



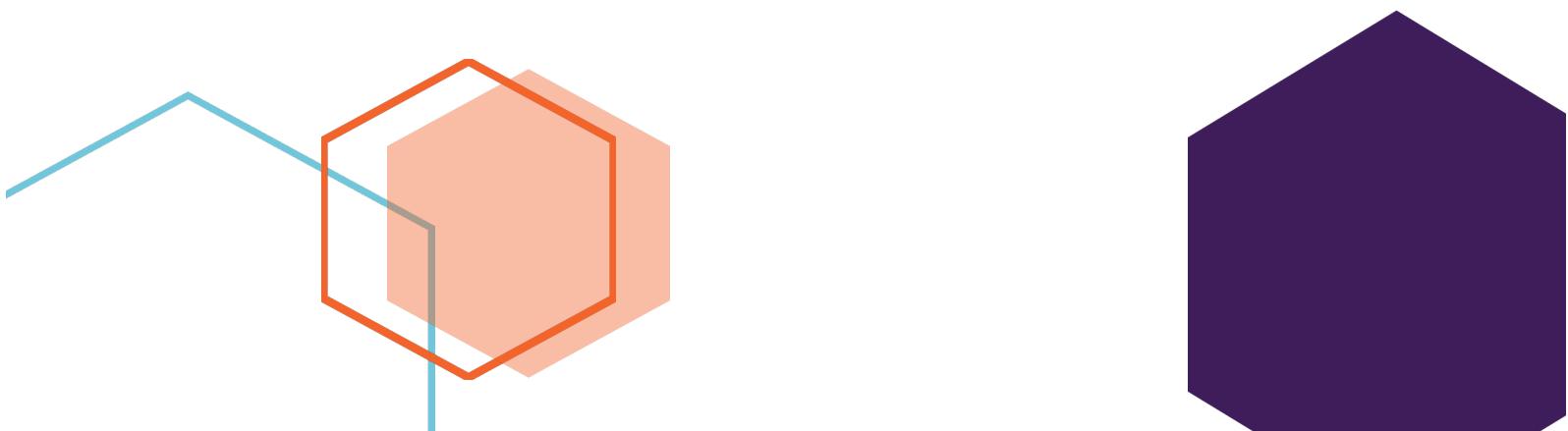
# Mission Work in the Presbytery

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**A Report of Domestic and International  
Mission Work in the Presbyterian Churches in  
New York City**

PNYC members come from around the world and have individual and missional connections to many countries. This report establishes our domestic and international mission commitments as well as common countries to which member congregations may be ministering. This report also details ongoing partnerships with organizations that member congregations are a part of, both domestically and internationally.

**Completed by Kori Robbins,  
Young Adult Volunteer**



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# Mission Work in the Presbytery

## A Report of Domestic and International Mission Work in the Presbyterian Churches in New York City

### Purpose

PNYC members come from around the world and have individual and missional connections to many countries. However, PNYC has no documentation of how extensive our international mission commitments are nor is the presbytery fully aware of common countries to which member congregations may be ministering. Individual congregations often take mission or work trips to various countries or may be part of PCUSA international mission networks or have international partnerships. Immigrant fellowships often send some financial gifts to the Presbyterian denominations in the countries from which they have migrated. This is the need.

The opportunity is that PNYC could celebrate its global mission connections, its member congregations could create new international networks, becoming more aware of PCUSA mission partners active in countries where congregations are engaged in mission, and even set up wider invitations to more persons or congregations to become involved in mission both locally and globally as what happens beyond our borders can affect members and connections our congregations have with other nations.

### Compiling Information

This information has been compiled by calling, emailing and visiting all Presbyterian Churches in the city of New York. Assisted by the Administrative Staff of the Presbytery, a directory of all contact information for each Pastor and Clerk of Session was obtained. A meeting with Mark Koenig, a committee member for the Presbyterian Justice Ministries Committee was also held and information shared. Additional information was obtained via church websites if possible. Please note that all information is current at time of writing. Please also note that some churches did not respond and that is reflected here by italicized church names.

