

BIND US TOGETHER, LORD

As Presbyterians, we are bound together. Not by culture, rather it is the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and neighbor that binds us to one another. We are united by a deep gratitude for the Spirit—the same Spirit that empowers us to share the love of Christ and to work with others for justice, freedom and peace.

It's in this spirit that thousands of Presbyterians give through the Presbyterian Giving Catalog every year. They give as devotion. They give as thanks. They give as one.

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SMALL GIFTS. BIG IMPACT.

God is at work in the world, and the Giving Catalog is one way for us to join in. It features almost 40 items to choose from—including livestock, garden wells and support for women's empowerment projects. These items translate into real and positive impact by supporting Presbyterian mission.

Gifts to the Giving Catalog are signs of our gratitude: feeding the hungry, comforting the broken-hearted and sharing our faith with young and old. By joining our gifts together, however large or small, we expand our witness to God's gracious and abundant work in the world.

Giving as an Act of Devotion

As Presbyterians, we are a people rooted in the grace of Jesus Christ. For many people, the Giving Catalog provides an opportunity for devotional giving, returning to God a portion of the blessings they've received through support of Presbyterian mission work around the world.

More Than You'd Expect

If you have a cause that's close to your heart, you can probably find it in the Giving Catalog. Choose from a wide variety of gifts that represent the work being carried out by Presbyterian Mission—including ministries like aid for refugees, youth mentorship and disaster relief.

27,404

gifts have been given through the Presbyterian Giving Catalog since October 2013

May these gifts, generous God, become the tools to transform the communities they touch. Amen.



BEEKEEPING TAKES THE STING OUT OF ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTY

"My husband was desperate when we lost our coffee crop. The bees have given him and our family hope and self-esteem."

—Teresa, member of Maya Ixil cooperative In San Juan Cotzal, Quiché, Guatemala, farmers from five small indigenous villages make up the Maya Ixil coffee cooperative.

These farmers carry on long family traditions of harvesting coffee. But the work is seasonal, and between harvests, the farmers and their families face high food prices, scarce jobs and dwindling food stocks.

Many are hungry for a third of the year. A recent outbreak of rust fungus made matters even worse, wiping out many coffee crops.

Struggling farmers had to leave their farms temporarily, seeking work on larger farms just to provide for their families' basic needs.

Last year, with support through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, the Maya Ixil co-op expanded their operation to provide a new, year-round source of income for its members: beekeeping. The 39 farmers in the co-op now have access to two apiary schools and a total of 20 beehives. Participants are trained in beekeeping by their own apiculture technician, who teaches them techniques for setting up and managing hives, capturing bees, harvesting honey and more. After initial training, the technician provides

ongoing support for the farmers' beekeeping operations, helping them to sustain and grow their businesses.

Pollinating New Opportunities

Participating farmers have increased their monthly income by 23%. Honey is now their second-highest income contributor after coffee. Honey production at the co-op is improving each year, thanks to continued training and technical support.

One participant's wife, Teresa, said, "My husband was desperate when we lost our coffee crop. The bees have given him and our family hope and self-esteem." Teresa and her husband look forward to providing their community with healthy, nutritious products like honey and pollen from their hive.

With ongoing support, the Maya Ixil co-op hopes to expand the beekeeping program so farmers can purchase more hives and continue reliably supplementing their coffee harvest incomes.

Catalog is a valuable resource for efforts from both individuals and congregations of all sizes. It was the catalog that helped us decide what we wanted to do to broaden our mission work.

Dan Jax

Co-chair, Mission Outreach Ministry Unit Brookwood Presbyterian Church, Columbus, Ohio







THIS FARM IS GROWING A COMMUNITY

"One penny or one dollar has a rippling effect that is changing lives and communities."

—Rev. Dr. Karen Brown, member of the Presbytery of Baltimore's SDOP Committee You might not expect residents of a bustling American city like Baltimore to worry about access to food. But like many cities, Baltimore has food deserts—areas with no access to fresh, affordable food. The Sandtown-Winchester and Upton communities of Baltimore are home to more than 50 convenience and corner stores, but residents have little access to healthy food.

Many residents have returned to the area after incarceration with 75% of the community living under the poverty level. The struggle to find employment, and the lack of opportunity, can lead to rising crime and recidivism.

In 2010, a group of community members launched an urban farm to improve access to both jobs and healthy foods. Dubbed Strength to Love Farms, it provides steady employment to previously incarcerated neighborhood residents while supplying healthy produce at a low cost to the community.

Cultivating Hope and Health

The farm's 18 hoop houses grow greens and seasonal vegetables. In addition to offering produce to the community, the farm also sells

its crops to area restaurants, businesses and schools to earn program-sustaining income.

