



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

Peace

at all Times
in all Ways.

— 2 THESSALONIANS 3:16



2018

LEADER'S GUIDE
SEPTEMBER 2-OCTOBER 7




Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Presbyterian Mission


Peace *is* ACTIVE, *not* PASSIVE Peace *is* DOING, *not* WAITING


As we work to share Christ's peace with one another, let's share that peace with those beyond our doors, beyond our communities and beyond our borders. The Peace & Global Witness Offering provides the tools and resources for us as we join together as active peacemakers — at all times, in all ways.



EASY WAYS TO STAY UP-TO-DATE ON ALL THINGS SPECIAL OFFERINGS.

 BLOG | pcusa.org/blogs/Weekly_Offerings

 TWITTER | twitter.com/pcusa_so

 FACEBOOK | facebook.com/specialofferings



2018

LEADER'S GUIDE
SEPTEMBER 2-OCTOBER 7

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

The Peace & Global Witness Offering draws Presbyterians together, and provides education and exposure to those who show us how to do peacemaking well. It allows us to create resources for dealing with conflict and provide nurturing reconciliation, and stand in support of our global sisters and brothers, because the peace of Christ belongs to people everywhere.

We've put together a variety of materials to help you promote the Offering and share with your members about the work supported by their gifts, motivating them to give. This guide will walk you through sharing these materials and some effective ways to participate in and celebrate the Peace & Global Witness Offering.

BUT THIS GUIDE IS JUST A START. We encourage you to add your own ideas, creativity, and enthusiasm to help increase awareness and giving in your congregation.

In this Leader's Guide, you'll find:

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Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Presbyterian Mission



*Now may the Lord of peace . . .
give you peace at all times in all ways.*

— 2 Thessalonians 3:16

The second letter to the Thessalonians was written on the same theme as the first: the imminent return of Jesus, and the triumphal resolution of God's plan for all creation. The need for a second letter, though, arose from growing uneasiness, frustration, and fear within the church from those who thought this was supposed to have happened already. God's time was not the Thessalonian's time. As a result, fear and hopelessness gripped the church, resulting in divisions, mistrust, and dismay that began to sap the church of its vibrant ministry. Paul writes to encourage their continued faith and sure hope. In the midst of divisions and discord, he claims a God of peace who can bring peace at all times, in all ways.

The church of every time and place wrestles with the distance between our timeframe and expectations and God's. In God's time, even the small seeds we plant can grow into sturdy trees. In God's time, the fears we carry can be transformed into new partnership and hope. In God's time, our expectations can be expanded and surpassed by God's faithfulness. The 2018 Peace & Global Witness Offering encourages the church of our time to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace our reconciling God's mission to those around the corner and around the world. It is boundless peace God offers. It bursts through the shackles of time and expectation. It quiets the anxiety of each believer by joining us together, as we offer our prayer, Now, may the Lord grant us peace at all times in all ways.

QUICK FACTS

- ✧ Since 1940, World Communion Sunday is an ecumenical celebration of our oneness in the Spirit and the Gospel of Jesus Christ, bringing churches together in Christian unity.
- ✧ The Peace & Global Witness Offering builds on the Presbyterian Commitment to Peacemaking established in 1980.
- ✧ World Communion Sunday (October 7) is the most common Sunday for receiving the Offering, but many congregations promote the Offering throughout *A Season of Peace* (September 2 – October 7).
- ✧ 25% of the Offering stays with local congregations, and 25% with mid councils to unite congregations to support peacemaking in their regions. *See page 5 for examples of how others have used their retained funds.*
- ✧ 50% of this Offering supports the work for peace and reconciliation being done by Presbyterians across the globe.

1 MAKING A DIFFERENCE: IDEAS FROM OUR CONGREGATIONS

Here are some of the ways congregations and mid councils use their portion of the Peace & Global Witness Offering on behalf of those struggling through oppression and injustice.

How will these ideas inspire your congregation?

- ✧ Support of global issues
- ✧ Donate to programs working toward the elimination of all forms of human trafficking.
- ✧ Send participants on mission trips, to overseas work projects, or to attend global conferences.
- ✧ Support the work of a mission co-worker.
- ✧ Donate to a program working with people living with HIV/AIDS.

Peace education & training for children

- ✧ Organize local peace camps that teach children how to resolve conflict and handle angry and sad feelings.
- ✧ Work with your local middle or high school to create a monetary “peacemaker award” for a student per grade. That student then donates the money to an organization they feel promotes a kinder and more compassionate way of life.
- ✧ Support volunteers at a summer youth program.

Help for families in need

- ✧ Donate to programs helping teen mothers and single-parent families.
- ✧ Support a family resource center with things food stamps don’t cover: diapers, shampoo, laundry soap, toilet paper, etc.
- ✧ Implement a backpack program, sending food home with schoolchildren over the weekend.

