Thank Offering OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Happy is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors.





Hagar's Community Church, Tacoma, WA



Holston Presbytery Camp and Retreat Center, Inc., Nature Preschool, Banner Elk, NC



Cooperative Christian Ministries, Operation Desert Drop, Concord, NC



Springwood Presbyterian Church, Kitchen Renovation, Whitsett, NC



Habitat for Humanity, Homeownership Mentoring, Orlando, FL



Hope Harbor Ministries, Appliances for New Hope Harbor Facility, Warm Springs, GA



Cancer Association of Anderson, Cancer Patient Vehicle and Driver, Anderson, SC



Frontera de Cristo, Enhancing Skills of At-Risk Children and Parenting Skills of Adults, Douglas, AZ, U.S.A., and Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mexico



Child Advocacy Services, Calming Corner and Sensory Center, Hammond, LA



First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven, Sunday School and Day Care Center for Koinonia Ministries, Orange Walk, Belize



Presbytery of the Inland Northwest, Puerta Abierta (Open Door), Libros Abiertos (Open Books), Santiago, Guatemala



Chasefu Theological College, Female Hostel Construction, Chasefu, Zambia

Dear Friends,

Please join us in being thankful!

Since 1888, Presbyterian women have expressed their deep sense of gratitude for God's blessings in their lives by giving back to people in their communities and around the world. Through the Thank Offering, we can help fund programs that provide education, relief from disasters, safe housing, cooking instruction, training for justice and advocacy work, and so much more.

Please encourage Presbyterian women in your area to promote and celebrate the ministries chosen this year for the Thank Offering.

Inside this booklet, you will find

- an overview of the 2021 recipients,
- an offering dedication service for your group,
- suggestions for ways to support the Thank Offering,
- information on how to access PW resources on the web,
- an 11" x 17" page for use as a promotional poster or a placemat, and
- the promotional materials flier.

Additional promotional materials are available. Please visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank for downloadable bulletin covers, bulletin inserts and videos. You can also order collection envelopes, the poster/placemat, coin boxes and more!

Horizons, the magazine for Presbyterian Women, publishes the Thank Offering grant recipients and dedication service in the 2021 Summer issue. Visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/subscribe or call 866/802-3635 to subscribe! Print subscribers receive the annual Bible study as part of their subscription (see online for details).

Please send your Thank Offering gifts to the PW treasurer in your presbytery. Individuals can give online any time at www.presbyterianwomen.org/give.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support of the Thank Offering and Presbyterian Women.

Blessings,

Creative Ministries Offering Committee

Creative Ministries Offering Committee Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA), Inc.

Thank Offering Control of Presbyterian Women

Happy is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors.

-Proverbs 8:34*

Cliza Clokey of Springfield, Ohio, planted the seed for the Thank Offering in 1888 when she urged each woman to give one dollar over and above her usual contribution to the Women's General Missionary Society of the United Presbyterian Church of North America. Since then, faithful givers have responded to Eliza's call to give a "thank offering to her Lord." Over the last 33 years, Presbyterian Women has granted nearly \$27 million to more than 1,600 different projects at home and around the world through the PW Thank Offering.

In 2021 the Creative Ministries Offering Committee of Presbyterian Women reviewed 29 Thank Offering applications and selected 12 projects for funding. Nine of the projects serve people in the United States and three are international. In keeping with the Thank Offering bylaws, more than 40 percent of the selected projects are related to health ministries.

* New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Used by permission.



