

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

May Missions Events and Meetings

Mondays-Thursdays:

English as a Second Language Classes

9-11am on Second Floor of Education Building

**No ESL May 29-June 1*

Tuesdays: *SAFE House Psychology Classes*

1:30 pm in Westminster Hall

**through May 9th. Will meet again May 22nd to begin Summer schedule.*

May 8: *Compassion Peace and Justice*

4pm in Westminster Hall

May 9: *Mission Team*

Noon in Westminster Hall

May 15: *World Mission*

5:30pm in Westminster Hall

May 23: *Community Mission Deacons*

6:30pm in Westminster Hall

Cuba Steering Committee will not meet in May. The next meeting will be June 22.

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*Service Together Achieves Results
for Champaign Neighborhoods*

Congratulations

First Presbyterian Church - Men's Emergency Shelter

*you have been nominated for the
City of Champaign's **Community Partner** Award!*

Your contributions to the Champaign community are greatly appreciated.

*We would like to honor you,
along with other STAR Award nominees, at the*

2017 STAR Awards Ceremony:

April 27, 2017

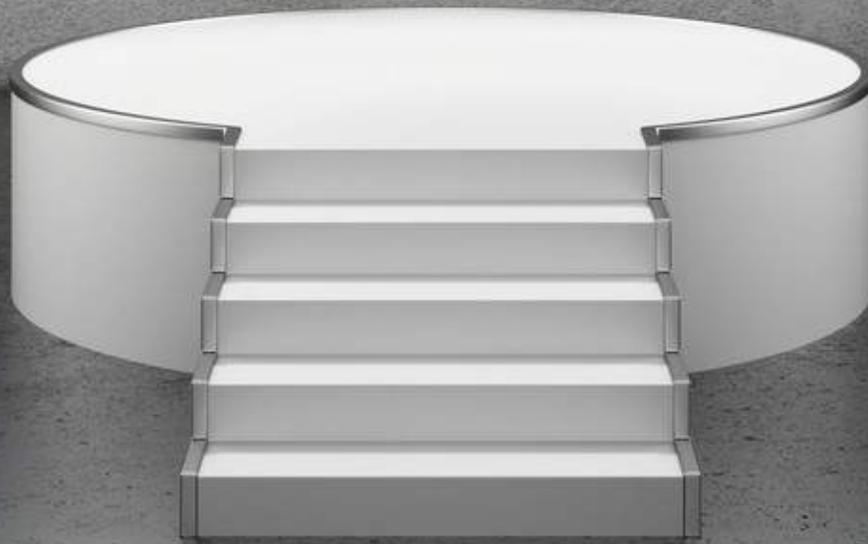
Hilton Garden Inn

1501 S. Neil Street, Champaign

***Opening Reception
6:00 PM***

***STAR Awards Ceremony
7:00 PM***

**Pastor Carlson represented our church and
received the award on our behalf.**





Egypt Onward: An Update from Steve and Cinda Gorman, Former PC(USA) Mission Co-Workers

Feb. 19, 2013 - Dec. 11, 2015 - residence, Cairo, Egypt: nearly three wonderful, amazing, blessed years working with the Evangelical (Protestant) Presbyterian Churches and seminary of the Synod of the Nile. Is it over? **Not!**

Dec. 12, 2015 on....we both found ourselves still involved in the outreach of the Synod of the Nile.

Steve traveled to Egypt three times to continue on a volunteer basis in his RL (Regional Liaison) position. Twice he went alone, and in May with Cinda, so they could both enjoy graduation among their student and faculty friends at Evangelical School of Theology in Cairo (ETSC <http://etsc.org/>).



In September, each of us drove vans for 21 days, ferrying six Egyptians and their rapidly accumulating shopping purchases on a PCUSA study tour from Louisville to Philly. All the learning, sharing, laughing and worshiping proved to be very meaningful in churches, seminaries and our General Assembly headquarters.

How "far away" is our past to our present? A heartbeat. We continue to pray for and think often of our colleagues up-and-down the Nile. Steve will return the last two week of this May 2017 to orient the new Missions Area Coordinator, visit with good friends and, yes, enjoy the ETSC graduation!

Then come July, Steve will be at Big Tent in Saint Louis (see <https://www.pcusa.org/events/40270/big-tent-2017/>). At Big Tent, Steve will attend a meeting of the Egypt Partnership Network that will be held simultaneously.

'Fast Facts' about Big Tent 2017

Presbyterian News Service

Originally Published April 12, 2017

St. Louis event to engage faith (and flavor) of community

by Gregg Brekke | Presbyterian News Service

LOUISVILLE – Organizers of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Big Tent 2017 event have assembled a list of seven “Fast Facts” for those attending, or considering attending, the July 6-8 gathering in St. Louis on the campus of Washington University.

