



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN**

The Heart of Mission
September 13, 2021



"God has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" (Micah 6:8) I know Micah could not have imagined walking the streets in order that the hungry might be fed but that is one way we walk humbly. We step out in faith knowing that others will hear the call and walk with us. This CROP walk feeds hundreds every year. Our mission agencies serve thousands every day. There is a long walk ahead of us as we undo the ravages of the Covid virus with our efforts and gifts. Justice, loving kindness, and humility are huge steps that require practice and energy to make change happen. They are our purpose and our motivation. Let us not be discouraged that our mission agencies work so hard and there is so much need. Sometimes it feels overwhelming and never ending. And, yet, in those moments when we connect heart to heart, eye to eye, footstep to footstep, hand to hand, we know God is pleased and we can rejoice. Let us have hope because walking right alongside of us is God. We are never alone.

Peace,

Rev. Dr. Rachel Matthews

CROP Walk updates:



NOW is the time for donations of **snack bars**: Nutra grain bars, protein bars, chocolate bars, granola bars, wrapped snacks for CROP walk!! There is already a stack on my desk started! We

are planning for 150 to 200 people. Should the event go all virtual, we will donate the snack bars to one of our mission partners. They will be used for mission!!! Please take the snack bars to Rachel's office.

Hybrid Walk

A few reminders. We will try to stream our opening through Facebook Live. Second, all those attending the gathering will be required to wear masks. The Facebook stream will be available for those who are unable to wear a mask while inside any of the churches along the route. Third, for those walking the route on walk day, we do plan to have chocolates available. However, we encourage eating of chocolates to be done outside so that masks can remain on while indoors. These are challenging times and we appreciate your cooperation in making this a successful and safe event for everyone. Our focus, as ever, remains on helping our hungry neighbors.

CROP Fundraising

We have raised \$1,525 in online donations and \$225 facebook/other donations so far. Great start ya'll!

Fundraising Platform: <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/event/champaignil>

You can use the platform to create a team page and for walk participants to join your team and start fundraising. Remember to thank your donors. If you need help setting up a team page or personal page, don't hesitate to reach out to us or to the CWS team at webwalk@crophungerwalk.org.

Facebook Integration:

Integration with a facebook account has never been easier. I received two donations within days of integrating my facebook account with my CROPHungerWalk donation page. In past years, you had to work hard to get credited for a donation through a facebook fundraiser. No longer! When you integrate your fundraising page and facebook page, you will get credit for all the donations raised through your facebook fundraiser.

Donation Slips:

Attached is a bulletin insert that you can use if you would like. Print settings: two-sided, horizontal/landscape, and flip on short side. It works great with perforated paper, giving a donation receipt to the donor and the walk participant/team. [Example of perforated paper: <https://www.quill.com/20-lb-laser-bond-custom-cut-sheet-paper-3-1-2-perforation-from-bottom-30030-dpp851035/cbs/002539.html> (This is not an endorsement of a particular product, just an example of the kind of paper that works.)]

Walk Route:

Sandy already has a route plotted out for us!! The routes are available through Google Maps at the links below.

Main Route:

https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1MRvzE9_HutMXtYTye0ha4tOrYxUfkyzm&usp=s_haring

Short Route:https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1gLHkj-pXBfm_6qIYC6hTNVPZYaarqQg2&usp=sharing

CU Lockdown Trivia:

Friday, September 24, 2021 at 7:30 PM.

Deadline to register: 9 AM.

Learn about CU Lockdown Trivia: <https://www.culockdowntrivia.org>

Sign up a team (up to 6

players/team): <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeH84V6624smthDxKhyd9w3EFH7g3UxPejqYkJBvu7iJfQGHQ/viewform>

Cost: Participation is free, but they fundraise for nonprofits each week, and CROP Walk is the nonprofit for Sept 24. So each member of your CROP Walk team could create a trivia team to expand the donor base. Or come out as a CROP Walk team to support CU Lockdown Trivia. It requires internet access and the Zoom conferencing app.

