



Marigolds remind me that we have more in common with our neighbors than not. Farmers all over the world know that marigolds benefit tomatoes and other plants when grown together. The cover photo today is of my raised bed garden. Yet, look at the marigold pots from

Kinnaird College in Pakistan that I took when I visited Pakistan with the Friends of Presbyterian Education Board in Pakistan in 2019. The gardeners were planting marigolds in all of the gardens and



fields. They made flower necklaces with the marigolds and gave them to us to wear.

I believe that we share more positives than negatives with our neighbors globally and locally. Sharing scientific ideas, resources, and creativity is one way God calls us to love one another. Virus, sickness and strife will be minimized when we remember this and love into it. This week's newsletter will actually be focusing on local mission. Yet, our recent pandemic has shown us that what we do here at home affects all humanity.

Peace to you all,

Rachel Matthews, Temporary Mission Coordinator
First Presbyterian Church Champaign

You cause the grass to grow for the cattle, and plants for people to use,
to bring forth food from the earth, (Psalm 104:14)

Mission News in Champaign Urbana

Canaan S.A.F.E. House Sunday, May 3 was graduation day for Brother Jason Ebaugh. Raymond McCrary, the S.A.F.E. House Director, told Ritchie Drennon that the House was going to order pizzas for him and celebrate. They would allow guests to give a brief greeting with social distance and bring him gifts. We ask God's blessings on Brother Jason as he continues what he has learned at S.A.F.E. House.

Courage Connection Speaking of graduations, Courage Connection thanked the ladies of UIUC Alpha Chi Omega May 1 on Facebook, especially the graduates. (I would love to hear if any of FPCC members are alums of UIUC Alpha Chi Omega!)



Through the many years they have given support to our agency monetarily and by volunteering their resources and time. We are so grateful for their willingness to take a stand against domestic violence. Their generosity has helped so many people find safety and stability. 💜 Special thank you to the graduates. We wish you well in all you do. 💜 #wearecourageconnection #class2020 #UIUCalphachiomega

Courage Connection has been doing their work virtually as much as possible just as the rest of us and yet continues to support residential clients and run the 24/7 hotline.

C-U Canteen Run - Giving Tuesday is May 5 and Canteen Run wants to make sure we know to give to Salvation Army on their behalf. Salvation Army pays for the driver's gas and provides insurance for Canteen Run. Here is an update from April 3. I love how our Mission Partners in CU are working together!!

The Canteen Run program has recently changed, yet the mission to serve our street friends remains the same!

Our scheduled stops and inclusion of awesome volunteers in the truck has been replaced with one driver going out Monday thru Thursday, sometimes Friday, delivering the same essential items (sack lunch, t-shirts, underwear, socks, and

hygiene to name a few) to our street friends.

The only scheduled stops we make now are at [Austins Place](#), serving about 14 woman, and [C-U at Home](#), serving about 50 men. All 64 of these men and women have no other shelter options, and are Champaign Urbana's chronic homeless.

In addition to the drops we are making at the shelters, the drivers are driving around looking for individuals on the street at night, building a phone number list for our street friends that refuse to shelter. Text messages connect the drivers each night with our friends so we can locate them and make sure they have what they need.

We are still counting on all of our supporters for the needed donations to support the Canteen Run efforts. If you are able to donate t-shirts, underwear, or other items, please message us, and we will arrange to pick up those items from you.

Thanks for always being there for our street friends!



C-U AT HOME

WE'RE HIRING!

COORDINATOR: PHOENIX DROP IN CENTER

- Foster a positive, encouraging, grace-centered environment at the Phoenix.
- Build relationships with our friends without an address; provide case management as needed.
- Coordinate and supervise Phoenix Assistant, interns, friends from the community, and student volunteer groups.
- Provide on-going orientation and training for new/existing friends from the community.
- Experience with marginalized populations and those suffering from substance abuse, mental health issues and homelessness is beneficial to this position.

Interested applicants should send their resume and cover letter to Aleta Keith at aleta@cuathome.us by May 15, 2020.

CU at Home is looking for a coordinator for the Phoenix Drop in Center. Pass the word and pray for a response. Send resumes and cover letter to Aleta Keith at aleta@cuathome by May 15, 2020.