**If you would like to add information to this report,  
please email [nycpresbyyav@gmail.com](mailto:nycpresbyyav@gmail.com)**

### [Goals]

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- To understand our global connections within the PNYC
- To map our connections and explore expanding them
- To celebrate where PNYC congregations are engage globally
- To know which congregations might be go-to congregations when specific needs arise in some part of our global community

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## Bronx

*Beck Memorial Presbyterian Church*

**Bedford Park Presbyterian Church**

- Have given to South Korea churches in the past

**Eastchester Presbyterian Church**

- Have given to Jermaine and Ian Cabey (missionaries) in the Philippines
- Given money to the Benevolence Foundation
- Yearly contribution to Siloam Eye Clinic in Korea
- Food pantry/Meals given
- Connection with 47<sup>th</sup> Precinct
- Education – afterschool programs, VBS in summer and PSAT/SAT prep

*El Buen Pastor-Mid Bronx Presbyterian Church*

*Emmanuel Presbyterian Reformed Church*

*First Presbyterian Church of Throggs Neck*

*First Presbyterian Church of Williamsbridge*

*Fort Schuyler Presbyterian Church*

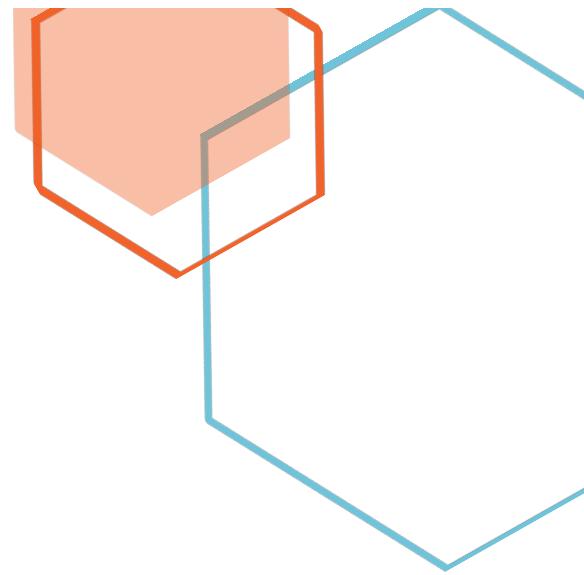
*Fourth Presbyterian Church*

*Laconia Community Presbyterian Church*

**Riverdale Presbyterian Church**

- 3 people participated in march to end violence
- Midnight Run
- Habitat for Humanity
- Part of the Solution - work with homeless addressing food needs and financial needs
- Riverdale/Yonkers Ethical Society - Riverdale provides meals once a month - the society provides an emergency food shelter
- Have discussed #metoo issue - have discussed immigration/refugees with interfaith group
- Provide support to project with temporary housing for families
- Looking to work with Metro IAF on criminal justice issues

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*San Andres Presbyterian Church*

*Soundview Presbyterian Church*

*St. Augustine Presbyterian Church*

*Tremont Presbyterian Church*

*University Heights Presbyterian Church*

## **Brooklyn**

*Bedford Central Presbyterian Church*

*Bethel Presbyterian Reformed Church*

### **Beverly Presbyterian Church**

- World Mission Fund through Louisville
- Idea behind giving – can't be physically there but can be "there" through offering

### **Church of Gethsemane**

- Give to Presbyterian Mission Agency
- Prison Ministries – Project Connect and Men/Women visitation programs

*Church of the Living Christ*

*Duryea Presbyterian Church*

*Featherbed Lane Presbyterian Church*

### **First Presbyterian Church of Brooklyn**

- Prison ministry – partnered with Gethsemane and #CloseRikers
- Food pantry
- White Rose Cuban Ministry – partnered with La Fernanda Presbyterian Church in Cuba
- Partnered with Eastern Farm Workers Association