Assistance for teens and young adults

- ✧ Support *Freedom Rising*, a General Assembly initiative created to address and improve the plight of the African American male.
- ✧ Work with young women in correctional facilities.
- ✧ Support a ministry to help young adults who have “timed out” of the foster system but are still in college.

Community care and engagement

- ✧ Help fund educational assistance for veterans.
- ✧ Support the Institute for Civility in Government, which is devoted to creating a civil environment and a safe space for honest dialogue.
- ✧ Work with a support center for males transitioning out of prison or homelessness.
- ✧ Begin a Senior Companion Program that pairs senior citizens to help with light chores, errands, and transportation to the doctor.

**THREE WAYS
YOUR MEMBERS CAN GIVE**

- Through your congregation
- Text PEACE to 20222 to give \$10
- presbyterianmission.org/peace-global

2 PROMOTING THE OFFERING

BEFORE THE OFFERING

JUNE-JULY

- ❖ Ask your session to approve the receipt of the Peace & Global Witness Offering during *A Season of Peace*. Resources for *A Season of Peace* can be found at: presbyterianmission.org/seasonofpeace.
- ❖ Set dates with your session. Congregations commonly receive the Offering on World Communion Sunday (October 7).
- ❖ Commit to an ambitious giving goal—higher than the amount received last year—and discuss ideas for how to use your congregation’s portion (25%).
- ❖ Locate and open the shipment of resource materials you received. Check out the outline of available resources on pages 22 and 23 for more tools to help with developing your interpretation plan.
- ❖ Contact Presbyterian Customer Service (800-533-4371 or customer_service@presbypub.com) to order additional materials.
- ❖ Ask members to present Minutes for Mission from the pulpit. Distribute the corresponding bulletin inserts for additional impact.
- ❖ Consider sending a promotional email or letter to each person in your congregation. Be sure to include the link to the Peace & Global Witness Offering website (presbyterianmission.org/peace-global), so your members can learn more about the work supported by their gifts.
- ❖ Host an International Peacemaker this fall to help in your promotion. Visit pcusa.org/internationalpeacemakers to find out how.



AUGUST

- ✧ Create an article for your newsletter about the congregation's past and current ministries of peace and reconciliation.
- ✧ Use our online resources to fully engage your congregation in *A Season of Peace*, which begins September 2.
- ✧ Sign up to receive our daily reflections, Path of Peace, during *A Season of Peace* at www.pcusa.org/subscribe. Look under Advocacy and choose Path of Peace.
- ✧ Want a tutorial on the Offering and this year's resources? Join us for a webinar!
 - For Mid Council Leaders: August 1, 2018 at 12:00 EDT
Registration: <http://bit.ly/PGW18mcl>
 - For Congregation Leaders: August 8, 2018 at 12:00 EDT
Registration: <http://bit.ly/PGW18webinar>
 - Can't make these times? No worries! Visit the Resources web page for links to the recorded webinar sessions! (specialofferings.pcusa.org/peace-global)

BE *Creative*

This guide offers helpful tips, but it can't replace what you know about your congregation. What kinds of activities around the Offering will get them motivated and excited? Here are few thoughts to get you started:

- ✧ **Involve** your young people in promoting the Offering by having them choose a gift related to peacemaking and reconciliation from the Presbyterian Giving Catalog. Have them present it to the congregation along with how they think their gift will make a difference for others. For help, see page 9 for the Value for Values.
- ✧ **Think** about how you can integrate the worship resources into your service, emphasizing the ways our witness in the world magnifies our personal discipleship.
- ✧ **Ask** for suggestions from your youth and young adults about how to use the 25% kept by your congregation.

3 PROMOTING THE OFFERING

DURING THE OFFERING

SEPTEMBER

(Any time during the month)

- ✧ Use the PowerPoint slides in a worship service and/or other church gathering. Download it from presbyterianmission.org/peace-global.
- ✧ Display the Offering poster in a high traffic area of your church.
- ✧ Sign up for *A Season of Peace*, Path of Peace daily reflections.

SEPTEMBER 2

- ✧ Remind congregants that today *A Season of Peace* begins. Instruct them how to sign up for the daily reflections delivered to their email (www.pcusa.org/subscribe — Path of Peace under Advocacy and Social Justice).

SEPTEMBER 9

- ✧ Place Offering Envelopes in the pews.
- ✧ Place a folded insert in your Sunday bulletin — there are two of them.
- ✧ Present a Minute for Mission from this guide or reproduce one in your bulletin.
- ✧ Remind the congregation how its 25% share of the Offering will be used.

SEPTEMBER 16

- ✧ Place an Offering insert in your bulletin, or insert the brochure mailer in the bulletin if you have not already sent it to members of your congregation.
- ✧ Present a Minute for Mission from this guide or reproduce one in your bulletin.
- ✧ Share that the following Friday, September 21, is the *International Day of Peace* and also the beginning of the *Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence*.

