



Anchorage Presbyterian Church



The PC(USA) Churchwide Special Offerings in 2026



Chilibre, Kathy Melvin



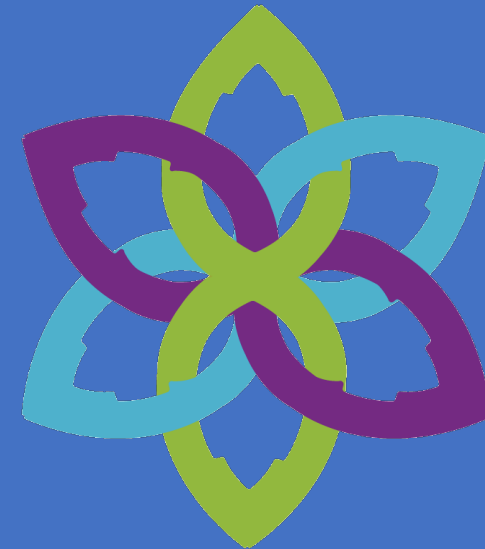
Michael Huess



Rev. Steve Herring

Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Special Offerings Data 2024
- 226th General Assembly Findings & Action
- Overview of Special Offerings in 2026
 - Christmas Joy
 - One Great Hour of Sharing
 - World Communion
 - New Grant Opportunity
- Help your congregation prepare
- Q&A



SPECIAL OFFERINGS



Special Offerings 2024 Giving Total



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

\$5,980,962

(12,459 gifts)



PENTECOST

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

\$855,462

(2,760 gifts)



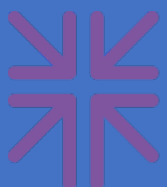
PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

\$917,341

(3,452 gifts)



CHRISTMAS JOY

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

LEADERSHIP: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

\$2,642,475

(5,279 gifts)

Special Offerings Review Task Force (SORTF) Findings

- Many reported feeling fatigued by the four Offerings.
- Using cause-based language focuses on the impact of each Offering.
- Allocating funds to specific programs should be more flexible and in the hands of the Church governing body.
- Retained portions of the Peace & Global Witness and Pentecost Offerings were confusing, and often too small to make an impact on local mission goals.
- A grant program provides a more equitable way to fund local mission priorities.

226th General Assembly Action

In 2024, the 226th General Assembly approved the two SORTF recommendations:

1. That the Interim Unified Agency (IUA) shall review and evaluate the Churchwide Special Offerings on a six-year basis (changing from four-year basis)
2. Launch a new cycle of Churchwide Special Offerings starting in 2026 that includes the Christmas Joy Offering, the One Great Hour of Sharing and the World Communion Offering



Special Offerings in 2026

One Great Hour of Sharing

Lent & Easter

Reminds us of Christ's call to care for the most vulnerable.

Disaster
Hunger
Poverty
Climate Change
Immigration, Migration & Refugees

World Communion Offering

Early Fall

Cultivate reconciliation and invite all to the table of grace.

Racial Justice
Gender Justice
Peacemaking
Global Witness
Ecumenical & Interfaith Relations

*New Grant Opportunity

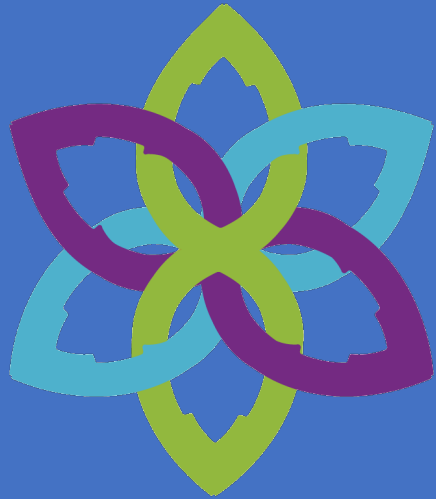
Christmas Joy Offering

Advent & Christmas

Support Church leaders: past, present and future.

At-risk children
Youth & Young Adults
Leadership Development for People of Color
Support for Church Leaders
Presbyterian Schools & Colleges
Equipping Communities of Color

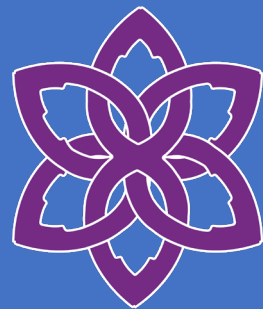
Special Offerings New Logos



SPECIAL OFFERINGS

The new logo shows a Celtic-style knot representing the roots of our Presbyterian tradition and the connections that bind us together as the Church.

