

HOLY SMOKE

PAY IT FORWARD

What is the purpose of your church? It is mission and ministry of course! So many of our churches are doing great and wonderful things in both. Not the least of which is inspiring worship each Sunday. Many have food banks, mission trips, community projects, children's ministries during the week, and many more.

Members having a good understanding of what the church is doing, is key to mission and ministry success. If the members are aware of the activities, they are better enabled to match their interests, passions, imagination, and talents in order to become partners in the ministries.

Engaged members are only one part of the success story, however. What enables the good workers to do good works? It is the benevolent giving by the members. Things cost! Gas, food, paper, tools, you name it. Collectively the congregational members pool their resources to accomplish their common mission and ministry.

The Presbyterian denomination works the same way. The mission and ministries of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly are highlighted by their budget allocations. By combining resources, the affect on our common witness to Christ is expanded beyond our limited vision.

Through Presbytery:

- searches for interims and new pastors are assisted by staff and Committee on Ministry Liaisons;
- Peacemakers are itinerated in our churches each year;
- mission trips are coordinated; youth Triennium is funded;
- educational events for pastors and members are held frequently on a variety of topics;
- networking and pastoral support of pastors;
- financial support for clergy emergencies;
- grants for improving church buildings;
- trained staff to help pastors, sessions, and congregations strategize and problem solve;
- and much more.

Homestead also tithes all of the mission gifts received from our congregations for mission support of our Synod and General Assembly so that our witness to the living Christ can be multiplied in partnership with Presbyterians across the nations for ministry and mission across the country and around the world.

Create your own opportunity to be blessed. II Corinthians 7-8.