



Engage 3 Ways Fact Sheet

Information

In the U.S. 1 in 5 adults (20%) lack reading skills beyond a fourth grade level. We are reminded in 1 Corinthians 12, that we are all part of one body through Christ. When any member of our community suffers, we all suffer.

We invite congregations to join us in our three-part service project, **Engage 3 Ways**, with **local, national and global** actions planned to raise literacy rates. Together we can support organizations that engage in the life changing work of teaching children and adults how to read.

Event **Local Supply Drive**

The **Supply Drive** is a grassroots campaign that supports one of the largest providers of free reading programs in most communities, school systems. This event makes it easy to collect school supplies and donate to local school system in need.

Event **Stuff the Pack Event (National Special Service Project)**

General Synod 30 participants will prepare backpacks with school supplies that will be distributed by our community partner, University Settlement, to children within the Cleveland Municipal School District. Dates and times are listed below.

Friday, June 26, 2015	5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Saturday, June 27, 2015	1:30 pm – 3:30 pm
Sunday, June 28, 2015	9:00 am – 11:00 am

Registrants are encouraged to bring a school supplies to General Synod 30. Items will be included in additional backpacks for University Settlement's Back to School Resource Fair.

Recommended School Supply List

- Crayons - 24-packs
- Rulers – 12 inches
- Pencils – No. 2 in 10 packs
- Glue Sticks/Paste – 2-pack
- Folders – 3 tab
- Notebook Paper - college and wide ruled
- Notebooks, Spiral - 150 sheets
- Pens - 10 packs in blue, black and red ink
- Eraser – 2 pack
- Scissors – blunt tip

Event **Tutor the Tutor Opportunities**

This national community event invites all to spend an afternoon learning how to become an effective literacy tutor with Rob Shindler, author of *Hot Dogs & Hamburgers: Unlocking Life's Potential by Inspiring Literacy at Any Age*. This event will take place at General Synod 30. Date and time listed below.

Sunday, June 28, 2015 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm

Event **School Supplies for Cairo**

The UCC will raise funds online for a literacy program of our Global Ministries' partner, the Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services (CEOSS), for Cairo children in need. Students will receive a new backpack and supplies. Contributions of \$5, \$10 or \$20 to end illiteracy in Cairo is a small step in ending illiteracy abroad. Visit the Reading Changes Lives website at ucc.org/literacy for more information..

ucc.org/literacy

Reading Changes Lives Team

United Church of Christ 700 Prospect Avenue Cleveland, OH 44115

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Frequently Asked Questions

Local Supply Drive

- 1. How do school supplies help in the fight against illiteracy?**
Teachers incorporate crayons, pencils and pens into specified curricula. Without these items, the learning process is interrupted. For young children, who develop essential reading skills in kindergarten through the sixth grade, this can be devastating.
- 2. How do I locate a school system in my area?**
Please visit the **Reading Changes Lives** website, ucc.org/literacy, under the tab **Supply Drive** and follow these simple steps:
 1. Click on the link **Find a school in your community through the National Center for Education Statistics**.
 2. Type in your zip code or the zip code of an area in need.
- 3. How long does the Supply Drive campaign last?**
A Supply Drive may last until the beginning of the 2015-16 school year. It is our hope that this will become your annual event.
- 4. What kind of school supplies should I collect?**
We recommend contacting the selected school system in your area and asking for the list of supplies sent to parents at the beginning of the school year. If this is not an option, a list of recommended school supplies may be found on the **Reading Changes Lives** website at ucc.org/literacy under the **Supply Drive** tab and on the backside of this sheet.

Stuff the Pack(National Special Service Project)

- 1. May I participate in the Stuff the Pack event if I am not registered for General Synod 30?**
Stuff the Pack event is limited to General Synod 30 registrants only.
- 2. I am unable to attend General Synod 30. May I send backpacks and school supplies to be used in the Stuff the Pack event?**
If you will not be at General Synod 30, you can initiate a similar activity in your community. We welcome new backpacks and school supplies for the **Stuff the Pack** events. Please send your donations to:
University Settlement
c/o Krissie Wells
4800 Broadway Ave. Cleveland, OH 44127
Please note: Due to limited space, donations will only be accepted if received June 1, 2015 through June 22, 2015.
- 3. Will the donated school supply items brought to General Synod 30 by participants be used in the Stuff the Pack events?**
All donated items by General Synod 30 participants will be used in University Settlement's Back to School Resource Fair, August 2015.

Tutor the Tutor Opportunities

- 1. May I participate in the Tutor the Tutor event if I am not registered for General Synod 30?**
Yes, if you will be in Northeast Ohio, you may participate. The **Tutor the Tutor** event is open to the public.
- 2. I will not be in attendance at General Synod 30. Am I able to sign up to become a literacy tutor?**
Please go to the LINCS website <https://literacydirectory.org/>. Type in your zip code to view literacy programs in your area.
- 3. Literacy tutoring requires a lengthy commitment. If I do not have the time, why should I attend the Tutor the Tutor event?**
Knowledge is power. Equipping yourself to share this information within your community may benefit others, in addition to yourself.

School Supplies for Cairo

- 1. How long will I be able to donate to the School Supplies for Cairo campaign?**
Donations for the **School Supplies for Cairo** campaign will be accepted until October 2015.
- 2. How will my donations be used once received?**
Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services (CEOSS), our global mission partner in Cairo, will purchase backpacks and school supplies and distribute to children in their literacy program.

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