With the theme of “Race, Reconciliation and Reformation,” Big Tent offers Presbyterians an opportunity to discern some of the toughest concerns of the day while actively engaging with their faith community and people of faith in St. Louis.

The preacher at opening worship will be PC(USA) Stated Clerk the Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson II. The Rev. Dr. Christine Hong, assistant professor of worship and evangelism and chapel worship coordinator at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, will be the closing worship preacher.

Event details along with links to the schedule and registration are available at the [main Big Tent 2017 site](#).

Fast Fact #1: What is Big Tent?

Big Tent is a Presbyterian conference where people of all ages gather for worship, learning and getting to know other Presbyterians. Those attending past Big Tents say they value the opportunity to network, socialize and build community with other Presbyterians.

Fast Fact #2: Who attends Big Tent?

Teaching elders, ruling elders, members of congregations, mid-council staff... you name it. Big tent is for Presbyterians interested in worshipping and learning alongside others!



St. Louis style gooey butter cake.
(Photo via Wikipedia / Topher0128)

Fast Fact #3: Why is Big Tent on a college campus in St. Louis?

The first three Big Tent conferences were held in hotels. In response to requests to make Big Tent more affordable and provide a more relaxed atmosphere where participants can easily gather in community, Big Tent 2015 was held on a college campus.

Big Tent 2017 wants to build on that experience and is again holding the conference on a university campus. St. Louis is easily reached by a variety of methods of transportation, particularly for those in the Midwest, and Presbyterians in the area are already planning for the 223rd General Assembly.

Fast Fact #4: How far of a drive is it to Big Tent from these cities?

- Chicago – 4.5 hours
- Indianapolis – 3 hours, 42 minutes
- Des Moines – 5 hours, 23 minutes
- Kansas City – 3 hours, 51 minutes
- Memphis – 4 hours
- Nashville – 4 hours, 26 minutes

Fast Fact #5: What are the top food/drinks you should try in St. Louis?

- Goey butter cake.
- St. Louis Style Pizza—thin crust, tavern cut.
- Toasted ravioli.
- St. Louis style barbecue—grilled, then sauce added.
- Ted Drewes frozen custard

(More information: <http://slu.spoonuniversity.com/lifestyle/5-must-try-foods-next-time-visit-st-louis/>)

Fast Fact #6: Why was Big Tent created?

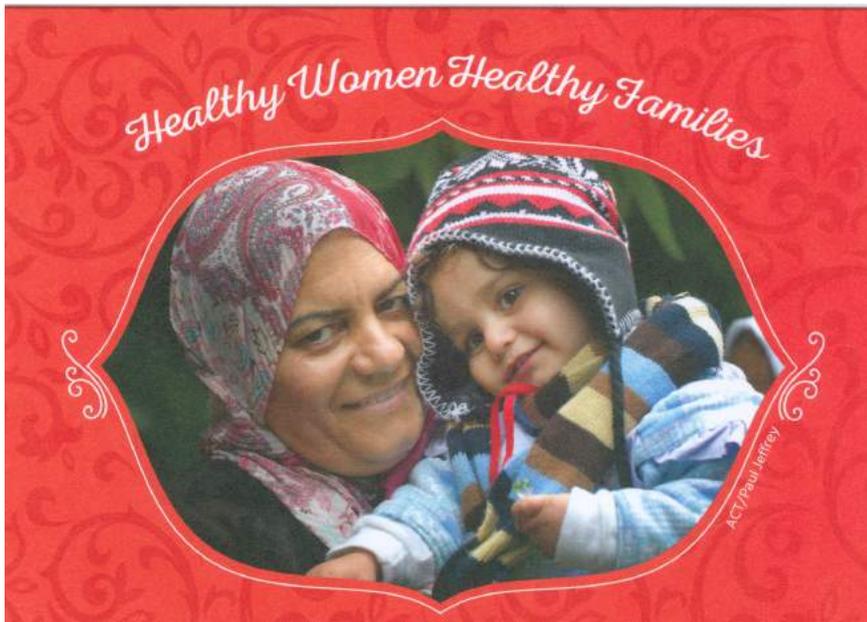
The first Big Tent was held in 2009, bringing together numerous conferences for shared space, worship and cost-savings. Big Tent has now become one large conference with participants joining together in worship and Bible study, and learning about such diverse topics as peacemaking, ruling elder leadership, multicultural ministry and other topics.

Fast Fact #7: What do I wear?

- Comfortable clothes and shoes—be aware that it is likely to be hot in St. Louis.
- A sweater or jacket—Washington University meeting rooms are air-conditioned and may be cool.
- Given the anticipated hot and humid weather and the campus location, casual dress is entirely appropriate, including shorts, T-shirts and sandals.