SEPTEMBER 23

- ✧ Place a folded insert in your Sunday bulletin.
- ✧ Present a Minute for Mission from this guide or reproduce one in the bulletin.
- ✧ Remind your congregation how its 25% share of the Offering will be used for local peace efforts.

SEPTEMBER 30

- ✧ Place Offering envelopes in bulletins or pews for your congregation's use on World Communion Sunday and in the weeks to follow.
- ✧ Remind your congregation how it can make a difference in the community through its 25% share of the Offering, and encourage members to continue to contribute throughout the month.

OCTOBER

OCTOBER 7

- ✧ Use the worship resource for World Communion Sunday.
- ✧ If your youth sponsor a gift, have them present the gift during worship and share how it relates to peacemaking and to the congregation.
- ✧ Receive the Offering.

4 — VALUE FOR VALUES

Looking for ways to interpret the offering and increase your giving? Listed below are examples of resources for families in need. The prices reflect the approximate/average cost of providing the items to families where most needed. Consider making a donation at one of the levels listed and note the impact your gift can make.

\$30 Supplies for displaced students

\$50 Refugee Food Basket

\$85 Teacher Training

\$200 Bunk Beds for Children

\$200 Gun Violence Trauma Healing

5 PROMOTING THE OFFERING

AFTER THE OFFERING

- ✦ **Thank your congregation** for their generous gifts and share the total raised. Celebrate meeting or exceeding your original goal.
- ✦ **Keep 25%** of the Offering for your congregation's use to engage in the peacemaking and reconciliation ministries that your members are most passionate about.
- ✦ **Send in the remaining balance** through your normal receiving agency. If you choose to mail directly to the Presbyterian Mission Agency, make the check payable to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with "Peace & Global Witness Offering" on the memo line.

Congregations

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
PO Box 643700
Philadelphia, PA 15264-3700

Mid Councils

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
PO Box 643751
Philadelphia, PA 15264-3751

The Agency will record and notify mid councils of congregational donations.

Share your stories with us!

We'd love to hear the unique ways you promoted the Peace & Global Witness Offering, as well as how you use your congregation's funds. Your story could inspire another congregation in ways they hadn't considered. Contact us via social media or email specialofferings@pcusa.org.

Throughout the year, periodically update your congregation with news of the local efforts that were made possible through its Peace & Global Witness Offering gifts.

Stay up-to-date on all things Special Offerings by subscribing to the Special Offerings blog, "liking" the Special Offerings Facebook page, or following Special Offerings on Twitter. Update your congregation throughout the year on how the money is being used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency.



BLOG | presbyterianmission.org/Weekly_Offerings



TWITTER | twitter.com/pcusa_so



FACEBOOK | facebook.com/specialofferings

6 A SEASON OF PEACE



This five-week pilgrimage is designed to deepen the pursuit of peace for congregations, small groups, families, and individuals. This season is a time of encouragement, challenge, inspiration, and education. Presbyterians are invited to define and deepen their calling as peacemakers.

Available resources are designed to culminate in the Peace & Global Witness Offering, but are appropriate for any time of the year. This year's *A Season of Peace* resources are designed to help Presbyterians explore different forms and lenses for peacemaking. From the personal level to global issues like human trafficking and sustainable development, these reflections and prayers will help grow the faith and witness of the whole church. Through the days of this year's *A Season of Peace*, we are invited to reflect on:

- 1 Peace that passes understanding: personal testimonies of faith and peace within self, within families, within communities
- 2 Partners in peace: interfaith work for peace and justice, building peace between us while witnessing to peace in our wider world
- 3 Peacemaking and practice: stories and reflections on building bridges and crossing divides
- 4 Go and see: reflections from travel study seminar participants
- 5 The church and its witness: reflections on addressing trafficking in its varied forms

RESOURCES INCLUDED IN A SEASON OF PEACE

Path of Peace Daily Reflections

Subscribe to daily reflections that will be delivered directly to your inbox from September 2 – October 7, or download the entire set of reflections as a single file (presbyterianmission.org/seasonofpeace — Path of Peace under Advocacy and Social Justice).

Peace Fair

The Peace Fair is a hands-on, multisensory, intergenerational event that offers peace and justice learning activities.

Peace Cards

There are 3 sets of 30 cards from which to choose. The cards can be placed in a central location such as a kitchen table. Peace Cards can be used anywhere and with anyone—at meals or family gatherings, during fellowship at church, as icebreakers for study groups, or for in-depth conversations on long bus rides with youth. Use one card per day during *A Season of Peace* and let the conversations lead to new perspectives and practices for making peace.

Children’s Curriculum Lessons from the Table

is a five-session curriculum that focuses on the communion table. It can be used in a variety of contexts with children of various ages.

Adult Bible Study, The Things that Make for Peace

is a five-week adult study focusing on the inner and outer paths to peace as foundational to faithful discipleship. Each session has a “dig deeper” section for study throughout the week.

