

Proclaim Christ's Peace

2017 LEADER'S GUIDE
SEPTEMBER 3- OCTOBER 1



PAUL JEFFREY

PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS



WHAT'S IN A LEADER'S GUIDE?

This tool was created for you.

We've put together a variety of materials to help you promote the Offering and teach your members about the work supported by their gifts and motivate 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.

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On the cover: A student leads fellow students in prayer at the beginning of class in Agok, South Sudan, where tens of thousands of Abyei, a contested region along the border between Sudan and South Sudan, remain displaced.



PROCLAIM THE PEACE OF CHRIST

“So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near.”

—Ephesians 2:14-17

The letter to the Ephesians tells us that Jesus came to proclaim a universal peace. While the earthly ministry of Jesus occurred in a specific age and place, the peace he shared is limited by neither time nor geography. As followers of Christ, our call to work for peace begins in our own neighborhoods and extends to the ends of the earth. It is a demanding call, but one that Presbyterians at all levels of the church are seeking to follow.

The Peace & Global Witness Offering supports the holistic and wide-ranging witness of the whole church.

At the national level, this witness means supporting those working to heal the divisions in violent contexts like South Sudan. It means bringing leaders together who have made a profound witness for peace around the world and deploying them to congregations like yours. It means creating materials that equip congregations to deal with important issues—from disagreements between members of session to bullying at schools to gun violence in our communities. And it means using our seat at the United Nations table to speak up for the vulnerable around the world. This Offering strengthens the collaboration of the [Peacemaking Program](#) and the [Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations](#) with the peace work of global partners through World Mission.

Yet the Offering is as much about your local congregation living out a commitment to peacemaking and as it is proclaiming Christ’s peace. Twenty-five percent of the Offering stays in your congregation and 25% is retained by your mid council, enabling you the freedom to provide support where you need it the most. It has meant two pastors in Texas starting an organization that seeks civility in political discourse. It has meant supporting the work of a mission co-worker in finding reconciliation in difficult international contexts. It has meant scholarships for students recognized as peacemakers, resettlement of refugees, and support for shelters where those who are abused may find refuge.

This Offering sustains our witness in many forms and at all levels of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), but all are bound together in Christ. Together they are a living proclamation of the peace we know in Christ, who puts an end to hostility and speaks peace to all, near and far.

This Leader’s Guide is a resource to support your witness for peace and participation in the Offering. We hope it provides insight into the work done at multiple levels of the church and offers inspiration from other congregations on how your congregation can live out its commitment to peace, amplifying our proclamation and making known the peace we have in Christ.

QUICK FACTS

- The Peace & Global Witness Offering builds on the Presbyterian commitment to peacemaking established in 1980.
- World Communion Sunday (October 1) is the most common Sunday for receiving the Offering, but many congregations promote the Offering throughout *A Season of Peace*.
- Twenty-five percent of the Offering stays with local congregations, and 25% with mid councils. *See page 3 for examples of how others have used their retained funds.*



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

IDEAS FROM OUR CONGREGATIONS

Here are some of the ways congregations and mid councils use their 25% 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 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 cope effectively during times of conflict.
- » 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.



Nancy Smith-Mather

ASSISTANCE FOR TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS

- » Support an anger management program for young people.
- » 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



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 1).
- 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 16 and 17 for more tools to help with developing your interpretation plan.
- Contact Presbyterian Distribution Service (800-524-2612 or pds@pcusa.org) 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 presbyterianmission.org/peacemaking 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 3.
- Sign up to receive our daily reflections, Path of Peace, during *A Season of Peace* at www.pcusa.org/subscribe.

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, visit specialofferings.pcusa.org/pgcdownload.html.
- 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.



PROMOTING THE OFFERING

DURING THE OFFERING

SEPTEMBER (Any time during the month)

- Play the Offering video 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 3

- Place Offering Envelopes in the pews.
- Place a folded insert in your Sunday bulletin. There are two inserts to choose from: *We Choose Welcome* and *The Dream of Peace*. Feel free to use each insert for multiple weeks if you are promoting the Offering all month.
- Write and present a Minute for Mission about how your congregation will use its 25% share of the Offering. Afterward, please share those stories with us!