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To view the original article, go to <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/fast-facts-big-tent-2017/>



Presbyterian Women's mission of offering Mother's Day Cards will be available to purchase until May 14.

Your donation will help with the Healthy Women, Healthy Families program. This program provides grants to fund education, health, and community development activities in impoverished communities. World Mission and Presbyterian

Women have cosponsored the Mother's Day Project since 2001.

Gifts to this project transform lives!

Do you have some extra stuff? Hope International is now able to accept donated stock, vehicles, cell phones, computers, unused gift card balances, and more! To learn how to donate, visit www.hopeinternational.org/idonate. Hope International shares the Hope of Christ as they provide biblically based training, savings services, and loans that restore dignity and break the cycle of poverty.

We have our One Great Hour of Sharing Total! As of April 23rd, we have received \$5,892.15.

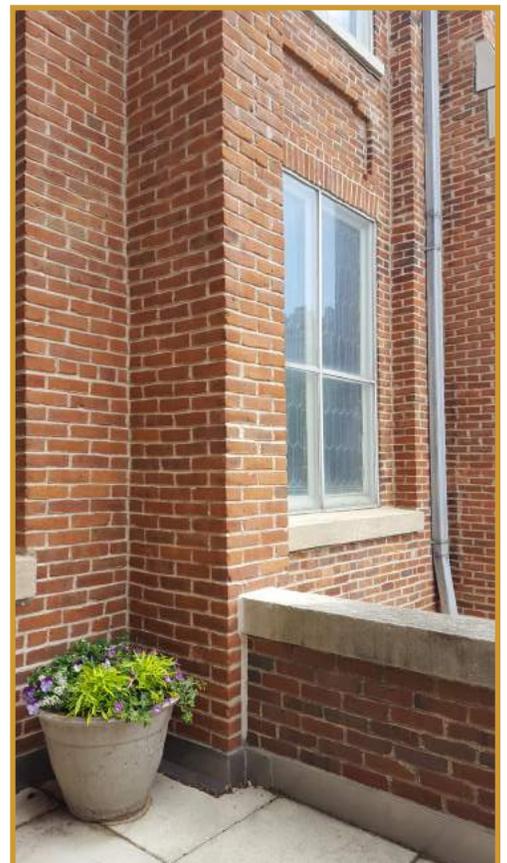
Please pray for...

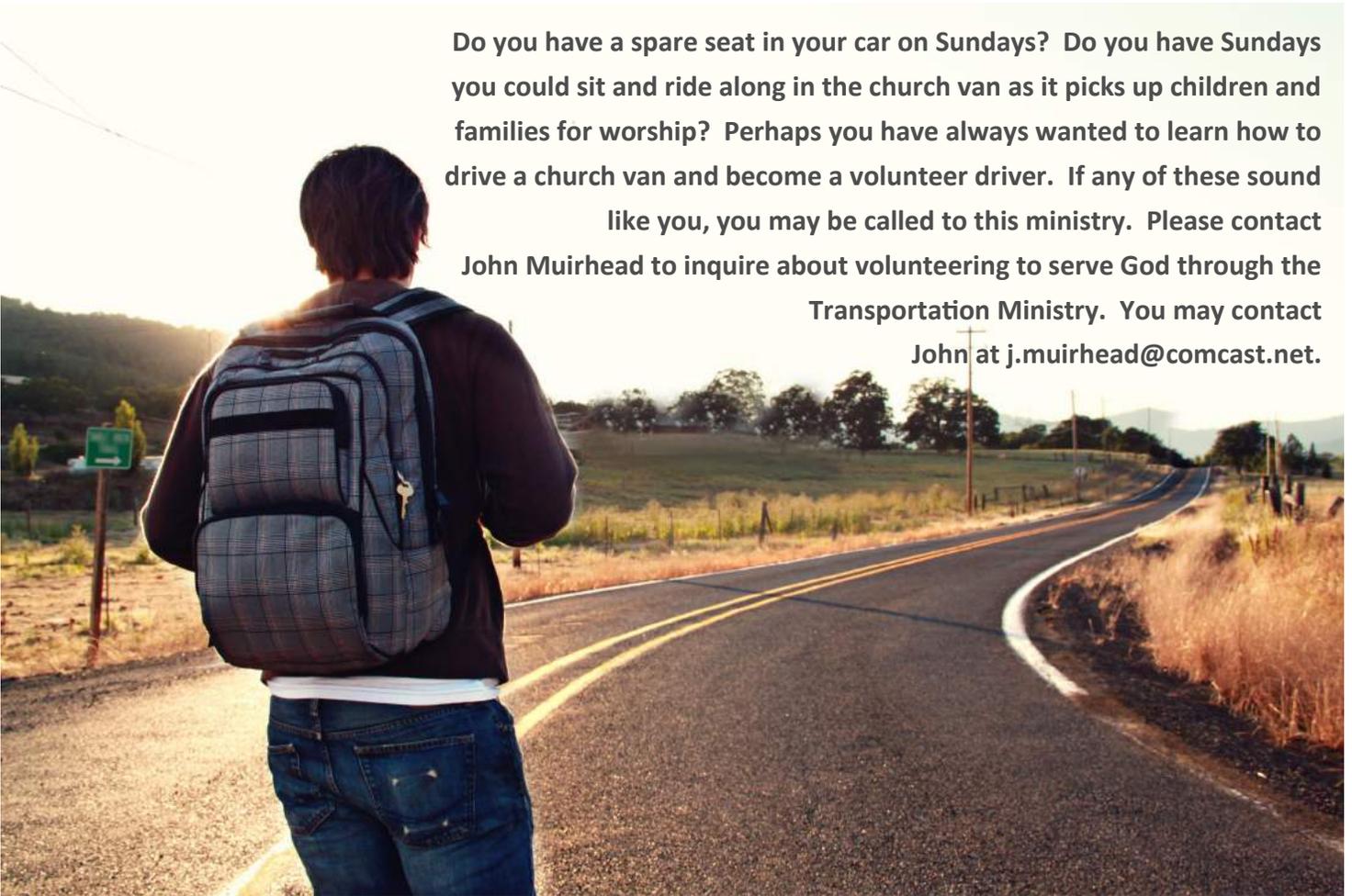
Mission Co-workers
Rev. Bob Rice and Kristi Rice
 and the people of South Sudan