Adult Book Study

This five session guide helps participants explore, reflect upon, and apply the five peacemaking affirmations approved by the 222nd General Assembly in 2016. It is a companion to *Five Risks Presbyterians Must Take for Peace* by Christian Iosso, published in 2017 by Westminster John Knox Press.

Children’s Coloring Poster

This reproducible, original artwork can be used as an individual coloring sheet or enlarged to poster-size for a group coloring project throughout the weeks of *A Season of Peace*. It was produced by Illustrated Children’s Ministries.

7 MINUTE FOR MISSION

PEACE AT ALL TIMES, IN ALL WAYS

*Now may the Lord of peace...
give you peace at all times in all ways.*

— 2 Thessalonians 3:16

Sometimes it feels the world is coming at us so quickly that we don't know which way to turn, where to look, what to do next. In a chaotic world, we find strength in knowing that God is always near. Today, we are joining in Paul's prayer that God grant us "peace at all times, in all ways."

Peace. For our world, our family, our community, our church and ourselves — peace at all times, in all ways.

When the peace treaty was signed between Egypt and Israel in 1979, President Jimmy Carter quoted the journalist Walker Knight, saying "peace is active, not passive; peace is doing, not waiting ... peace, like war, is waged." The Peace & Global Witness Offering our church supports provides the tools and resources for us as we join together as active peacemakers.

The Peace & Global Witness Offering draws Presbyterians together and provides education and exposure to those who show us how to do this work well. It allows us to create resources for dealing with conflict and nurturing reconciliation, and stand in support of our global sisters and brothers, because the peace of Christ belongs to people everywhere. It has helped support our church partners in Madagascar recover from years of destructive development. Scriptural resources helped congregations, like the one in Old Bergen, New Jersey, find common ground with neighbors of many faiths, bringing their children together to learn from one another and to build a peaceful future. And the whole church joins together, through this Offering, to work for an end to all forms of human trafficking, specifically, the sin of child soldiers.

As we work to share Christ's peace with one another, let's share that peace with those beyond our doors. Twenty-five percent of this Offering will go to our mid council, joining with other congregations in our

area to support peacemaking work in our region. The second 25 percent of this Offering stays with our congregation, so that we can commit ourselves to active peacemaking.

*(INSERT HERE... "This is what our church will do"...
Pastor may customize this section)*

And 50 percent of this Offering supports the active work for peace being done by Presbyterians everywhere.

As Presbyterians, we claim Jesus Christ as Prince of Peace and pattern our lives in the compassion, kindness and grace that he shows us.

Let Us Pray ~

*O God, transform lives through our work for
peace, with the tools you have given us.*

*Together, in the Spirit of God, let us work to
break the power of hate and heal the
wounds of violence and division.*

*Join us together through this Offering to
proclaim that it is boundless peace
you offer.*

*May it burst through the shackles of time
and expectation.*

*May it quiet the anxiety of each believer,
joining us together to boldly pray, and
boldly take action for God's peace —
at all times in all ways.*

Amen.



OLD BERGEN

7 MINUTE FOR MISSION

CONGREGATIONS NURTURE NEIGHBORLY CHILDREN ACROSS ETHNIC, RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS LINES

I'm sure you haven't forgotten that weekend in August 2016 when racially charged violence in Charlottesville, Virginia, sent shockwaves of fear and grief across our country. I know I haven't. Like you and me and many other Americans, Presbyterian pastor Jon Brown was distraught to the point of numbness. But on the following Monday morning, his hope was renewed, due to his church's participation in the Peace & Global Witness Offering.

His spirits were lifted by dozens of elementary-aged children who had gathered for Peace Camp at the congregation he serves, the Old Bergen Church in Jersey City, New Jersey. "To see children of different races, ethnicities, and faith traditions singing, laughing, and creating together was a powerful medicine for all of us in that moment," he says. The camp was sponsored by local Christian, Jewish, and Muslim congregations.

The children learned about ways to resolve conflicts and how to handle angry and sad feelings. They brainstormed about what is needed for a good neighborhood and built model neighborhoods out of cardboard boxes and other materials. They learned about the elements of a good neighborhood from resource people such as a police officer, librarian, teacher, and public health official.

The themes were adapted from a curriculum published with support from the Peace & Global Witness Offering. The curriculum, "Building a Neighborhood Together," draws a connection to *Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood*, a PBS program created and hosted by the late Fred Rogers, a Presbyterian minister.

Brigid D'Souza, the parent of two campers and one of the camp's adult leaders, called it "a really important gift" to her children and other campers. "When I was growing up, I didn't attend Bible study camp or any kind of camp like that, so for me it was really informing to see what this type of camp could mean for kids," she says.

Across the U.S., Presbyterians are helping to build peaceful, neighborly communities. Many congregations and mid councils use gifts from the Peace & Global Witness Offering to put creative ideas like Peace Camp into action.