### **Fourth Avenue Presbyterian Church**

- Food pantry
- Interfaith relations and youth group
- Gives to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and One Great Hour of Sharing
- Has given to specific missionaries in Colombia (Richard Williams and Mamie Broadhurst) and Malawi (McGill Family)

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- Has supported a congregant in Panama with the Peace Corps and the YAV Program in NYC
- Historically has had a multiyear relationship with a congregation in Lebanon and met with leaders from that church through the International Peacemaker Program
- Has 3 former YAVs in the church from Guatemala, also has a congregant who has gone on PDA trips, as well as with faith based water ministries
- Part of Living Waters for the World (Central America, South America and Africa)
- Part of El Porvenir (Nicaragua) and Healing Waters International (4 continents)
- Always open to forming new relationships – part of a multicultural congregation. Nice way to learn about the homeland/culture of one of their people –helps to stay connected to home
- *"One of the benefits over the years is that it has helped us look beyond our borders. We contribute to various groups in the city and have an active food pantry, but these international mission projects expand our horizons and connects us to more of God's creation."*

*Glenmore Avenue Presbyterian Church*

*Homecrest Presbyterian Church*

*Kingslawn United Presbyterian Church*

### **Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church**

- Prison ministry – partnered with Gethsemane and #CloseRikers
- Letter writing campaigns in support of housing
- Looking to engage in church based community organizing
- Queen of All Saints – provide three nights housing and meals

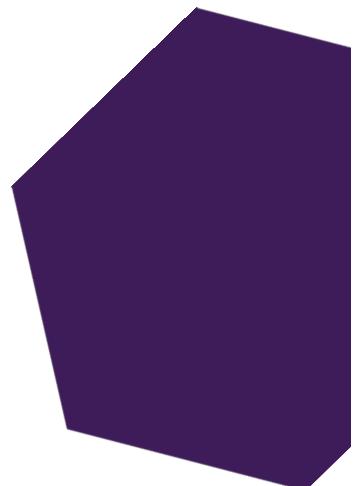
*Memorial Presbyterian Church*

*Presbyterian Church of the Crossroads*

*Presbyterian Church of the Redeemer of East Brooklyn*

### **Siloam Presbyterian Church**

- Food Pantry, Thanksgiving meal, 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday breakfast, some congregants prepare meals for homeless ministry
- Looking to use building for community programs
- Seeking funds to pay millennial musicians to help with worship and to provide community concerts
- Long tradition of giving funds to various education causes and scholarships
- Exploring what it means to be engaged in social justice



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*Spanish First Presbyterian Church*

*Trinity United Presbyterian Church*

## **Union Church of Bay Ridge**

- Interest in sanctuary and immigration issues

*Westminster Bethany Presbyterian Church*

## **Manhattan**

### **Brick Presbyterian Church**

- African Dream Academy in Liberia – 8 years. Church gives funding, sponsors students. School ends with 8<sup>th</sup> grade (for now)
- Couple from congregation built health clinic right next door (using own funds)
- 2 governing boards – one in Liberia that runs school and one in US responsible for fundraising
- Pre-school at Brick is sister school.
- Senior High Youth group is taking mission trip to Central America
- Has sponsored programs in Russia and along Mexico border in last two years

### **Broadway Presbyterian Church**

- Homeless shelter for guests – 12 beds with shower facilities and meals
- Four Star Soup Kitchen
- Food Prep and Culinary Skills Training Program
- Doctor's Office open on Monday's and Fridays
- Clothing Closet
- Community Table – monthly community meal

*Chinese First Presbyterian Church*

*Church of the Covenant*

### **Church of the Good Neighbor**

- Food pantry
- International ministry in Dominican Republic – particularly Haitians
  - Provide Bible school, services and work crews
- Charter school and Community Voices Heard housed in building

