

Pentecost Offering

Resources and Equipment—

- Pentecost Offering Poster

1 Thessalonians 2:8 and Matthew 28:19–20

Overview—

God calls us all to serve. The Pentecost Offering supports programs for children and youth in a variety of ways: youth through the Young Adult Volunteer program, Presbyterian Youth Triennium, and youth resources; children at risk, particularly through the Educate a Child Transform the World national initiative; finally, part of the money stays with the congregation to use in supporting children and youth in the church or in the community.

Good Morning!

What do you want to be when you grow up? (Gather responses)

Those are all great dreams! It is a good thing to have a dream or to set goals and work toward them, but sometimes, God calls us to go in a different direction.

If you look at this poster, there are five kids sitting together. You see there is a box connected to them. That box talks about what they may do when they grow up. It talks about how they have volunteered with their youth group or gone to Presbyterian Youth Triennium and how they will help children and youth in the future. The future for each of these kids is supported by the Pentecost Offering.

We are receiving the Pentecost Offering for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) this morning. This offering supports children at risk, youth, and young adults. Some of what you give supports Young Adult Volunteers who live and serve in another part of the United States or in another country for a year and work with the people in that community to help work for peace and justice for all the people.

Part of the money supports youth ministries. It provides resources to use in Sunday school and devotionals for teenagers and it also helps support the Presbyterian Youth Triennium. The Triennium meets this July at Purdue University. About 5,000 youth from all around the world will gather to worship, study, pray, and be energized by each other.



Pentecost Offering *(continued)*

Some money supports the education of children in the world, and some of the money stays here with our church to help us in our support of children and youth in our own church and community.

We all dream of what we will be when we grow up. God works through everything we experience in life to mold us into people who will help bring about the kingdom of God. Keep dreaming about what you want to be when you grow up, but also dream about what God is calling you to do in the world.

Let us pray—**Close with this prayer or one of your own.**

God of old and young, keep us dreaming of ways we can serve you and your people. As we grow, help us grow in faith and grow in love for you and for your world. **Amen.**

Written by the Rev. Karen Wagner, Southminster Presbyterian, Prairie Village, Kansas