First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven, Sunday School and Day Care Center for Koinonia Ministries, Orange Walk, Belize



Child Advocacy Services, Calming Corner and Sensory Center, Hammond, LA







Springwood Presbyterian Church, Kitchen Renovation, Whitsett, NC

Presbytery of the Inland Northwest, Puerta Abierta (Open Door), Libros Abiertos (Open Books), Santiago, Guatemala

2021 Thank Offering OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN Grant Recipients

National

SYNOD OF ALASKA-NORTHWEST

Presbytery of Olympia
Hagar's Community Church
Tacoma, WA
\$50,000
hagarscommunitychurch.com

Established in 2019, this new church development is planted inside the **Washington Corrections** Center for Women. The Thank Offering grant will help support incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women through Bible study, worship, pastoral care and prayer groups. This ministry seeks to empower women so they may seek their own spiritual connection to God, walk a path of healing, experience fellowship in a community of faith

and learn a new sense of belonging in and out of the corrections center.

SYNOD OF LIVING WATERS

Holston Presbytery
Holston Presbytery Camp and
Retreat Center, Inc.
Nature Preschool
Banner Elk, NC
\$10,000
holstoncenter.org

Avery County, North
Carolina, is an area whose
residents have a significant
need for preschool and afterschool programming. The
rural, mountainous region
offers few job opportunities
beside the seasonal work for
tourists. Therefore, many
families are forced to find
work "off the mountain,"
which requires them to
find suitable childcare.
The Thank Offering grant

will help provide working families with a quality and affordable option for their children. The Nature Preschool offers young ones transformational experiences of education, outdoor recreation, and spiritual refreshment.

SYNOD OF MID-ATLANTIC

Presbytery of Charlotte
Cooperative Christian Ministries
Operation Desert Drop
Concord, NC
\$12,000
cooperativeministry.com

Cooperative Christian
Ministry helps move people
from crisis to restoration by
relieving hunger, keeping
families together, addressing
homelessness, teaching
perseverance and restoring
hope. Meeting their needs
has become especially



Hagar's Community Church, Tacoma, WA

Habitat for Humanity, Homeownership Mentoring, Orlando, FL

critical as countless families face food insecurity due to the pandemic. The Thank Offering grant will support Operation Desert Drop's food desert outreach program that delivers food to families who lack reliable transportation and reside in high-need neighborhoods.

Salem Presbytery
Springwood Presbyterian
Church
Kitchen Renovation
Whitsett, NC
\$50,000
springwoodchurch.org

Since their charter in 1868, the women of Springwood Presbyterian Church have engaged in a wide variety of mission activities.

Today the women support outreach programs through Peacehaven Farm, a program for developmentally delayed adults, and their church playschool for preschoolers. With this much-needed kitchen renovation, the

women can cook healthy snacks and meals for these adults and children as well as prepare family food boxes for hungry neighbors, provide large community dinners and maintain their supply of frozen meals for emergencies.

SYNOD OF SOUTH ATLANTIC

Presbytery of Central Florida Habitat for Humanity Homeownership Mentoring Orlando, FL \$5,000 habitatorlandoosceola.org

As the demand for affordable homes increases due to the economic impact of the pandemic, more families need help and encouragement to prepare them for homeownership. The Thank Offering grant will provide mentoring to 100 households in Greater Orlando and Osceola County, offering a rare opportunity for families to

receive individual guidance to reduce debt, save money and improve their credit scores to become eligible to purchase a home.

Presbytery of Greater Atlanta
Hope Harbor Ministries
Appliances for New Hope
Harbor Facility
Warm Springs, GA
\$20,000
hopeharborga.org

This one-year, residential program serves women who struggle with the destructive forces of addiction. A space for learning, gathering, and fundraising, the kitchen is particularly important for the residents. Each year they host a bake sale to purchase holiday gifts for their children and families, allowing them a chance to give back and mend broken relationships. The Thank Offering will purchase kitchen appliances for a new building to continue





Frontera de Cristo, Enhancing Skills of At-Risk Children and Parenting Skills of Adults, Douglas, AZ, U.S.A., and Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mexico

Holston Presbytery Camp and Retreat Center, Inc., Nature Preschool, Ranner Flk, NC

serving women as they find freedom from addiction and experience the healing hope of Christ.