Twenty-five percent of this offering is retained by our congregation for local ministries of peacemaking and reconciliation (*INCLUDING ... any past work of the congregation supported by past PGW offerings — pastor may personalize*), another 25 percent will support these ministries at the mid council level, and the remaining 50 percent supports the peacemaking and reconciliation ministries of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A).

Your gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering will help build more neighborly communities and a more peaceful world. Please give generously.



JON M. BROWN

Let us pray

Gracious God, we give thanks for people everywhere who reach out with your neighborly love to bridge divisions. We celebrate the diversity you created as a gift from you. Help us follow the way that leads toward peace and reconciliation. We pray in the name of the One who forged this path for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord,
Amen.

7 MINUTE FOR MISSION

STRIVING TO BRING AN END TO THE PLIGHT OF CHILD SOLDIERS

I want to tell you a story ... I wish it was just a story, but what I am about to share with you is sadly true. It is about a boy named Princeton—a happy, carefree, 13-year-old boy. Happy, that is, until the day he was snatched by soldiers and taken to a military training camp. Two weeks later, he was carrying a gun as a soldier in Nigeria’s civil war. Can you even picture such a thing happening to a child that you know?

“I was going to fetch water for my mom when they grabbed me, and I didn’t see my family again for two and a half years,” he says. I wish this was only Princeton’s story, but the reality is that children are forced to become soldiers every day in war-torn places around the world.

One hot, sunny afternoon, Princeton’s unit came under heavy fire, and an unexploded rocket landed nearby. While he was attempting to defuse it, the rocket detonated. Princeton endured six surgeries without anesthesia over the next year and a half. Finally, at age 17—several long and terrible years later—he came home to his mother’s arms.

His wartime experience wounded more than his body; it left him angry and rebellious. However, the peace of Christ worked in his life as he confessed his Christian faith for the first time. “My mom said God changed a heart of stone to a heart of flesh,” Princeton says. Eventually, Princeton came to the U.S., and today he is pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Midlothian, Texas. He serves the whole church through national initiatives of Intercultural Ministries.

Princeton speaks from the heart when he says using child soldiers is “an evil that we need to exterminate, and we need to call attention to any system that supports this evil.” Thanks to your gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering, we are doing just that.

Our participation in the Offering supports the Red Hand Campaign. Presbyterians across the country send prints or paper cutouts of red hands, along with



an accompanying note to the Presbyterian Ministry at the UN. The hands and a cover letter are then sent to countries that have yet to sign a UN protocol that forbids the use of child soldiers. Using a human-rights-based approach, we engage in anti-trafficking work related to forced labor and sex trafficking, in addition to our work to end the forced conscription of child soldiers.

Peace is active, not passive; peace is doing, not waiting. As we work to share Christ’s peace with one another, let’s share that peace with those beyond our doors. Twenty-five percent of the Peace & Global Witness Offering stays with our congregation to support peacemaking and reconciliation in our own community (“*And this is what we do*” ... pastor may personalize). Another 25 percent will support these ministries at the mid council level, and the remaining 50 percent supports peacemaking and reconciliation ministries of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) such as the Red Hand Campaign. Your gifts will help more people experience the freedom and dignity that Christ wants for everyone. Please think about Princeton, and so many others like him, and give generously. Let us offer the peace of Christ at all times and in all ways.

Let us pray ~

*Liberating God, we pray today for people
around the world who yearn for freedom.
Help us to be instruments of your deliverance
in the struggle against human trafficking.
May we bear witness to the full and free life
that you want for all people.*

Amen

7 MINUTE FOR MISSION

BUILDING PEACE IN MADAGASCAR

Blessed are the peacemakers! The Peace & Global Witness Offering unites our church with Presbyterians everywhere reaching out to people across the globe who long for peace and reconciliation. Shaping a foundation for peace starts with honest conversations and shared experiences. When we share, we carry each other's burdens, advocate for one another, and share each other's hopes. Some US Presbyterians and our church partners in Madagascar shared just such an experience this past year through a travel study seminar.

Madagascar is an island nation 250 miles off Africa's east coast. Due in part to years of unsustainable development practices and government instability, the Malagasy people suffer from poverty and malnutrition.

Despite this, the Church of Jesus Christ in Madagascar's efforts to alleviate hunger and promote democracy offered much hope to celebrate. "The church there is so alive—it is active and caring, and they encouraged us to be more faithful," says Lucy Janjigian (say JAN-JIG-IAN), of Los Altos, California.

At Ivato (say EE-VA-TO) Seminary, student Ravo Vonialisoa. (say RA-VO VON-E-AH-LEE-SO-A) shared that her goal in ministry is to "bring new ideas and new life to the churches I serve and a new life to the nation." Her resolve was strengthened by her Presbyterian visitors.

"I realize now that the Church of Jesus Christ in Madagascar is not alone. I will share this with the churches I serve so they know that there are many churches around the world praying for us," she says. "I feel a greater connection to the worldwide church."

