish to express our appreciation to the congregation for your DREAM House donations. With these gifts, the participants will receive an improvement in their education. The interest, discovery and excitement makes learning a positive experience.

With the beginning of the new year, the boys are discovering the benefits of your support for this mission project of our church.

Thanks be to God!

Charlene Bremer



The Canteen Run is currently in need of:

Gloves

Trial Size Toiletries

Volunteers

The children of the church continue to complete wonderful mission projects for our local mission partners! Praise be to God! Mindy, the CYF Director, is currently working with Faith in Action and Canteen Run on service projects.

Many friends of ECIRMAC and participants in the meetings of the CU-FAIR (Friends Assisting Immigrants and Refugees) Task Force have stated interest in volunteering to help immigrants and refugees in our community. If you are interested in volunteering, here is an opportunity to be trained for the call!

WHEN: Thursday, February 9, at 10:00 am. The workshop should last only 2 hours.

WHERE: UUC-UC, 309 west Green Street, Urbana.

The workshop will be led by ECIRMAC Co-Director Ha Ho.

Please confirm your participation in the workshop by emailing Luis Caza at luis@caza.us

Our mission** is to aid in the resettlement and assimilation of refugees and immigrants by providing assistance, training, resources, and opportunities that **promote self-sufficiency.

PRAYERS for CHRISTI AND JEFF BOYD - Two of Our Mission Co-Workers in the Congo

We ask for your prayers as Christi will be traveling to several provinces in East Congo to witness how those trained in trauma healing with children are implementing their skills. She will then lead a strategic planning session for a cross-border reconciliation and cooperation between the Church of Christ in Congo (Protestant umbrella organization) and the Presbyterian Church of Rwanda. She will then travel to Rwanda to visit the work of the partners there.

Jeff is in Kananga having conversations related to church conflict and how that impacts our engagement and the lives of mission personnel.

Prayers of Thanksgiving!

Praise be to God for the response of the congregation to the budget shortfall. The ESL Coordinator position has now been funded, and has been filled by Debra Miller. Debra and her family have been attending our church for approximately two years. She has been volunteering in our ESL program for one year. Debra brings with her experience in education and church work. Debra is passionate about her calling to this position. We welcome Debra to our staff!

Prayers for Wisdom:

Pray for the wisdom of deacons and committee members to discern God's will in how to utilize the remaining Missions budget most effectively, both in Community Mission Deacons and in World Mission. These committees are tasked with sending out most of our missions funding into the world to support various mission work and ministries of the church. The budget shortfall has hit those two committees hardest, with the exception of ESL losing the ability to provide childcare for participants.

Missions Event Planning

Ah, event planning! It can be stressful. In order to help your Missions event go smoothly at the church, please come see me. **Early meetings with me in the first stages of planning an event can help the process to be fun!**

Other staff members and I have put together an event planning form, formerly known as the “orange form” or the “room reservation form.” This form encompasses all that the old orange form did, while adding new elements for clarity, organization, and planning. It is still orange for continuity. :-)
Using this form, I can help you plan your event and all of the PR that goes along with it. I will then get the completed form copied for you and distributed to staff. A copy stays at Marcia’s desk in a planning folder, so anyone can grab it at a moment’s notice to determine the details of your event to help the event go well.

Please keep in mind when planning an event that you will need time. First, one must determine a funding stream. In these days of budget cuts, there aren’t many options of extra funds to support all events. As such, **unless there is a committee voting to use the existing expense account associated with the committee, please don’t assume that money is going to be available to use for the purpose of your event.** Also, please keep in mind that we need to work around existing events. You may not be able to have the first choice of date, time or room location, especially with late planning, as other events or building use may already be planned before your event idea was initiated. **Planning with staff is essential.** Also, depending on the time of the events, the facilities budget can begin to become stressed when extra manpower is needed to cover the events (preparation work, cleaning up, etc). This is something of which to be mindful.

Staff is initiating again a planning meeting to put events on the calendar early. We had our first one in August of 2017, and will have another one this month for 2017. Please attend these meetings or send information to me in your absence. **If you have any missions events you are considering for your group, I would love to sit down with a representative of your group, or the group itself, to get the ball rolling and to help make the event as effortless as possible.**

Blessings,

Kristi Corbin, Missions Coordinator

kristi@firstpres.church