Also, they have a Wish List that includes toilet paper, laundry detergent, lysol disinfectant spray, hand sanitizer, face masks, kleenex, spray bottles for cleaning solutions, and gift cards (Walmart, Sams, Target, Meijer, Amazon) They can be dropped off directly at 70 E Washington St, Champaign, IL 61820.

DREAAM (Driven to Reach Excellence and Academic Achievement for Males)

On April 28 on Facebook, DREAAM asks us, "Did you know that DREAAM delivers gift bags twice a month to families filled with school supplies and enrichment materials? We want to give a special thanks to our 8th grade DREAAMer, Jordan Creighton, for helping put together our latest gift bags." Go to Facebook and see a picture of Jordan hard at work! Prayers to all the DREAMers right now who are faced with huge obstacles with online school.

empty Tomb, Inc. We pray for their ministry which has been sorely affected due to a lack of volunteers and volunteers who drive needing to be between 18 and 60.

Faith in Action I said a little prayer for Faith in Action this week and sent it to them through general Messenger to OSF Heart of Mary Medical Center. I was so surprised to get a note back, "Thank you for your kind words and the prayers, Rachel. We will continue to keep you and the community in ours as well. Take care and God bless!" People listen and people care!

JESUS IS THE PRISON MINISTRY has four clients right now. One graduates May 10th. Congratulations! Two other clients will be going to work this month. Employment for graduates is high. The pandemic has closed JTWPM to on site prison ministry and bible studies are affected. They continue to do administrative work from home. We have learned that many prisoners with non-violent crimes are being release and these ex-prisoners need a qualified place to be released to. We pray for all those doing prison and prison related ministries.



Salt and Light -

There is a list of items that Salt and Light will accept as donations right now: clothes and shoes (in any condition), accessories (purses, belts, jewelry, etc.), appliances (in good working condition that do not require

installation), household and kitchen items, health and beauty items (unopened), children's toys, linens, sheets, blankets, towels, books, dvds, cds, and video games, flat screen tvs and computers (in good working condition) and antiques. These are processed and sold in their store. Shopping at their store earns credits for their participants. These are some words of inspiration from their Facebook page.



The Refugee Center

19 hrs.

Completar el #Censo2020 es rápido, fácil y confidencial. Ayuda a nuestra comunidad a conseguir los fondos que necesitamos. #HazQueLLCuenta

Filling out the #2020Census is quick, easy, & confidential. Help our community get the funding we need. #MakeLLCount

The Refugee Center - It may seem redundant but the Census Count is so crucial to get the funding our community needs. Fill it out. Pass the word along.



Food Pantries in the CU Area I found this list of food pantries on the Eastern Illinois Food bank website and took our area pantries off of it. Please share this with your friends and also add CU Fair to the list of food deliverers. There is a Foodmobile as well but you have to register online with them. Note **Restoration Urban Ministries** is one of our mission partners. Have you ever thought about how much hunger this represents? As a Matthew 25 congregation, we are challenging systemic poverty. Pray about how we can change this.

Champaign Church of the Brethren
Call Church Monday-Friday 8am-12pm to schedule appointment
1210 N. Neil Street Champaign, IL 61820
217-356-3852
Serving Champaign County

Community Services Center of Northern Champaign County (CSCNCC)
Open Monday-Friday 10am-4pm

520 E Wabash, Ste 1 Rantoul, IL 61866
217-893-1530
Serving Champaign County

Cultivadores Pantry
Open Monday 6/24, 7/29, 8/26, 9/30, 10/28 and 11/25 from 6pm - 8pm
555 S Maplewood Dr, Rantoul, IL 61866
Daily Bread Soup Kitchen
Lunch served 7 days a week 11am - 12:30pm
116 N First Street, Champaign, IL 61820
Serving Champaign County

Emmanuel Memorial Episcopal
Monday-Friday 9am-10am (until takeout sacks are gone)
208 W University Ave Champaign, IL 61820
217-352-9827
Serving Champaign County

Faith Baptist Church-Champaign
By appointment only - call church to schedule
4601 N. Market Street Champaign, IL 61822
217-367-9918
Serving Champaign-Urbana & surrounding area

Faith UMC Emergency Food Pantry
Open Monday-Wednesday 11am-2pm
1719 S. Prospect Ave, Champaign, IL 61820
217-359-3631
Serving Champaign County