Seminar participants were captivated by the agricultural, educational, and healthcare ministries that our partner church and our mission co-workers do together. They clearly saw the Malagasy church's struggle for human rights and democracy. Now these witnesses are calling on us to deepen our commitment to active peacemaking, through advocacy efforts to



DAN TURK

end extractive development practices and promote democracy and respect for human rights.

Half of the offering is used by the national church to witness for peace in Madagascar and other troubled places around the world. Twenty five percent is retained by our congregation for local ministries of peacemaking, and another 25 percent is used by mid councils for these ministries on the regional level.

I end this minute for mission by reminding you of where we started — *Blessed are the peacemakers*. Please give generously.

Let us pray ~

God of all people, we give thanks for vibrant, growing churches like the Church of Jesus Christ in Madagascar.

Bless them as they work for a more just and peaceful country.

May we see that the struggles of brothers and sisters around the world are also our struggles.

Yet move us beyond mere sentimentality toward action in your name.

Amen.

7 MINUTE FOR MISSION

BEYOND OUR DOORS, BEYOND OUR COMMUNITY, BEYOND OUR BORDERS

Peace is active, not passive; peace is doing, not waiting.

The Peace & Global Witness Offering connects congregations around the country with inspiring and innovative peacemakers from partner churches around the globe so they may learn from one another. The Offering helps develop educational resources that illustrate how congregations can become active peacemakers both in our local community and around the world. It also offers all Presbyterians and congregations access to the halls of power to lift up the needs of our sisters and brothers in Christ in every corner of the world through our ministries in Washington D.C. and the United Nations.

Being active peacemakers connects our challenges here at home to global challenges which are often similar at their core. For example, RECONCILE (the Resource Centre for Civil Leadership) in South Sudan, an initiative originating in that war-torn country, seeks peace among people by building relationships between those who would be enemies to create pathways for a civil society to flourish in the future.

These actions are mirrored by Webster Presbyterian Church in Texas. Webster supports the Institute for Civility in Government which creates experiences for youth and young adults that model productive and civil engagement between people of differing political commitments. This was echoed by Druid Hills Presbyterian Church in Georgia as they focused on the connections between the three Abrahamic faiths (Islam, Christianity and Judaism) in response to their discomfort over anti-immigrant, and particularly, anti-Muslim sentiments.

Another challenge is domestic abuse. Many congregations (including ours... if appropriate) support shelters for abused women and children in their communities — but domestic abuse is far from being just a local issue. The PC(USA) has mission personnel around the world dedicated to reducing domestic abuse. The Peacemaking Program has taken



REV. PETER TIBI

delegations to Guatemala to witness this work in order to learn from our partners there and share their stories of success in battling this scourge.

Peace is active, not passive; peace is doing, not waiting.

Sometimes it feels the world is coming at us so quickly that we don't know which way to turn, where to look, what to do next. But there is much we can do. As we seek peace in a chaotic world, we find strength in knowing that God is always near. As we move forward as active peacemakers beyond the doors of this church, God is near. Beyond the limits of this (city/town) and across borders that may feel very distant, God is near. God is near to those in need who make who make their homes among us and those who live in places we may only see on the evening news.

Let us pray ~

Draw near to us, Oh God, and to all those who crave your peace.

As we join, anew, your reconciling ministry in the world, nourish us by your Spirit to be active, engaged and committed peacemakers, joyfully engaging with one another for the sake of your most vulnerable children.

In the peace of Christ, at all times, in all ways,

Amen.

8 WAYS YOUR CONGREGATION CAN ENHANCE ITS COMMITMENT TO PEACEMAKING



1 Plan a community event to celebrate the life of a notable peacemaker. You can choose a past or present public figure, or make it even more personal and meaningful by highlighting a member of your congregation or community. Choose a theme such as gun violence, poverty, racism, immigration, or nonviolence. Partner with other faith communities and community groups. Organize a walk to significant community locations.

2 Create a “peace prayer” display. Postings can include joys and concerns, prayers, and pictures of people and places in need. Include the joys and concerns in worship services and encourage your members to include the them in their daily prayers.

3 Learn about the Belhar Confession. Provide copies of the *30 Days with the Belhar Confession: Reflections on Unity, Reconciliation, and Justice* (PDS 24358-16-004) to congregation members who are homebound, in nursing homes, serving in the military, or away for other reasons. **\$1.00 each.**



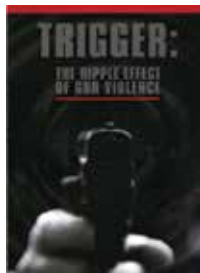
4 Study cultural diversity and building inclusive communities. Offer a study of *Living the Gospel of Peace: Tools for Building More Inclusive Community* (PDS 70270-04-014). Invite members of another congregation or the community. Use Offering funds to pay for participants’ books and other expenses. **\$3.00 each**

5 Learn and practice nonviolence. Organize a group to use the resource *Resurrection Living: Journeying with the Nonviolent Christ* (PDS 24358-10-007). This journal helps people explore nonviolence individually or together. The Peace & Global Witness Offering packet order form has ordering information. **\$5.00 each**