*Church of the Master*

*Emmanuel Presbyterian Church*

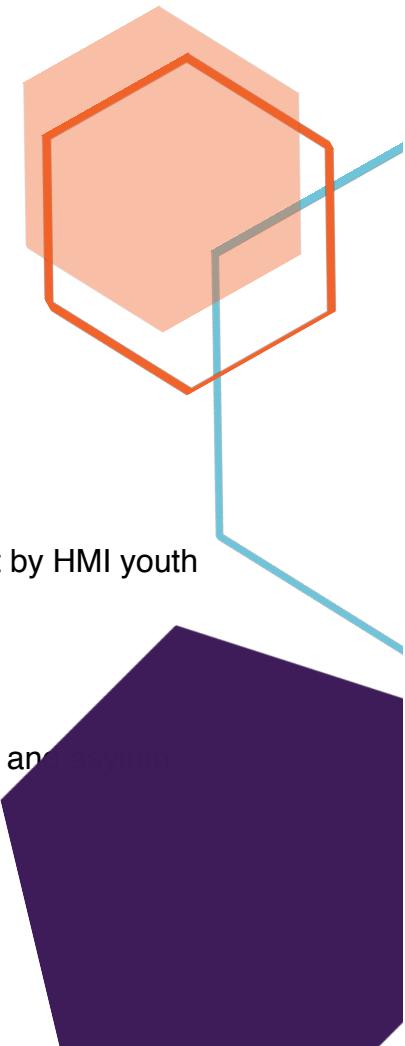
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## Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church

- Bowery Mission
- The Bridge – provides behavioral health support, housing and treatment programs
- Church of Gethsemane
- HANDS Along the Nile
- Holmes Presbyterian Camp and Conference Center
- Jan Hus Presbyterian Church
- Not currently involved internationally, but have historically been involved in Haiti
- Urban Outreach Center – serves 30,000 annually food and housing insecure New Yorkers
- Mission Co-workers in Madagascar and FJKM church partner - Dan and Elizabeth Turk, Jan Heckler, and Doug Tilton
- Ministry of Hope – Lesotho
- Parity – org that supports LGBTQ+ folks called to ministry
- Mission Coworkers in Philippines – Cobbie and Dessa Palms and the UCCP church partner
- Presbyterian Senior Services
- West Side Federation for Senior and Supportive Housing (WSFSSH)
- Womankind (formerly the New York Asian Woman's Center) – services for survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking and sexual assault

## First Presbyterian Church in the City of New York

- Cuba Partnership – church in Taguasco
- Conversational Spanish program for general community
- Visits to and from Cuba
- Art at First – exhibits that connect to other investment areas
- Welcome Team for Refugees/Immigrants
  - Partner with Church World Services
  - Provides help with finances, doctor's appts. etc
- RIF – asylum seekers
- QDEP- LGBTQ+ asylum seekers who have been detained
- Hetrick Martin Institute
- More Light Congregation and Parity
- Participates in annual Pride March
  - Tables to serve water, cocktail party for marchers, and exhibit by HMI youth
- Serve Dinner at HMI 2-3x per month
- LGBTQ brunches every 6 (ish) weeks
- New York Aids Walk in May
- Working on writing a book on history of First and LGBTQ+
- Love Welcome – conference about supporting LGBTQ and refugees and asylum seekers
- Racial Reconciliation Program