pcusa.org/bob-and-kristi-rice
 bob.rice@pcusa.org
 kristi.rice@pcusa.org

Address
 205 Lake Shore Circle
 Bloomington, IL 61704

PRESBYTERIAN MISSION AGENCY





Do you have a spare seat in your car on Sundays? Do you have Sundays you could sit and ride along in the church van as it picks up children and families for worship? Perhaps you have always wanted to learn how to drive a church van and become a volunteer driver. If any of these sound like you, you may be called to this ministry. Please contact John Muirhead to inquire about volunteering to serve God through the Transportation Ministry. You may contact John at j.muirhead@comcast.net.

ECIRMAC raised over \$30,000 from their banquet, silent auction, and other recent fundraising efforts. Praise God! Thank you for your support! ECIRMAC has already served over 1300 individuals in the first two quarters of their fiscal year. Just this last quarter alone, they served 22 new families!

The funds our church sent to the Presbyterian Education Board for their work in Pakistan is providing **full support for six students** of the program. How wonderful!

Westminster Presbyterian Church donated many snacks to the Men's Emergency Shelter when it met here. After the shelter was relocated to a seven day a week option, we had snacks left behind. DREAM House was in need of snacks, and after Westminster was informed of the leftovers, Westminster agreed to shift the remainder of the snacks to DREAM House! What an example of God's provision for God's children. **DREAM can still use more donations of shelf stable snacks, which will be used over the summer. Please donate if you feel led.**



Mission Team is Discerning a Vision for a Mission Kiosk.

The following is a summary of the initial ideas after our first discussion/meeting. The kiosk would be a physical structure with multiple sides to it in Westminster Hall in the general area of the Mission Tables. The kiosk would have one human in it each Sunday to answer questions between services. Sometimes that human would be the Missions

Coordinator. Normally, that human would be a person directly organizing the mission work/events going on at that time. The physical structure and information should be accessible to adults and children, and have appealing information for both. The kiosk would be important to **attract new church members and Missions participants**. It will, just as importantly, serve to provide an avenue to **deepen the knowledge of and participation in Missions for current members**. Information presented would include up to date information on changes in ministries we support (such as agency updates/mission co-worker newsletters). This undertaking will require organization of volunteers, organization of information, and creative ideas of how to get traffic flow over to the kiosk. **These three tasks would be a part of the Mission Coordinator's position.**

Do you have any ideas about the Missions Kiosk? Please submit your recommendations to your Mission Committee's leader. That leader will report them to Mission Team at the next meeting. As the vision becomes more clearly formulated, we will consult about the feasibility of these ideas with all appropriate committees (such as Building and Grounds and Technology). Ultimately, the proposal will go to Session for consideration and vote. It will take several months to get to that phase. **Meanwhile, please pray for the Holy Spirit to lead and guide our discussions and recommendations in the months to come. May God be glorified in the outcome.**

In Christ's Peace,

Kristi Corbin

Missions Coordinator