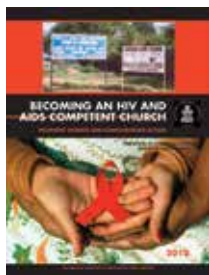
6 **Talk about the tough issues of 2018.** Study *To Strengthen Christ's Body: Tools for Talking about Tough Issues* (PDS 24358-08-001). This study explores skills and tools to approach conflict in ways that increase the possibility the experience will be a constructive and creative one, in which we discover God's grace and the body of Christ is strengthened. Use Offering funds to pay for participants' books, refreshments, child care, or other expenses. *\$3.00 each*



7 **Work ecumenically to address gun violence.** Hold an ecumenical or interfaith worship service or vigil to call your community together. Include a reception so people can meet, share stories, and strategize. Use the *Trigger* (PDS 25412-12-006) documentary to examine how one shooting impacts individuals, families, and communities and gives voice to the questions and insights that arise. Contact the Peacemaking Program to request a *Trigger* screening kit.



8 **Show support for those living with AIDS.** Host a resource day or worship service to support and pray for people living with AIDS and those who care for them. For resources, visit presbyterianmission.org/ministries/phewa/pan.



9 **Care for military personnel, veterans, and their families.** Learn about the needs of veterans and the families of military personnel in your area. Sponsor a dinner or other event for returning veterans and those with family members who are currently deployed.

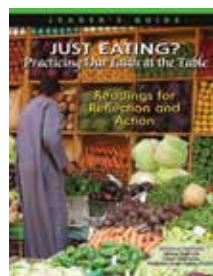
10 **Actively oppose children in war.** Take a stand against child soldiers and participate in the Red Hands Campaign. Call Ryan Smith at 212-697-4568 for more information or visit presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/child/no-child-soldiers.

11 **Become a Grassroots Advocacy Coordinator** and connect the work of your social justice ministry to national advocacy. Attend quarterly trainings/briefings, lobby days, monthly webinars on the pressing issues facing people of faith in our nation—and our annual spring conference “Compassion, Peace, and Justice Training Day.” Call 202-543-1126 and Follow “PCUSA Washington Office” on Facebook.

12 **Increase awareness and efforts to combat human trafficking.** An estimated 800,000 people, of which approximately 80% are women and up to 50% are minors, are trafficked across national borders. In the fields, in mines, in raw materials processing, in hotels, in the supply chain, down your street, in the US, and around the world, slavery is flourishing in a new form. Our church is working to stop it. You can help. Download the *Human Trafficking Toolkit* at pcusa.org/traffickingtoolkit and share with members of your community.



13 **Learn about faith and food.** Download “*Just Eating: Practicing Our Faith at the Table*” at pcusa.org/justeating. Discuss and implement some of the ideas for further education, action, and advocacy.



14 Work to address racism. As part of an ongoing campaign to address racial injustice, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is sharing a wealth of antiracism resources—including studies, books, and training—to equip the greater church to work against racism. Visit facing-racism.pcusa.org.



18 Send someone to attend the Privilege Institute's 20th annual White Privilege Conference, March 20–24, 2019 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Presbyterians from across the country have been attending this conference to learn strategies to combat racism and dismantle structures of privilege.

19 Invite a PC(USA) mission co-worker engaged in ministries that promote peace and reconciliation to speak at your church. Learn how God is at work in the world and how to get more involved. To learn more about speaker availability, contact Destini Hodges at destini.hodges@pcusa.org or 800-728-7228, ext. 5075.

15 Respond to immigration issues. Learn more about immigration issues and how the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) congregations can respond. Visit pcusa.org/immigration to find resources for study, advocacy, worship, and action.

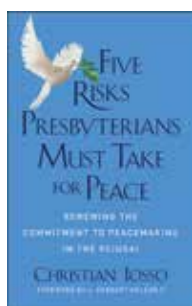
16 Invite an International Peacemaker to visit your region during the fall. Visit www.presbyterianmission.org/international-peacemakers for details



20 UN member countries adopted a set of goals to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure prosperity for all. Learn about relevant PC(USA) efforts to making our world a better place and how to get involved. Visit <https://www.pcusa.org/sustainable-development-goals/>.



17 Form a study group to study *Five Risks Presbyterians Must Take For Peace*. This book, published in 2017, outlines the Five Peacemaking Affirmations approved by the 222nd General Assembly in 2016. *Risking Peace*, a companion study guide, can be downloaded from the *Season of Peace* webpages.





PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION



PLEASE FEEL WELCOME TO GET IN TOUCH IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR NEED HELP!