SEPTEMBER 10

- Place a folded insert in your Sunday bulletin.
- 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 17

- 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 Wednesday, September 21, is the *International Day of Peace* and also the beginning of the *Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence*.

SEPTEMBER 24

- 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.

OCTOBER (Any time during the month)

- 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 1

- 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.



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.

GIVE
\$20

THE IMPACT
Jerry cans
for transporting
clean water

GIVE
\$30

THE IMPACT
School supplies for
displaced students

GIVE
\$50

THE IMPACT
Food basket for
refugees

GIVE
\$50

THE IMPACT
Linens and
blankets for warmth
and comfort

GIVE
\$75

THE IMPACT
A bicycle for a
pastor in Zambia to
reach constituents

GIVE
\$100




THE IMPACT
Protective covers to
prevent bed bugs

GIVE
\$200

THE IMPACT
Bunk beds for
children who have
no place to lay
their head

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.


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

The Agency will record and notify presbyteries of congregational donations.

Congregations may continue to remit to their normal receiving agency if so desired.

-  **Share your stories with us!** We'd love to hear the unique ways you promoted the Peace & Global Witness Offering, as well as any suggestions for us to improve your experience. 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 | pcusa.org/blogs/Daily_Offerings

TWITTER | twitter.com/pcusa_so

FACEBOOK | facebook.com/specialofferings



A SEASON OF PEACE

This four-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* and its newest resources are designed to help Presbyterians explore the "Five Peacemaking Affirmations" recently approved by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Through the 29 days of this year's *A Season of Peace*, we are invited to:

- » Commit to the Gospel of Peace
- » Confess Our Complicity
- » Reclaim Christ the Peacemaker
- » Practice New Peace Strategies
- » Transform our Structures and Work for Peace

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 3 – October 1, or download the entire set of reflections as a single file. Choose [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.

NEW FOR 2017

» **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 Iosco, 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.



MINUTE FOR MISSION

Proclaiming a Peace that Transcends the Barriers of Time and Space

“So he came and proclaimed peace to those who were far off and peace to those who were near.” —Ephesians 2:17

The letter to the Ephesians tells us that Jesus came to proclaim a peace that is universal. While the earthly ministry of Jesus happened in a specific age and place, the peace he shared is limited by neither time nor geography.

As followers of Christ, our call to work for peace begins in our own neighborhoods and extends to the ends of the earth. It is a demanding call, but it's one that Presbyterians at all levels of the church are seeking to follow.

Giving to the Peace & Global Witness Offering is one way we can be faithful to Christ's call to pursue peace at home and around the world. Our gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering will support peace efforts in South Sudan even as interethnic fighting has pushed thousands of South Sudanese people into refugee camps across the border in Uganda. RECONCILE (Resource Centre for Civil Leadership), which has been striving for peace among South Sudanese ethnic groups for years, is continuing its peace-building work among rival groups inside the camps. Though violence forced RECONCILE to suspend operations at its headquarters in Yei, South Sudan, the team determined they could not give up the work of peace. The future of the country is too fragile, and Christ's call is all too clear. These committed followers of Christ could not abandon their call, and Peace & Global Witness gifts are helping them, as well as us, be faithful to Christ's summons.

In suburban Philadelphia, an international peacemaker's visit to Ivyland Presbyterian Church inspired the congregation to get to work on behalf of refugees. After hearing a firsthand account of the situation in Syria, Ivyland eagerly and passionately responded to an opportunity to help a refugee family from Syria resettle in their community. International peacemakers can visit congregations and mid councils thanks to our gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering. Because

of a peacemaker's visit to Ivyland, a family reeling from violence and displacement found welcome and a new home.

In San Francisco, a Presbyterian elder wondered how he might help address the suffering caused by the largest refugee crisis since World War II. As chair of the mission committee at Old First Presbyterian Church, he approached his congregation about lending help to a local agency working for refugee resettlement. The membership gladly responded, but this elder knew that more could be done. He asked the San Francisco Presbytery for help, and it offered to match congregational gifts for refugee resettlement up to \$10,000 (up to \$2,000 per congregation). The match was reached and more than \$20,000 was given to refugee resettlement efforts in the Bay Area. The matching funds came from the presbytery's portion of the Peace & Global Witness Offering. Generous giving to the Offering leveraged even more generous giving to the work for peace.