CUBA PARTNER NETWORK: The CPN Virtual Gathering is September 24 & 25, 2021. You can attend this year's virtual Gathering, "Esperanza: Prayer, Patience, and Partnership," by registering at <https://www.cubapartnersnetwork.info/> The cost is \$25.

Canteen Run sent a note: Here are parts of it:

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Colossians 3:17

The other day we had a 75 year woman who had to get to Indiana. She didn't have money for the ticket. CU Church gave her the money for the bus ticket, and the Canteen Run gave her a room.

*We need: **Large underwear, Shirts.***

Contact: cucanteenrun@gmail.com, we are on Facebook, PLEASE LIKE US, and also on Twitter at Canteen Run@canteenrun, follow us.

CU at Home: Rick Williams wrote last week,

*One **question** we're commonly asked about our work and ministry is, "**How many people do you serve?**" While our goal is to connect personally with every person we serve, to know them by name and be mindful of their unique individual circumstances, we do generate a lot of data in the process that helps us track our services from month to month. **Here are some examples.***

*Since restoring full services at our [Phoenix Center](#) (August 10) and our men's and women's overnight shelters (August 16), we've provided services of some type to over **130** individuals. An average of **33** people/day came into the [Phoenix](#) during regular hours, taking **164** showers and doing **37** loads of laundry. **Eight** friends used the computers in our new resource center.*

C-U at Austin's Place served 11 different women in August who occupied a total of 168 "beds" (individuals x nights of stay). Our [C-U Men's Shelter](#) provided 399 "beds" to 25 different individuals. Our [Street Outreach Team](#) received 33 calls seeking information about shelter, housing, or rehab. They also responded to 10 outreach calls from law-enforcement or other community partners and transported 4 individuals to rehab facilities.

*All of these numbers, of course, are only possible because of the generosity of over 200 [Hope Givers](#) and many hundreds of other individuals, churches, businesses, and community organizations who provide support each month. We are blessed by and very grateful for every dollar we receive. **Thank You!***

Amateur Preachers:

We have had a revival of preaching of sorts over the Summer. The Windsor Savoy residents have been getting good preaching on Sunday mornings from John Muirhead, Gary Peterson, Dave Whitford, Judi Geistlinger, Betty Hollister, Matt and Myself. After a short shutdown because of a Covid, Windsor Savoy has reopened again. In addition, John, Dave, Gary and Judi have also been preaching in Hoopston, Danville, Arcola, and the Paxton Federated Church. I may have left some off. Shelbyville was looking for someone but I am not sure we actually filled that pulpit. I just want to thank all these folks for their willingness to spread the Word of God to so many of our Illinois churches. Gary Peterson will be at Paxton Federated on October 17.

We want to keep our mission partners in our prayers, those who are waiting to go back to their place of ministry and those who are able to work where they are. Listen for God's call to you in their ministry.

Our PC(USA) Mission CoWorkers:

Mark Adams and Miriam Maidonado Escobar (Mexico)
Farsijanna Adeney-Risakotta (Indonesia)
Jeff and Christi Boyd (Central Africa)
Bob and Kristi Rice (South Sudan)

Our regional and global mission partners:

Kemmerer Village (and Camp Carew)
Lifeline Pilots
Marion Medical Mission
Mission Aviation Fellowship
Opportunity International
Friends of Presbyterian Education Board in Pakistan Presbyterian Cuba Partnership
Special Offerings of the PC(USA)
Theological Education Fund
Young Adult Volunteers

Here in Champaign – Urbana:

CU at Home
CANAAN S.A.F.E. HOUSE

CANTEEN RUN
COURAGE CONNECTION
DREAAM
eEMPTY TOMB, INC
FAITH IN ACTION
JESUS IS THE WAY PRISON MINISTRY
THE REFUGEE CENTER
RESTORATION URBAN MINISTRY
SALT & LIGHT

Here at First Presbyterian Church

FPCC Amateur Preachers
FPCC Environmental Committee working with Faith in Place
FPCC Presbyterian Women
FPCC ESL
FPCC Children, Youth and Families
FPCC Mission Possible/Go and Serve
FPCC Mission Team, World Mission and Community Mission Deacons



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