Special Offerings

800-728-7228, Ext. 5047
special.offerings@pcusa.org
presbyterianmission.org/specialofferings

Equipping for Mission Involvement

Stephanie Caudill 800-728-7228, Ext. 5279
stephanie.caudill@pcusa.org
presbyterianmission.org/missionresources

Peacemaking Program

Carl Horton 800-728-7228, Ext. 5200
carl.horton@pcusa.org
presbyterianmission.org/peacemaking

Standing Orders

Presbyterian Customer Service
800-533-4371
customer_service@presbypub.com



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Presbyterian Mission

9 RESOURCES AND MATERIALS

Hopefully you'll find this guide answers most of your questions. Your standing order contains the foundational materials you'll need to promote the Offering in your church. On our website, you'll find more materials and other great ways to learn about the Peace & Global Witness Offering and the ministries it supports, and how to stay in touch with the Special Offerings.



DOWNLOADABLE PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS PROMOTIONAL RESOURCES

- ❖ Bulletin inserts: *Peace At All Times In All Ways* and *Let Us Pray*
- ❖ Poster: Display in a high-traffic area in your church
- ❖ Sample pastor's letter: Use as a reference when writing a letter to your members
- ❖ Facebook cover photo: Use on your church's Facebook page throughout A Season of Peace
- ❖ Blog post or newsletter content: A brief article to post on your church blog or reproduce in your newsletter
- ❖ Minutes for Mission: Five stories about the transformative power of the kinds of peacemaking and reconciliation efforts the Offering supports (large print reader version)



Peace at All Times poster



Peace at All Times insert



Let Us Pray insert

Ways to get additional copies of Peace & Global Witness resources:

- ✦ Contact Presbyterian Customer Service at **800-533-4371** between 9:00 am – 5:00 pm EST; email customer_service@presbypub.com; or fax this order form to **800-541-5113**
- ✦ Mail this form to **Presbyterian Store, 100 Witherspoon Street, Louisville, KY 40202.**
- ✦ Order from the PCUSA store — pcusastore.com.

ALL PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS MATERIALS ARE FREE unless otherwise noted.

QTY.	UOM	PDS#	ITEM	PRICE
	Each	12142-18-281	Poster	—
	P25	12142-18-282	Bulletin Insert— <i>Peace at All Times in All Ways</i>	—
	P25	12142-18-283	Bulletin Insert— <i>Let Us Pray</i>	—
	P50	12142-18-285	8.5" x 11" Bulletin Cover	\$4.00
	P50	12142-18-286	8.5" x 14" Bulletin Cover	\$4.00
	P25	12142-18-287	Brochure/mailer	—
	Each	12142-18-288	Leader's Guide	—
	P25	12142-18-275	Offering Envelope	—

OTHER USEFUL ITEMS:

	Each	24358-08-001	To Strengthen Christ's Body: Tools for Talking about Tough Issues	\$3.00
	Each	24358-09-001	Justice and Peace Shall Kiss: Praying through the Year	\$3.00
	Each	24358-12-001	Ways to Engage in Peacemaking Brochure	—
	Each	24358-16-004	30 Days with the Belhar Confession: Reflections on Unity, Reconciliation, and Justice	\$1.00
	Each	24358-10-007	Resurrection Living: Journeying With the Nonviolent Christ	—
	P25	70270-06-033	Guidelines for Presbyterians During Times of Disagreement (pocket size)	\$5.00
	Each	70-270-06-001	The Shalom of God in the Midst of Empire	\$5.00
	Each	24358-14-004	Olive Wood Dove pendant	\$3.00
	Each	24358-14-006	Olive Wood Dove large ornament	\$5.00

If you are only ordering Peace & Global Witness materials, then no sales tax or billing details are required. However, if this is part of a larger order, or you are adding non-Pentecost resources, sales tax and billing info are needed for your other items. Please add appropriate sales tax for orders being shipped to CA, DC, KY, NY, and PA.

Note: Orders will be shipped by USPS or FedEx unless otherwise requested. Please include a street address. Any special handling charges will be billed to the recipient.

SHIP TO: (Please use a street address—FedEx cannot deliver to a PO box.)

CHURCH: _____

ATTENTION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE: _____ PIN/CUSTOMER I.D.#: _____

- Bill me (shipping and handling will be included). Will bill to listed shipping address unless told differently.
- Check or money order enclosed (include 10 percent of the order total for priced items: \$5.25 minimum, \$65 maximum).



Thank you for your support of the Peace & Global Witness Offering

IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!

QUESTIONS?

Feel free to contact us at **800-728-7228, ext. 5047**

or email **special.offerings@pcusa.org**.

PC(USA) Office of Special Offerings

100 Witherspoon Street

Louisville, KY 40202



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Presbyterian Mission

The Peace & Global Witness Offering is one of four annual special offerings. The four church-wide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) — One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost Offering, Peace & Global Witness Offering, and Christmas Joy Offering — play an important role in defining what it means to be a connectional church. Over the years these offerings have provided ways for individuals and congregations to join together with each other and in partnership with other Christians in responding to a variety of concerns; and offer opportunities for partnership, learning, and witness that profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.