The farm has been able to grow and thrive thanks to local and national Self-Development of People (SDOP) grants. Rev. Dr. Karen Brown, a member of the Presbytery of Baltimore's SDOP Committee, understands the impact of an SDOP grant, especially for underserved populations. "I know the impact having worked with underserved populations as part of my ministry for the last 25 years, coming across one barrier after another," Brown said. "There are so many good people doing this grassroots, boots-on-the-ground work."

Strength to Love Farms is an excellent fit for SDOP, using employment and training to help promote justice, equality and human dignity, while bringing a community together around a much-needed resource.

Brown sees the great potential in supporting programs like Strength to Love Farms through SDOP. "One penny or one dollar has a rippling effect that is changing lives and communities."

What a wonderful way to give a gift to the world. Thank you for this opportunity.

Susan Hoolihan

Grand Rapids, Minnesota



January 1 **Global Family Day**



Second Sunday in August College and Young Adult Sunday

and shelter.

Winter Heating Fuel for Refugees 📺

Celebrate this global day of peace by

providing for families in need of warmth

Racial Ethnic Education Scholarship 🛗 Invest in our future leaders by providing financial assistance to students enrolled in

Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools.

March 8

September 8

International Women's Day

Honor women by supporting their

and access to financial opportunities.

International Literacy Day

Women's Empowerment Project 📺

empowerment through education, training

Supplies for Displaced Students 🛗 Invite your congregation to sell their old books and donate their earnings to help students who've lost everything.

March 22 **World Water Day**

Garden Well 🛗

Children's Sabbath

Educate a Child 🛗

Celebrate the children in your church by supporting the Educate a Child, Transform the World initiative.

April 17 International Day of Farmers' Struggles

Let your generosity overflow. See page 12 for

fun, engaging activities to raise support for

this life-giving day of observance.

October 16 **World Food Day**

Give farmers in developing countries a pair of oxen and a plow, allowing them to accomplish more with every season.

Farm Bundle 📺

Help put an end to world hunger by providing people in need with the tools and training to support successful farming.

June 20 **World Refugee Day**

Oxen and Plow 🛗

Fourth Friday in November Black Friday

Refugee Food Basket 🗂

Stand with refugees by providing nourishment and essentials to those who've fled their homes in search of peace.

Alternative Giving Market

Skip the doorbusters and encourage generosity by hosting an Alternative Giving Market in your church.

JOIN TOGETHER TO PROVIDE CLEAN DRINKING WATER

World Water Day | March 22

Water gives and sustains life. For thousands of years, people have come together and built communities around their water sources.

World Water Day encourages people to take action to provide safe, clean water to the 783 million people who currently lack convenient access to a water source. This year, join a community of churches in observing

World Water Day by raising awareness and support for this important cause.

Choose a water-related item from the Giving Catalog to serve as a goal for your church to give toward, and encourage donations throughout the month of March with activities that highlight the global need for clean water.



Jerry Can Children's Curriculum

The Jerry Can curriculum highlights the one common denominator in all disasters around the world: the need for clean water to survive. The Jerry Can cartoon was created to be a fun, energetic character for children to connect with. This curriculum, available in both 1- and 5-session versions, includes lessons on disaster response and activities that show how children can be involved with prayer and generosity to make a difference in the lives of people in need.

>> Call 800-533-4371 to request the curriculum: 1-Session (#12112-18-990) or 5-Session (#12112-18-991)



Overflowing Generosity Activity

The Overflowing Generosity activity serves as a community-building experience for your congregation or small group. By gifting water-related items in the Presbyterian Giving Catalog, your community can come together to provide access to clean, safe and life-giving water for those who need it.

» Request this activity using the order form in this guide





Global food security will be realized when all people have access to enough safe, nutritious food to live healthy and productive lives. Some call it a dream. We call it a goal—one that has already seen tremendous progress over the past 20 years.

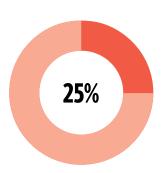


Over the past 25 years, rates of undernourishment in low- and middle-income countries have dropped by more than half, thanks in part to ministries that have helped grow agricultural productivity in developing regions.



Calorie availability continues to rise and is expected to reach 3,000 kcal/day in many developing countries by 2026, indicating better access to food.

But the need is still great



155 million children under age five—one in four in this age group—experience stunted growth, a consequence of undernourishment.



While rates of undernourishment have been falling for more than a decade, they increased in 2017 by nearly 5%, showing we must remain vigilant against food insecurity.



GIVE THEM ALL

The Farm Bundle is the perfect choice for churches and groups seeking a collective giving project.
Challenge your congregation to raise enough funds to give a Community Farm Bundle this year!

From farm animals to water conservation and sustainable agricultural training, this bundle includes something for everyone to get excited about—especially children!

It's an excellent opportunity to teach your congregation about food security and hunger in our communities and around the world. A light-hearted, joyful MaskParade offering engages the young (and young-at-heart) in your congregation to think about the importance of agriculture in sustaining and nurturing communities.

