

The Heart *Of Missions*

OCTOBER 2018 / FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

Thank you!

Many thanks to all of the volunteers and staff who put in work before, during and after Hearts, Hands and Voices: A Community Together in September for missions! The planning team, those who helped set up and tear down, those who cut fabric ahead of time for hats and scarves, all of you who volunteered the day of in any capacity and those who helped deliver the completed items/packages after it was all over...all of you are so important and appreciated. Over 600 individuals are being impacted by your efforts! You definitely made a difference in your community!



It was wonderful to worship God, serve God and serve our neighbors together with you, while having fun. Please enjoy one of my favorite photos from the day, above. Look for more on the Missions board when I return from "Better Angels" at Montreat.

---Kristi Corbin, Missions Coordinator

First Pres ESL Happenings

Our program encourages hands on, pragmatic skill development and cultural exchange.

In order to make learning meaningful and authentic, sometimes the First Pres ESL Program goes on field trips. On September, 18th 2018, the students and tutors met at Champaign Public Library at 9:30am to learn about the library. The librarians were very accommodating and gave the students an hour-long tour. We were shown the new business center, updated teen and children's areas, and the bookstore. The students expressed that they really appreciated learning about the different resources and events the library has to offer. At the end, several students got library cards, so they can use the resources on their own.



Your World Mission Committee has donated \$1,000 of the funds allocated to them to hurricane relief through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. If you would like to add to these funds, please write a check with "hurricane relief" in the memo.

Students are encouraged to share their cultures and customs with the program. Because Mid-Autumn Festival was on September 24th, three of our more advanced Chinese students gave presentations about the history, the customs, and the food of the festival in China. Mid-Autumn Festival, also known as Autumn Moon Festival, is celebrated by many East Asian cultures. In Chinese culture, it is a day for families to reunite, marvel at the moon, and eat moon cakes, which can be filled with bean paste, eggs, or meat. In the spirit of the festival, our Chinese students brought in moon cakes, wontons, and fried rice for their ESL family. Below, you can see two of our students, Dan (left) and Patricia (right) presenting to the class about Mid-Autumn Festival.



2016 Raindrop Update

In 2016 our Raindrop Project was a start-up project of our mission co-worker Farsijana Adeney-Risakotta, who serves in Indonesia. Griya Jati Jati Rasa Co-op was just getting off the ground as a micro-finance and training program. In the last two years the cooperative has grown and provides small loans to entrepreneurs. These small business owners were previously farmers whose way of lives are transitioning due to changes throughout Indonesia. The Co-op works to train men and women in traditional arts such as batik and wood crafts. Our contribution continues to help support Muslims and Christians in Indonesia as they work together to build social justice.

