

**MISSION STRATEGIES AND RESOURCE BOARD**  
**Meeting March 23, 2017**

**MSRB voted to approve a \$1,000 for the First Presbyterian Church of Princeton's project Celebrating Diverse Gifts**, a one-day event on April 30. First Presbyterian is committed to serving the needs of the developmentally disabled adults in their community. The church hosts a group that meets in the church building Monday through Friday during the morning hours that provides respite for the families of these adults and, more importantly, provides a social setting and an opportunity for occupational therapy. Celebrating Diverse Gifts will be a special day when Gateway staff, volunteers and their clients will be invited to attend worship and stay for a catered luncheon. The worship service will focus on the variety of gifts among God's children and the luncheon will be a celebration of the staff, volunteers and clients.

After the recent tornados in Ottawa, Rev. Dr. John Rickard and Ron Bottrel from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance National Response Team went to Ottawa First Presbyterian Church to offer support. At this time, no assistance has been requested, but remains available.

MSRB reminds all churches of the Church World Service Kit Challenge explained on the Blackhawk Presbytery website, [blackhawkpresbytery.org](http://blackhawkpresbytery.org), under Mission Opportunities. Winnebago and Fairbury PCs have issued a challenge for **25 school kits, 10 hygiene kits, and 10 clean-up kits**.

The Kenya Partnership Committee is working to support existing church partnerships and encourage new or reviving partnerships. The following churches have active partnerships:

Harvard, First	Oswego
Galena, First	Rochelle, First
Joliet, First	Rockford, Westminster
Joliet, Westminster	Sterling, First
Kewanee, First	Utica, Waltham
Oregon, First	Yorkville, AuSable Grove

As a result of the January, 2017 trip to Kenya, the following churches have applied for new partnerships:

Dixon, First
Winnebago, Middle Creek

The Kenya Partnership Committee is also working to help re-activate the following church partnerships:

Morrison, First
Coal City, New Hope

MSRB members reading Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race, by Debby Irving Waking up White will discuss it at lunch before the next meeting. Rochelle PC is hosting a race and police discussion in June. As part of their discussion participants will watch the movie "Woodlawn".

MSRB began working to update the Mission Dollars at Work flyer. They are seeking pictures of the work of COM or CPM for the update.

Next meeting of MSRB: May 18