Share Stories of Impact with your congregation to show how their gifts of agricultural tools, training and resources can help feed people and drive economic opportunity. Use the MaskParade offering in your congregation to celebrate and share coming together as a community to support the gift of a Farm Bundle.

» Order the free *MaskParade* activity kit at: pcusastore.com (Item 12112-18-982)



Family Farm Bundle | \$1,300 Community Farm Bundle | \$5,000 (NEW)

Farm Bundles could include chickens, goats and other livestock, as well as seeds, tools and training to help support successful farming. When you choose the Community Farm Bundle, your gift includes a pair of oxen and a plow for farmers. Each project ultimately reflects local needs to provide the greatest impact.

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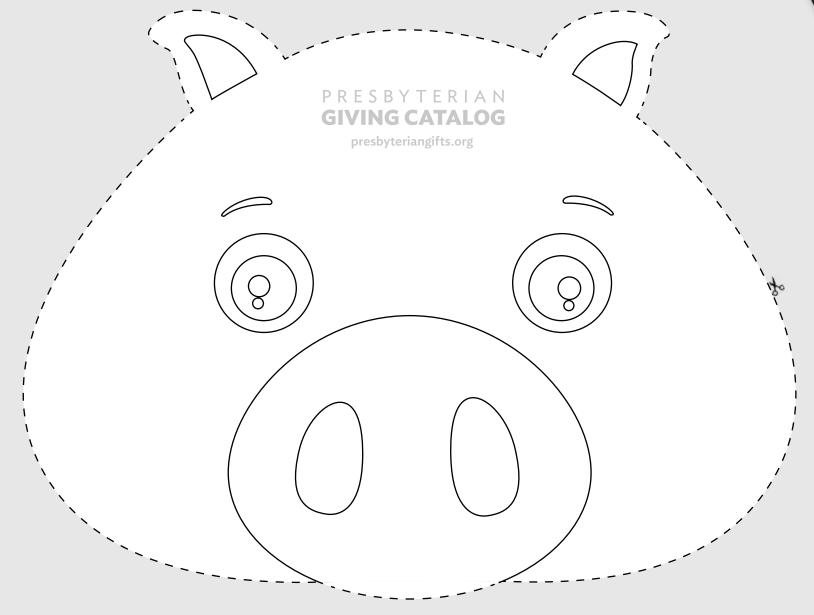
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FAMILY FARM BUNDLE

\$1,300

FAMILY BUNDLE COULD INCLUDE:





COMMUNITY FARM BUNDLE

\$5,000

COMMUNITY BUNDLE COULD INCLUDE:



CHICKENS



























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GOATS











cows







PIGLETS

















NEW OXEN AND PLOW



TOOLS



























TRAINING























RESOURCES CREATED WITH YOU IN MIND

Leaders like you are what has made the Giving Catalog such a success. To help you share your enthusiasm for Presbyterian mission, we've developed these tools and resources to build excitement in your congregation.

Resources by Mail » Request these free materials using the order form in this guide

If the order form has been removed, download a new form at presbyterianmission.org/pgcdownload







Giving Catalog Starter Kit



Promotional Posters



Jerry Can Curriculum (Grades 1-5)



Bulletin Inserts



Tree of Hope Activity Kit



MaskParade Activity Kit



Activity Kit

Downloadable Resources » presbyterianmission.org/pgcdownload

Sample Newsletter Post

Use this ready-made blog post on your website or in church newsletters to help promote the Presbyterian Giving Catalog.

Stories of Impact

Share these stories with your congregation in celebration of, and gratitude for, the magnitude of God's gracious and abundant work in the world.

Ideas to Connect Worship and the Congregation

Use these ideas in your worship planning to inspire your congregation's sense of mission and connect worship with works of compassion and justice.

Hosting an Alternative Giving Market Guide

Plan an Alternative Giving Market at your church, where people can give to ministries that support clean water, agriculture or relief and assistance projects.

Posters and Promotional Images

Hang these promotional materials in prominent locations around your church to build excitement for various gifts featured in the Giving Catalog.

Lesson Plans (Grades K-4 & 5-8)

Use these lesson plans to teach the children in your church about the importance of helping others through prayer, generosity and sharing.

Activity Sheets (Grades K-4 & 5-8)

Engage the children of your church with activities created to bring to life the lessons they've learned from the accompanying lesson plans.

Children's Sermons

Teach the children of your church valuable lessons with these Presbyterian mission-themed sermons, written by Christian educators.

MaskParade Offering

Use this activity kit to develop a fun, farm-themed event that promotes the impact of agricultural gifts on individuals and communities.

NOW IS THE TIME TO COME TOGETHER

MAKE A CONNECTION. MAKE AN IMPACT.

Call us at: 800-533-4371 *between 9a.m. – 5p.m. EST*

Email us at: presbyteriangifts@pcusa.org

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youtube.com/specialofferings



Instagram

instagram.com/special_offerings

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