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- Partnership with Church of Gethsemane
- Partnership with George Jackson Academy
- Partnership with St. James Presbyterian in Harlem
- Fortune Society
- Books
  - White Rage
    - Series of workshops giving overview of issues that came
  - One Person, No Vote
    - Discussion group led by pastor
- Series about segregation- Red Lining, Fair Housing Justice Center and Housing discrimination and gentrification
- Partner with Gethsemane to collect food on 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month
- PW is facilitating pen pal program for congregation that will send letters to Gethsemane program every month
- Partner with Harlem Grown – gives grants and man hours when available
- Pending Earthcare congregation
- Series of art exhibits – photography about climate change
- Partnered with New School students to create exhibits
- Hosted dinner and discussion with Broadway and St. James
- Series of 3 workshops on climate change split – moderated by pastors and includes panel
- Part of a network of people/churches that still believe in the Paris Climate Agreement
- Public Witness and Advocacy – participate in local/national marches as called, tables after worship detailing current issues church is passionate about, annual fall dinner, peace and justice forum
- PW is having spring retreat focused on social justice issues
- Grants Program for local organizations
- Supports PC(USA) pastor in Kenya (not co-worker) who focuses on helping women and girls, specifically child marriages and refugee women
- Disaster Relief trip to Puerto Rico – 11 people stayed in San Juan to help a PDA Volunteer Village
  - Worked with churches to clear out and maintain facilities after hurricane

## Fort George Presbyterian Church

- Has contributed to Mision Tu Puedes in San Cristobal Dominican Republic, Semilla de Mostaza in Sosua, Dominican Republic (we have ongoing support),
- Church youth group started doing mission work in the Dominican Republic 12 years ago
- Partnership with the Iglesia Evangelica Dominicana in Barahona Dominican Republic
- Started doing mission work in the Dominican Republic since 2007, and have been going to the Dominican Republic yearly since then. Groups of about 10-20 participate at a time; both from within FGPC and other Presbyterian congregations in NYC / NJ area.
- Wants to expand the mission they currently do to other countries

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- *"It has been such a blessing to extend mission and service work beyond our four walls, and outside our community (literally) to go to a different country. The needs are very different, as we are dealing with rural communities, and so it is very impactful work to clothe, feed and provide what we consider basic necessities to those in need. This has further helped the congregation because we are not inward focused now, but this forces us to look at a completely different context and see what it is we are going to do to help."*
- *"We read that Jesus tells his disciples to go out and make disciples of all nations, and we understand this can be read and acted upon in different ways. God has given us the opportunity to leave our comfort and go into impoverished communities (hospitals, homes, schools,) and work with the elderly and children who have been forgotten and marginalized. We go out there and tell these folks that we are there because we love them, and let them know they are not forgotten. We want them to know that there are people in NYC that have made a purposeful trip to simply bless them (even though they are the ones that bless US)."*

### French Evangelical Church

- Mission work limited due to construction work onsite
- Mission work is case by case basis
- Money given to Haiti – year of the earthquake
- Money given to Cameroon – specific project with church trying to build a school
- Last fall & spring, held interfaith conferences on immigration and faith (Presbyterian, Catholic Priest, Jewish Elder, and Muslim Imam)
- Reaching out locally to young people by holding poetry days quarterly
- Talking about trying to start a pastoral exchange program
- Possibly expanding into Madagascar – wants to be intentional
- Prioritize young people

*Ft. Washington Heights Presbyterian Church*

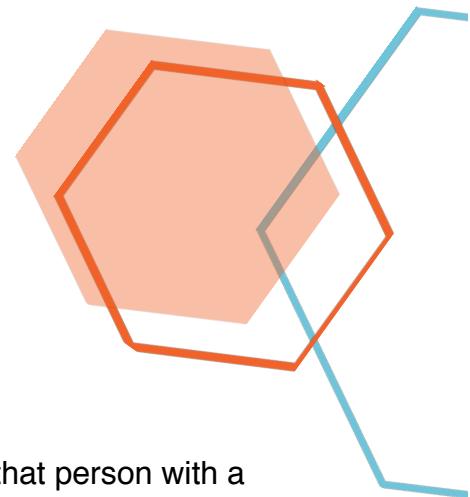
*Good Shepard-Faith Presbyterian Church*

