



# The Heart *Of Missions*

AUGUST 2018-FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

Jesus is the Way Prison Ministry Banquet  
August 24<sup>th</sup>, 6pm-8pm  
Laborers Local 703 Hall  
108 E. Anthony Drive, Urbana

Please plan to attend this year's banquet and contribute towards the rehabilitation of paroled inmates. Rehabilitation is accomplished by teaching residents all that is necessary to become solid wage earning, Christian, and productive citizens of our state.

Jesus is the Way Prison Ministries is the only half-way house institution in the state of Illinois that teaches individuals how to become Christians and thoughtful individuals. The recidivism rate of Jesus is the Way graduates is substantially

lower than that of the general population of paroled inmates.

Jesus is the Way Prison Ministries employs three full time staff and requires their residents to do all of the cooking, cleaning, and simple upkeep of the facilities. The residents are expected to volunteer their services to some of the local non-profits. After 5 months of training, the men are allowed to get local jobs and part of their salaries are applied to the food and other necessities.

Several local Rantoul companies are eager to hire these men, as they find them to be hard working and productive employees.

If you cannot attend due to other scheduled activities, we encourage you to write a check to our Church with Jesus is the Way Prison Ministries in the memo field. This event is their only annual fund raising event.

This is JITWPM's 41st year of ministry. Our congregations has ties to the founders. Come join them for a wonderful evening of great food and powerful testimonies shared by some amazing people!

**Submitted by Steve Gritten:  
Community Mission Deacon to  
Jesus is the Way Prison  
Ministry**

# God's Amazing Plan in Cuba

*Submitted by: Lizz Pippen*

I never cease to be amazed at God's plan. Whenever I get a glimpse and start to see a small portion of the bigger picture I am always awestruck. My most recent trip to Luyano was no different. I will admit that I was nervous to go. Traveling alone to another country where I don't really speak the language is always a bit scary, but I knew it would be fine. I knew that Pastor Daniel would be waiting for me at the airport with my visa and I knew that during the week I would have the ladies from Covenant Church in Austin as support for Spanish and to help with communication. The week spent at Luyano with the women from Austin was more than I could have hoped or dreamed would happen. At VBS we served approximately 60 children a day during the three days of VBS and that alone is amazing. But it only got better. We watched as the kids learned more about faith and enjoy learning and playing new games, creating projects like decorating tote bags they can use for school or shopping, and learning

more about science and the connection between God and science. I also got to spend time with the precious and energetic group of *parvulos* or the youngest group of children aged about 2-6. My favorite part of working with them was not only how much fun they were but also getting to see how great Yamila, one of the young women at Luyano, is with them and how much they love and respect her as their teacher. It was a blessing for me to be a part of this mutual mission. It is always beautiful to see God's people working together to further his kingdom.

Thank you for sending your prayers and support for me during this adventure. I am happy to have been able to represent you all at Luyano. I would encourage anyone who has even a slight stirring or curiosity about our sister church to join the study group starting September 4. Contact Bob Kirby if you are interested in joining the study at [rwk3213@gmail.com](mailto:rwk3213@gmail.com).

## Represent Missions

Please consider signing up for a shift at the church's booth at the Taste of C-U. The Taste will be held on August 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. No special skills are required. Sign up at the Welcome Center or email Gary Peterson at [amer\\_swede@yahoo.com](mailto:amer_swede@yahoo.com)



Pictured Left to Right: Yamilet Sanchez, Lizz, Beth Feger, Joy Baskins, Norka Lazo, Evangeline Herring

## Other Notes

**Annual SAFE House Gospel and Jazz Fest**  
Sunday, August 26 from 3pm-7pm  
Hessel Park

SAFE House is looking for volunteers to help at the prayer tent. To sign up to volunteer at either the prayer tent or as additional help, contact the Canaan Administrative Office at 217.367.2158

Canteen Run is looking for volunteers to make PB and J sandwiches on August 20, 21, and 30<sup>th</sup>. They are also looking for a coordinator every other Sunday. Email Canteen Run if you are interested in volunteering at [cucanteenrun@gmail.com](mailto:cucanteenrun@gmail.com)

Please keep Harry Bremer in your prayers as he prepares to go to Africa once again with Marion Medical Mission. His trip is scheduled for September 14<sup>th</sup> through October 8<sup>th</sup>. He is asking for prayers for safety and health while traveling, specifically.



Fight Poverty: Shop with us at  
Urbana Salt & Light  
1819 South Philo Road  
Sunday, August 12 at 1:30 pm  
Enjoy a tour and time to shop.