

## **BLACKHAWK MISSION COMMITTEE**

### **Meeting August 17, 2017**

**Blackhawk Mission Committee (BMC) approved the Elgin Mission Grant Application for \$1000 to go toward the cost to replace their church's lift.**

**BMC approved the Ridgefield Crystal Lake, Westminster (DeKalb), First (Galena) Peacemaking Grant Application for \$225 grant to help support the peacemaker speaker, Paola Schellenbaum from Italy who will be speaking at the following events in October:**

Tuesday, October 10 & Wednesday, October 11: Galena. She will speak to the United Churches of Galena Tuesday night and we are hoping to arrange for her to speak to one of the seminaries in Dubuque.

Thursday, October 12: She will be hosted by the members of the Westminster DeKalb congregation. They also hope to arrange a presentation at Northern Illinois University.

Friday, October 13: She will give a presentation at Westminster DeKalb at 7:00 pm. All churches throughout the Presbytery are invited to attend.

Sunday, October 15: Ridgefield-Crystal Lake Presbyterian (RCLPC). The IP will participate (liturgy) in RCLPC's two services, 9:00 and 11:00. At 10:00, she will give a presentation to interested members of the congregation on the Mediterranean Hope project. On Saturday or Sunday, RCLPC plans to organize a lunch/discussion to hear about the IP's work on Italy's National Commission on Families.

**BMC approved the donation of \$500 to support the Illinois Conference of Churches.** Rev. Dr. John Rickard serves as a liaison for Blackhawk with this group. The Illinois Conference of Churches (ICC) is a statewide ecumenical (unifying) organization with 27-member judicatories of 13 denominations representing Protestant, Anglican, Catholic, and Orthodox Christian traditions. They provide an opportunity for churches in Illinois to reach common goals as they bear witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

BMC reviewed the history of **Peace and Global Witness Offering** collections, which funds Blackhawk's Peacemaking Grants. BMC reminds the churches of Blackhawk that a gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. Blackhawk retains an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness. For more information go to <http://specialofferings.pcusa.org/peace-global.html>

The BMC reminds all churches that funding for **Mission Grants and Peacemaking Grants** is available for partial start-up funding for new initiatives. Applications are available on Blackhawk's website.

The BMC reminds all churches of the Church World Service Kit Challenge explained on the Blackhawk Presbytery website under Mission Opportunities. Please report any difficulties in collecting the materials for the **25 school kits, 10 hygiene kits, and 10 clean-up buckets** so that we can give CWS our feedback for future collections. The clean-up buckets have been used locally for recent flood victims.

Next meeting of the Blackhawk Mission Committee is October 19 at 1:00 p.m. at Stronghold.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Walker