*Indonesian Presbyterian Church*

*Jan Hus Presbyterian Church*

### Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

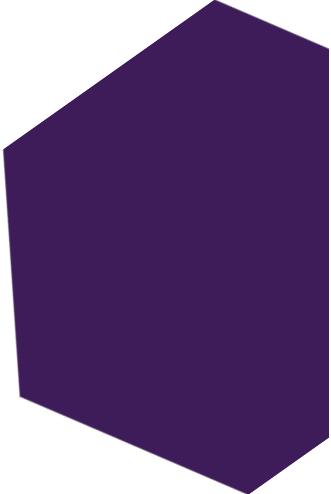
- Associate for Outreach left a while ago - determined to replace that person with a pastoral resident (seminary graduate)
- Homeless Shelter
- Thursday Night dinner for homeless and others who are interested
- Support for Jan Hus - primarily financial
- 9 local mission partners with 3 foci: elderly, food and nutrition, children at risk
- Provide scholarship for one student at Sing-Sing with New York Theological Seminary



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- Support Church of Gethsemane with finances and Christmas presents
- Have looked at immigration issues a little
- Support Rutgers financially
- Partnership with Church of Central Africa Presbyterian Harare Synod in Zimbabwe - have had trouble with people receiving visas to visit US
- Had a relationship with seminary in Zaire - not getting applicants so are folding this into the pastoral resident position

*Manhattan Cornerstone Presbyterian Church*



### **Mt. Morris-Ascension Presbyterian Church**

- Food pantry and meal program
- Wrongly Incarcerated support group
- Interest in youth programming

*Mt. Washington Presbyterian Church*

*North Presbyterian Church*

### **Rendall Memorial Presbyterian Church**

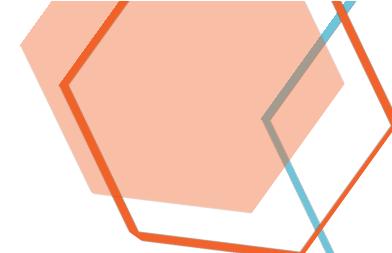
- Bed Stabilization Program
- Looking to hire individuals on work release program to help with homeless populations
- Anti-racism – concentrated study with Presbyterian Church of Morristown and civil rights tour in the South (funding provided by Synod of the Northeast)

### **Rutgers Presbyterian Church**

- Resistance Bureau - meets weekly for 30 minutes - open to anyone
- Refugee Resettlement - 2 families from Syria - 2 from Afghanistan - looking at what to do next since number of refugees is restricted
- LGBTQ Support
- Immigration Issues
- Torture Issues
- Thursday movie and meal for community/neighborhood – often for people who are homeless
- Public witness - to DC for women's march, March for Our Lives, also marched for climate justice, Jericho Walks, Black Lives Matter
- Men's shelter on weekends
- Monitoring Close Rikers campaign and Poor People's Campaign

### **Second Presbyterian Church**

- Alexander Robertson School – members not involved too much
- Syria/Lebanon – overtures at last two General Assemblies



St. James Presbyterian Church

Trinity Presbyterian Church

## West End Presbyterian Church

- Interfaith relations - partnership with synagogue
- Space Sharing - Interfaith Assembly on Homelessness and Housing based there
- Have hosted a restorative community through Fordham
- Homelessness - work with West Side Federation for Senior and Supportive Housing - had hosted shelter - it is on hiatus as Valley Lodge is under renovation
- Tend toward service projects more than justice
- Presbyterian Welcome - got involved when gay youth experienced violence
- Immigration/Sanctuary - have connections with St. Francis Center and Romemu Synagogue

## West Park Presbyterian Church

- Discerning what their ministry might be

## Queens

### Astoria First Presbyterian Church

- No international mission work
- Support of Poor People's Campaign - Thia participated in arts committee - congregation hosted event