Friends of Champaign County
(located inside Champaign-Urbana Public Health District)
Open Thursday 12pm - 2pm
201 West Kenyon Road Champaign, IL 61820
217-352-7961
Serving Champaign County

Grace Lutheran Church
Open Thursday 10am - 12pm
313 S. Prospect Ave Champaign, IL 61820
217-356-6232
Serving Champaign County

Jubilee Café (located inside Community United Church of Christ)
Serves hot meal Monday's from 5-6:30pm

805 South 6th, Champaign

All are welcome! <https://www.facebook.com/jubileecafecucc/>

Mahomet Helping Hands

Open 3rd Saturday 9am-11:30am

203 E Adams Street #2 Mahomet, IL 61853

217-586-3178

Serving Mahomet-Seymour School District

Newman Shares

Open Wednesdays 5:30pm-7:00pm

Inside Newman Hall

604 E. Armory Ave. Champaign, IL 61801

217-344-1266

Serving U of I & Parkland Students

Restoration Urban Ministries

Open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 10am - 1pm

1213 Parkland Court, Champaign, IL 61821

217-355-2662

Serving Champaign County

Salvation Army Pantry

Open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9am - 4pm / Tuesdays 9 am - 5 pm

2212 North Market Street, Champaign, IL 61822

Serving Champaign County

St. Vincent DePaul-Champaign (Inside Holy Cross Church)

Call Church for an appointment

405 W Clark Street Champaign, IL 61820

217-352-8748

Serving Champaign

St. Luke CME Food Pantry

Open 3rd Saturday 10am - 12pm

809 5th Street, Champaign, IL 61820

Serving Champaign County

St. Vincent DePaul-Urbana

Open Monday -Thursdays 4:30pm - 5pm

Inside St. Patrick Parish Center

708 W Main Street, Urbana, IL 61801

Serving Champaign County

Stone Creek Food Pantry - Urbana

Open second & fourth Friday of the month from 10:30am - 1pm
2502 S. Race St, Urbana, IL 61801
Serving Champaign, Urbana, Rantoul and surrounding areas

UniPlace Christian Church
Open Wednesdays 6pm - 7pm (while University classes are in session)
403 S. Wright St., Champaign, IL 61820
217-362-5118
Serving Champaign County

UniPlace Christian Pantry - Open Door
Open Tuesday 10am - 12pm
403 S. Wright St., Champaign, IL 61820
217-362-5118
Serving Champaign County

The Vineyard Food Pantry
Open Wednesdays 10am - 12pm, & 5pm - 6pm
Inside Hope Center
1802 N. Lincoln, Urbana, IL 61801
Serving Champaign County

Windsor Road Christian Church
Open Monday-Thursday 9am - 4:00pm
2501 Windsor Road, Champaign, IL 61822
217-359-2122
Serving Champaign County

Wesley Evening Pantry at Wesley United Methodist Church
Thursdays 5pm - 7pm
Additional hours for Champaign County College Students only: Fridays 1pm - 3pm
1203 W. Green Street, Urbana, IL 61801
Serving Champaign County

Wesley Evening Pantry at Parkland College
Open every Wednesday 1pm - 3pm / 1st and 3rd Saturdays 10am - 12pm
Parkland College "M" Building (room M138 across from the Planetarium; park in the M1 lot)
2400 W. Bradley Ave, Champaign, IL 61821
Serving Champaign County

Please keep

Please keep our our PC(USA) and World Mission CoWorkers in your prayers:

Mark Adams and Miriam Maidonado Escobar (Mexico)
Farsijanna Adeney-Risakotta (Indonesia)
Jeff and Christi Boyd (Central Africa)
Jo Ella Holman (Caribbean and Cuba) and the Presbyterian Cuba Partnership
Bob and Kristi Rice (South Sudan)
Opportunity International
Friends of Presbyterian Education Board in Pakistan
Kemmerer Village (and Camp Carew)
Lifeline Pilots
Mission Aviation Fellowship
Special Offerings of the PC(USA)
Theological Education Fund
Young Adult Volunteers

Please keep other Ministries of First Presbyterian Church Champaign who are doing mission in your prayers this week:

FPCC Small Groups

FPCC Environmental Committee working with Faith in Place

FPCC Presbyterian Women

FPCC ESL

FPCC Children, Youth and Families



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH** OF CHAMPAIGN

302 W. Church Street
Champaign, IL 61820
217-356-7238
info@firstpres.church