The interlocking parts also represent the three Special Offerings that will be received in 2026, featuring the liturgical colors already used in many congregations when the Offerings are traditionally received.



CHRISTMAS JOY



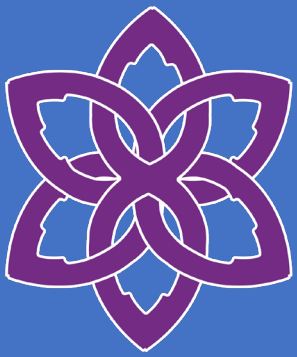
**ONE GREAT
HOUR OF SHARING**



WORLD COMMUNION



SPECIAL OFFERINGS



CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING



Photo by Chris Megginson

Interpreted and received during the Advent season in gratitude for God's gift of Jesus Christ to benefit PC(USA) causes/ministries that serve God's children—leaders: past, present, and future. Causes:

- i. Children-at-Risk
- ii. Youth & Young Adults
- iii. Leadership Development for People of Color
- iv. Presbyterian-related Schools & Colleges Equipping communities of Color (SCECC) 35%*
- v. Servants of the Church in Need [through the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions] 35%*

*Set percentages will decrease 3% per year until 2030





ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING



Photo courtesy of Hope Restoration South Sudan

Interpreted during Lent and received on Palm Sunday and/or Easter Sunday in response to Christ's call to ministries of compassion for the most vulnerable around the world. Causes:

- i. Disaster
- ii. Hunger
- iii. Poverty
- iv. Climate Change
- v. Immigration, Migration & Refugees



WORLD COMMUNION OFFERING



Interpreted beginning Labor Day (first Monday of September) and received on World Communion Sunday (the first Sunday of October) with a *Season of Preparation* which seeks to cultivate forms of reconciliation encountered when Christ gathers all of God's people to the Table of Grace around the corner and around the world. Distribution and causes:

- i. Grants issued to other councils of the Church reflecting values of the WCO;
- ii. Causes that include aspects that may be described as reconciliatory, including:
 - a. Racial Justice
 - b. Gender Justice
 - c. Peacemaking
 - d. Global Witness
 - e. Ecumenical & Interfaith Relations

Photo by Rich Copley



WORLD COMMUNION OFFERING

Grant Opportunity

- World Communion Grants will be used to engage in local mission and ministry related to the causes supported by WCO.
- Grant process will be straightforward, and the Stewardship & Funds Development Team is available to help in any way.
- Receiving a grant is NOT contingent upon participation in the World Communion Offering.
- Awards will range from \$500-\$5,000, awarded from 25% of total WCO receipts.



WORLD COMMUNION OFFERING

Grant Timeline

- Fall: WCO Season of Preparation *and* Grant Application Opens (*exact date TBA*)
- First Sunday of October: World Communion Sunday/WCO Offering received
- December: Grant Application Closes (*exact date TBA*)
- January/February: IUA Grant Committee Discernment
- March/April: Award Notices Shared

NOTE: This is a preliminary timeline, and we are awaiting further detailed guidance from the Interim Unified Agency.

Help Your Congregations Prepare

- Remind congregations that changes take effect January 1, 2026.
- Ensure 2025 Offerings and all PC(USA) giving are remitted by January 22, 2026. If remitted after the 22nd,
 - Pentecost -> Christmas Joy Offering fund
 - Peace & Global Witness -> World Communion Offering fund

Help Your Congregations Prepare

- Check out the resources available on pcusa.org/specialofferings.
 - Leaders guides, social media graphics, curriculum & liturgy ideas, and more.
 - Webinar recordings will be available after every event.
- Sign up for our email list and follow us on social media to ensure you're up to date!

THANK YOU

Engage with our Special Offerings team as we go about our mission of supporting the work of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).



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Stay up to date on the PC(USA) Special Offerings – sign up for our email list:



Q&A Session

Put your questions in the Q&A chat box or email questions to special.offerings@pcusa.org