*Christ Church by the Sea*

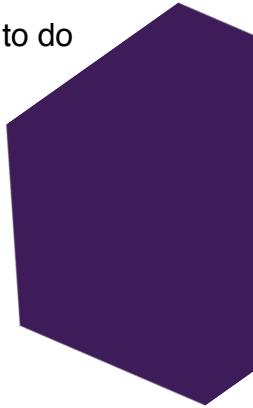
*Dunton Presbyterian Church*

### Faith Presbyterian Church

- Mission trips to Haiti (college and above) and Korea (the Peace School) – also support financial – connected with missionaries
- Going to Cuba 2019 – another Korean missionary they support
- Have nursing homes they visit throughout Queens County – elementary school kids sing and play musical instruments – adults preach
- Women's Ministry – organization that supports abused women
- Arizona – go to support Navajo tribe
- Youth Center in Flushing
- Homeless Ministry – partner with other organizations – Thursday outreach – feed and share Gospel
- Immigration issues – part of a network of Korean Sanctuary churches

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- Says that mission is the heart of God and that to share this is what Jesus says to do (Matthew)



### **First Presbyterian Church in Jamaica**

- African Dream Academy
- Togo Water Project
- Tree of Life
- Soup Kitchen – once a week in rotation with others in Queens
- PDA Host site
- Robust Youth Ministry
- Immigration - addressing concerns and fears of members and community - hosting legal clinics
- Health Fairs
- Youth trip to Puerto Rico
- Youth connection/partnership in Iowa
- Working to empower young adults - offer "adulting" classes and creating a co-working space specifically for 20-30 year olds

### **First Presbyterian Church in Newtown**

- Personal mission trips for pastor and family with refugees in Sweden – church not involved
- Missionary working in Cyprus working in 1980s
- Pastor and son invited to northern Greece to work in an orphanage
- Congregation wants to support Love Packages – distributes Christian curriculum in areas that don't have that

### *First Presbyterian Church of Far Rockaway*

### **First Presbyterian Church of Flushing**

- Education – private Christian school, private afterschool program, private pre-school
- Food pantry

### **First Presbyterian Church of Forest Hills**

- Participated in March for Our Lives to call for common sense gun legislation
- Joined with Muslim, Jewish and Christian brothers and sisters at worship services at Forest Hills Jewish Center to mourn the murders at Tree of Life
- Brought oversea mission partner, Kurt Esslinger, to NYC to speak about his work for reconciliation between North and South Korea
- Raised \$1,145.83 for One Great Hour of Sharing
- Introduced another PCUSA offering (Peace and Global Witness) – raised \$225

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- Sponsored 2 events with the Interfaith Immigrant Action Coalition to raise awareness and funds for No More Deaths and the International Rescue Committee
- Provided the venue for an open discussion about the movement to close Rikers Island
- A letter writing campaign to oppose the proposed changes to the definition of "Public Charge," which could endanger the eligibility status of immigrants.
- Collected food for Thanksgiving at Forestdale, and Christmas toys for 20 children under the care of Hour Children
- Collected school supplies, including notebooks, paper, and folders for the children of families assisted by the International Rescue Committee
- Regularly collect food for a local food pantry, and participated in a one-day community Food Drive outside Key Food on Queens Boulevard
- Brought our "songfest" to Forest View Center, a rehabilitation and residential health care center, three times in 2018, including a December holiday celebration in which we were able to share songs, joy, and warm socks.
- Continued support of a 10-year old Salvadoran child named Estephany, who they adopted through WorldVision – sent extra money for b-day party this year
- Varied financial support of: Hour Children, Not So Churchy, Share the Caregiving, Inc., Forestdale, Women for Afghan Women, International Mission Partners – Daniel and Elizabeth Turk (Madagascar), Kurt Esslinger and Hyeyoung Lee (South Korea), Mark Hare and Jenny Brent (Haiti), James and Jodi McGill (Niger and South Sudan)

*First Presbyterian Church of Springfield Gardens*

### **First United Presbyterian Church of Queens Village**

- Have contributed to the Elim Fellowship and missionaries Gerald and Carol Boehle in Tanzania as well as Little Children of the Philippines and another church in Nigeria