Twenty-five percent of this Offering stays with our church to build up peace in our community, 25% expands our witness throughout the region supporting ministries of peace and reconciliation in Presbyterian mid councils, and 50% supports the global witness to Christ's peace through the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program and the reconciliation work of Presbyterian World Mission.

Your gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering will help to end suffering and violence, both here in our community and around the world.

Let Us Pray

We pray for courage and wisdom to proclaim Christ's peace in our neighborhoods and around the world. Give us strong voices and generous hearts, that we may stand with the Prince of Peace against violence and injustice. Let us join with Christ to work for a world of peace and plenty. **Amen.**



MINUTE FOR MISSION

An Unrelenting Pursuit of Peace in South Sudan

When violence forced John Khamis to flee South Sudan for a refugee camp in Uganda, he did not leave behind his commitment to Christian peacebuilding in a country embroiled in civil war.

“John lives in the Bidi Bidi Refugee Camp along with 220,000 other South Sudanese. Amid the crowded conditions and heat, he strives to calm anger and heal bitterness among rival ethnic groups as he bears witness to the Christian call to reconciliation. He is an Episcopal clergyman and a trauma specialist with RECONCILE International, a South Sudanese ecumenical organization that works for a healthy, peaceful, and democratic society in South Sudan.

In the refugee camp, John is at the center of efforts to continue the RECONCILE Peace Institute, which brings together members of rival ethnic groups to learn how to engage in peacebuilding. He and some alumni of the Peace Institute also living at Bidi Bidi will compose the faculty. The institute was located at the RECONCILE offices in Yei, South Sudan, but the RECONCILE staff had to leave Yei when the city was attacked in July 2016.

John and his colleagues are determined that the dream of peace for South Sudan will not die. Your gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering will help RECONCILE continue its dogged pursuit of peace.

John has been working for peace in his homeland for decades. Presbyterian mission co-worker Shelvis Smith-Mather says John’s skills in trauma healing bring “a presence of God’s love and care for people in great need.”

Shelvis, his wife Nancy, and their children, lived in a duplex apartment in Yei, next to the one where Khamis and his family lived. The Smith-Mathers now serve in Uganda and are facilitating the peacebuilding and trauma healing work in the refugee camps.

During one visit to Bidi Bidi, John told Shelvis that life in the camps is “sometimes so overwhelming I find myself asking if this is really me. I once had a comfortable home and plenty of clean drinking water.”

Yet John is by no means despondent. He will not give up on peace in South Sudan. The stakes are too high, and he will not languish in despair because the gospel’s hope is too deep.

The Peace & Global Witness Offering is helping to proclaim the gospel of peace in South Sudan, in other places around the world, and across the United States. These ministries range from reconciliation efforts at the local level to advocacy work in the international community through the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations.

Twenty-five percent of the offering our congregation receives will go to local ministries of peace and reconciliation, 25% will go to similar work at the mid council level, and 50% will go to the national church to support national and international ministries like RECONCILE.

Your gifts will help bring peace in troubled places around the world and build bridges of reconciliation in our community.

Let Us Pray

God of Peace, we pray for peace in South Sudan and for the work of John Khamis and RECONCILE International. We give thanks for committed servants who strive to end hostility and division at home and abroad. May they sense your wisdom and courage as they face the challenges before them. **Amen.**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Peace & Global Witness Gifts Multiply Efforts to Welcome Refugees

Like millions of people around the world, Presbyterian elder Bill Campbell was moved by the heartbreaking image of a drowned Syrian boy whose body washed up on a Turkish beach in 2015. The photo of three-year-old Aylan Kurdi drew international attention to the danger and desperation faced by people fleeing the civil war in Syria. Aylan was among thousands of Syrians who drowned trying to escape the violence gripping their country.

“There must be a way I can do something,” Bill told himself. As chair of the mission committee at Old First Presbyterian Church in San Francisco, Bill got his congregation involved by working with a local refugee resettlement agency to collect and assemble “welcome kits” that newly arrived refugee families find in their new homes when they first open the door. The kits include household goods such as flatware, dishes, cooking utensils, lamps, cleaning supplies, toiletries, and linens. It took two cars to haul one kit, and the congregation assembled and delivered seven of them. Moved by the needs of anxious children still in refugee camps, the congregation also helped send 5,000 teddy bears to traumatized refugee children in Jordan.

