



## **LOCAL MISSIONS**

The mission of FBC-JC is to honor and worship God by being an inclusive and diverse family of faith, sharing the love of Jesus Christ and empowering disciples.

We live out our mission by loving, growing and serving.

## We believe:

- Every member is a missionary and every place is a mission field. Missions is not a separate program or arm of the church.
- We approach partnerships with humility knowing we have much to learn from others. They set the agenda and we see how we can join in on what God is doing.
- There are four pillars to our approach to missions: Local, National, Global, Education.
- 1. **South Elementary School** We have partnered with South since 2009. The partnership has grown over the years allowing us to establish a wonderful relationship of trust and collaboration with the staff and families. Some of the things we provide are:
  - Mentors
  - Teacher Support Boxes once a quarter
  - School Supplies
  - School-wide t-shirts
  - Provide annual grants to the school for education initiatives.
  - Work Days (painting, landscaping, construction, cleaning)
  - Lunches for Teacher Work Days and Teacher Appreciation Week
  - Gift cards to Principal and Assistants on their special appreciation days
  - Cards and small treats on occasion to encourage the staff
  - Benevolence money each month for benevolent needs for students
  - Money for Christmas Field Trip
  - Adopt a handful of South families at Christmas
  - Constructed a Lego Wall in the library

South Staff have donated items to our mission partners in Kenya and raised money for new soccer balls for the Kenya students. The staff has sent numerous thank you notes to the church. South Students have presented us with a Christmas concert and special thank you artwork!

- 2. **Community Meals**—Started in 2010, we provide warm meals twice a month on the first and third Thursdays. We host it from 5:30-6:30 pm. We average around 45 people for the first Thursday and 60 for the third Thursday. Many of our guests now also join us on Wednesday night for our Fellowship Meal. 6-7 volunteers are needed each meal. Sign up by contacting Sarah Barnes at 573.635.3745.
- 3. **Common Ground Community Center**—We give the majority of our Benevolence offering to Common Ground and also provide two volunteers every Wednesday. We have a representative, Sharon Nelson, on the Advisory Committee who helps engage our church in further involvement as needs and requests arise from Common Ground.
- 4. **Pregnancy Help Center**—We began a partnership with the PHC in 2013. We give them \$500/quarter in financial support and promote Baby Bottle campaigns to collect additional money for the PHC.

- 5. **Benevolence Offering**—On the first Sunday of each month, we receive a benevolence offering. 25% of this offering is given to the Samaritan Center and the most of the remainder is given to Common Ground. We retain a small amount to meet needs of church members who have requested assistance. We have policies in place to guide the disbursement of funds.
- 6. **Mission JC**—Once a year we cancel our Sunday worship services to worship through service. On a Sunday in April the past four years, we have organized community service projects for people to be involved in and have highlighted our partners. In 2013, we had around 350 participants. In 2014 and 2015, we had over 450 participants involved in 42 projects. In 2016, we had over 600 participants, 8 churches involved and 62 projects. The 2017 date is April 30. www.missionjc.org
- 7. **Community Needs Ministry Team**—This is a ministry team focused on listening and understanding the needs of our community so that we can better serve those needs. They collaborate with other agencies and churches on this issue.
- 8. **Faith Voices for Jefferson City** We are a member of Faith Voices of Jefferson City, an interfaith collaborative, coordinated group of clergy and lay leaders who work together to: identify areas of common concern and then strive to address those concerns through a united community voice.
- 9. **Food 4 Kids**—Each summer our church participates in a week of prepping and delivering meals to children in our community who are in need. The past three years First Presbyterian has coordinated this program. We provide volunteers to work for a week in late July or early August.
- 10. **River City Habitat for Humanity**—We donate \$500/quarter to Habitat to support their ministries. We also match volunteers up with their work days and have participated in helping to sponsor a build through donation of labor and meals. We often volunteer the second Saturday of the month.
- 11. Samaritan Center—We donate \$500/quarter to Samaritan Center along with 25% of our monthly Benevolence offering. We keep two baskets in our lobby year round for people to donate food. Our youth often volunteer at the Center in the summer and with their annual food drives.
- 12. **Salvation Army Emergency Shelter** We donate \$500/quarter to the Shelter. We have also had work days there throughout the year and as part of Mission JC.
- 13. **Coats for Recently Released Prisoners** We deliver coats/jackets, toiletry bags and small Bibles to the Amtrak station for newly released prisoners. Often they have nothing with them but a brown bag of their belongings when they are released. Donation bins are located around the church building.
- 14. **Boy Scout Troop 11**—We have sponsored Troop 11 of the Boy Scouts of America since 1989. They meet in our facility each week and host fundraising events at our church.
- 15. **American Red Cross**—We are a certified emergency shelter for the American Red Cross. We also assemble Comfort Care Kits once or twice a year.
- 16. **Downtown Jefferson City** We pay annual dues to be a member of the Downtown Jefferson City Association. This is a way of actively supporting our neighborhood.