*Glen Morris Presbyterian Church*

*HaKnesiah Presbyterian Church*

*Hollis Presbyterian Church*

*House of Hope Presbyterian Church*

*Korean United Presbyterian Church*

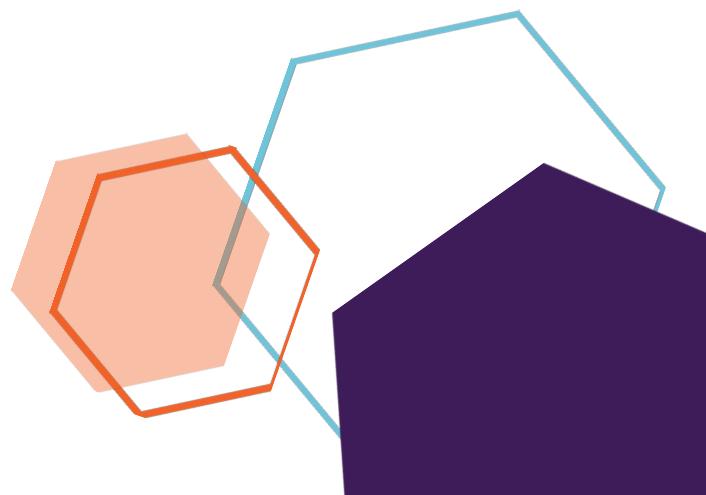
### **North Presbyterian Church**

- In period of discernment

*Ozone Park United Presbyterian Church*

*Queens Chinese Presbyterian Church*

*Ridgewood Presbyterian Church*



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- Senior Center
- Bed stabilization program -in partnership with Rendall

*St. Albans Presbyterian Church*

*St. Luke's Presbyterian Church*

*Throop Memorial Presbyterian Church*

*Westminster-Cedar Manor Presbyterian Church*

### **Whitestone First Presbyterian Church**

- Violence Against Women – UN Ministry
- Getting feet wet with homelessness service project
- Supports a local food pantry – not in building

## **Staten Island**

### **Calvary Presbyterian Church**

- Volunteer Village after Superstorm Sandy - not used as often as it was - there is no longer a group permanently based on Staten Island to coordinate rebuilding - it seems they would be open to providing more housing if there were more groups coming
- Amazing Kids - collections for children - three times a year - about 200 families served - congregation serves as host for project
- They have a member who organizes health education and screenings - sees about 40-50 people at a time
- in period of discernment seeking direction for ministry - they find themselves on a border between a low-income neighborhood and a higher-income neighborhood

### **Olivet Presbyterian Church**

- Works with social justice and peace building orgs internationally
- GA General Mission Fund – heavily support that
- Support local Presbytery mission fund – separate from apportionment
- Staten Island is isolated so not much in NYC
- Project Hospitality – homelessness, addictions, everything under the sun
  - Provide 1/month hot meal for HIV/AIDS
- Host 365 days a year – respite shelter for homeless women
- Once a month participates in Amazing Kids Connections – serves undocumented immigrants on Staten Island – serves meal and hosts giveaway

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- Free yoga for community
- Newest and Biggest Mission Project – created Community Garden
- Brought on master gardener who taught value of growing produce
- Everything grown is given away on Saturdays in the afternoon
- Big push for One Great Hour of Sharing – hopefully will be exceeding goal

## **Immigrant Fellowships and New Worshipping Communities**

Common Ground

*French Christian Ministry of Africa*

*Mawuli Presbyterian Church*

*Sadhu Sundar Singh Fellowship*

*Thai Community Church of New York*

*Trinity Presbyterian Church*

*Evergreen Fellowship*

*New York Day Church*

## **Not So Churchy**

- Discerning what mission work is right for them
- Communicating with More Light

## **Arab Christian Fellowship**

- No connections right now – small community
- Looking to start local – looking to find a site to meet

*Mena Evangelical Church*

*Neighborhood Esperanza*