But Bill hoped the wider church could multiply the efforts of congregations like his. He and like-minded members of other churches asked San Francisco Presbytery to match their congregations’ contributions to support resettlement of refugees in the San Francisco Bay Area. The presbytery agreed to match up to \$10,000 from its peacemaking fund. The matching funds were available thanks to gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering. A goal was set and a nine-month time frame established.

“Congregations really jumped at the chance,” Bill says. “The opportunity was presented at a time when most congregations were involved in their annual pledge campaigns, and budgets were already set. Yet congregations found a way to participate. In just four months, we blew past the goal.”

More than \$20,000 was given to help impoverished, war-battered families find safety, welcome, and a new life. Compassionate Presbyterians have refused to stand by idly while the world faces the largest refugee crisis since World War II. Their generous gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering provided the seed money that stirred even more generosity through the presbytery’s matching gift offer. At the same time, gifts to the Offering were also ensuring that the Presbyterian Ministry at the UN could continue its work on behalf of refugees.

The Peace & Global Witness Offering equips the PC(USA) to proclaim Christ’s peace. Twenty five percent of the Offering is retained by congregations for local ministries of peace and witness, another 25% supports these ministries at the mid council level, and the remaining 50% supports the peacemaking and reconciliation ministries of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Bill says extending welcome to refugees helps the United States live up to its highest ideals. More importantly, he notes, it fulfills a Christian imperative. “The Old Testament tells us to welcome the foreigner and the refugee,” Bill explains. “Jesus told us in Matthew that ‘what you do for the least of these you do to me.’ It is part of our calling as Christians to help when we can.”

Giving to the Peace & Global Witness Offering is one way you can follow in the way of Jesus. Your gifts express your commitment to a more just and peaceful world.

Let Us Pray

Compassionate God, we pray for people who seek a safe place to call home. Help us to extend your hospitality to those who have fled danger and who are striving to begin a new life among us. Grant us the strength and wisdom to choose welcome. **Amen.**



MINUTE FOR MISSION

International Peacemaker Visit Inspires Congregation to Help Syrian Refugee Family

At Ivyland Presbyterian Church, the visits of international peacemakers have informed the minds of members, inspired their hearts, and moved the congregation to action on behalf of people in need.

International peacemaker Rami Al Maqdasi, an Iraqi-born pastor, spoke at the suburban Philadelphia congregation in 2015, just as thousands of refugees were fleeing the Middle East. He gave the congregation a firsthand account of the hardships posed by displacement. When he was a child in the 1980s, the war between Iraq and Iran forced Rami's family to leave their hometown of Basra for eight years. When they moved home, Rami became heavily involved in the local Presbyterian church and sensed a call to ministry. He attended seminary in Cairo, where he painfully watched the tragedies befalling his native Iraq. After seminary, Rami went to Syria, where he got married, served among Iraqi refugees, and became pastor of a Presbyterian church.

In 2011, civil war erupted in Syria, and drones rained down bombs on the Syrian people. Kidnappings became commonplace, and innocent people fell victim to gunfire attacks. Heartbroken and in need of safety, Rami and his family fled to the Kurdish region of Iraq. During their 15 months there, Rami ministered to the thousands of hurting refugees. Rami and his family received refugee status from the United Nations in 2014 and settled in Buffalo, New York. He now serves as a pastor at First United Presbyterian Church of Dunkirk.

Not long after Rami's visit to Ivyland, a local agency called the congregation saying that a Syrian refugee family urgently needed a sponsor. Ivyland's pastor, Sarah Weisiger, says the congregation was ready to step up in large part because Rami had put a human face on the refugee crisis. "Other congregations in Philadelphia Presbytery joined in, as did the local ministerial association. We ended up with six congregations stepping up to help the refugees," Sarah shares. "It's been pretty darn awesome."

While Rami's visit spurred the congregation to action on the refugee issue, Sarah says two other international peacemakers have visited the congregation, and they also inspired and challenged its members.

"Every time a peacemaker has come to visit us, it has put a face on world Christianity," Sara explains. "It has really helped us broaden our perspective."

These international peacemakers' visits are made possible through our gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering. Supported ministries proclaim Christ's peace by providing support for global partners working for peace in their context, educating and connecting US Presbyterians through the Peacemaking Program, and raising our voices in support through the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations. Because 25% of the Offering is retained by our congregation for local ministries of peacemaking and witness, another 25% supports ministries at the mid council level, and 50% supports national initiatives like international peacemakers, the whole Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is equipped in this work.

Your gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering help proclaim Christ's peace and make a difference for people like Rami, for congregations like Ivyland Presbyterian Church, and for other Presbyterians working for peace in places near and far.

Let Us Pray

God of peace, we pray for people who are suffering from the destructive effects of hate and violence. We give thanks for faithful servants who are seeking peace in Christ's name. May their witness inspire us to greater action for the sake of peace in our communities and around the world. **Amen.**



2017 PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING ORDER FORM

Ways to change or update your order:



Contact Presbyterian Distribution Service at **800-524-2612** or **pds@pcusa.org** between 9:00 am – 5:30 pm EST



Mail this form to Presbyterian Distribution Service, 3904 Produce Road, Ste. 104, Louisville KY 40218



Fax this order form to **502-569-8030**

Additional resources are available online at presbyterianmission.org/peace-global

All materials are FREE unless noted otherwise.

Qty.	PDS#	UOM	Item
<i>English Resources</i>			
___	12142-17-275	P25	Offering Envelope
___	12142-17-281	Each	Poster
___	12142-17-282	P25	Bulletin Insert - <i>We Choose Welcome</i>
___	12142-17-283	P25	Bulletin Insert - <i>The Dream of Peace</i>
___	12142-17-285	\$4.00	8.5"x11" Bulletin Cover
___	12142-17-286	\$4.00	8.5"x14" Bulletin Cover
___	12142-17-287	P25	Brochure/Mailer
___	12142-17-288	Each	Leader's Guide

Other useful items:

___	24358-08-001	\$3.00	<i>To Strengthen Christ's Body: Tools for Talking about Tough Issues</i>
___	24358-09-001	\$3.00	<i>Justice and Peace Shall Kiss: Praying through the Year</i>
___	24358-12-001		<i>Ways to Engage in Peacemaking Brochure</i>
___	24358-16-001	\$1.00	<i>30 Days with the Balhar Confession: Reflection on Unity, Reconciliation, and Justice</i>
___	24358-10-001	\$7.50	<i>Resurrection Living: Journeying with the Nonviolent Christ</i>
___	70270-06-007	\$5.00	<i>Guidelines for Presbyterians During Times of Disagreement (pocket size)</i>
___	70270-06-001	\$5.00	<i>The Shalom of God in the Midst of Empire</i>

SHIP TO

Please use a street address—FedEx cannot deliver to a PO box.

Church: _____ Attention: _____

Address (FedEx cannot ship to PO boxes): _____

City/State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Phone: _____ PIN/Customer I.D.#: _____

Date materials needed: _____

Note: All orders will be shipped by Federal Express or similar service unless otherwise requested. Any special handling charges will be billed to the recipient.

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:** *We Choose Welcome* and *The Dream of Peace*
- » **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:** Four stories about the transformative power of the kinds of peacemaking and reconciliation efforts the Offering supports

WAYS YOUR CONGREGATION CAN ENHANCE ITS COMMITMENT TO PEACEMAKING USING ITS 25% OF THE PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

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, 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 2017. 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. **\$19.99 each**
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. Use the Green Bible for worship services that focus on caring for creation. In this Bible, verses dealing with God's care for creation are highlighted in green. Learn more at greenletterbible.com.
14. 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.
15. 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.
16. 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.



YOU'RE ALWAYS WELCOME TO CONTACT US

Please feel welcome to get in touch if you have questions or need help!

» **Special Offerings**

800-728-7228, Ext. 5047

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» **Peacemaking Program**

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» **Critical Global Initiatives**

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THANK YOU

for your energy and support in promoting this offering. Let us proclaim the peace and grace of Christ both near and far and work toward a more just and civil world for all.



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

If you need help or have questions, contact us at specialofferings@pcusa.org.