Foothills Presbytery

Cancer Association of Anderson
Cancer Patient Vehicle
and Driver
Anderson, SC
\$42,360
cancerassociationanderson.org

The Cancer Association of Anderson provides financial and emotional assistance to local patients who are battling cancer. Having a vehicle will be a game-changer, offering safe and reliable options to patients with no available transportation for their cancer treatment-related appointments. This grant will also provide for a compassionate and knowledgeable driver who can offer a caring presence as well as assist patients with special needs.

SYNOD OF THE SOUTHWEST

Presbytery de Cristo
Frontera de Cristo
Enhancing Skills of At-Risk
Children and Parenting Skills
of Adults
Douglas, AZ, U.S.A., and
and Agua Prieta, Sonora,
Mexico
\$27,000

fronteradecristo.org

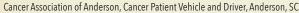
This program will support families with students who are in danger of dropping out of school and need supplemental support in one of the most impoverished communities of Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mexico. The Thank Offering grant will create a safe, educational space and implement a program to strengthen the children's academic, social, emotional and spiritual development. Parents enrolled in the program will receive training in food cultivation, nutritious cooking and conflict resolution.

SYNOD OF THE SUN

Presbytery of South Louisiana
Child Advocacy Services
Calming Corner and Sensory
Center
Hammond, LA
\$7,350
childadv.net

Children's Advocacy Center works to reduce trauma in children who disclose abusive incidents that require law enforcement and children protective services to become involved. The Thank Offering grant will provide elements that enhance the center's environment, including a sensory wall with interactive tools, calming corner, custom seating in the waiting area and color changing mood tiles used as a guide through the center. The more engaging the atmosphere is for children, the more comfortable they feel in sharing their stories and beginning the process of recovery and healing.







Hope Harbor Ministries, Appliances for New Hope Harbor Facility, Warm Springs, GA

International

BELIZE

Synod of the Covenant
Presbytery of Lake Michigan
First Presbyterian Church
of Grand Haven
Sunday School and Day Care
Center for Koinonia Ministries
Orange Walk, Belize
\$15,600
fpgh.org

Koinonia Ministries has a mission to train and equip childcare workers to proclaim the love of God to new generations. In Belize, a single parent earns \$75 to \$90 per week but they must pay \$35 per week for childcare. The Thank Offering grant will help complete a new building for a Sunday school that serves 125 children per week and a cost-free day care center that serves 50 children of single parents.

GUATEMALA

Synod of Alaska-Northwest Presbytery of the Inland Northwest

Puerta Abierta (Open Door) Libros Abiertos (Open Books) Santiago, Guatemala \$50,000 atitlanabierta.com

The Thank Offering grant will provide funding to reach 3,200 students through intensive support, training and professional development for Guatemalan teachers. This will increase reading literacy and educational success for mostly indigenous children living in areas where schools do not have books and resources. The program will also provide professional development opportunities for teachers across Guatemala, and will help build local leadership, facilitate onsite programs, and grow new teaching and learning sites.

ZAMBIA

Church of Central Africa
Presbyterian – Synod of Zambia
Chasefu Presbytery
Chasefu Theological College
Female Hostel Construction
Chasefu, Zambia
\$45,000
ccapzambia.org

The CCAP Synod of Zambia has many trained pastors but very few are women. Additionally, 12 of the synod's 15 presbyteries are in rural areas where subsistence farming is the primary means of survival. The college has plans to train 24 female farmers each year, as well as increasing female pastoral students from one to five. The Thank Offering grant will help build a women's hostel since current housing is available only to male students. The college administration hopes that with the new accommodations, more women will seek training, become leaders and help support fellow women, communities and families.

Woman Wisdom

Instructions for Loving, Living, and Giving

Dedication Service

by Cheri Harper

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Leader: As we light this candle, let us remember the presence Jesus Christ, your holy Wisdom and your eternal Word made flesh to us. Amen. (*Light the Christ Candle*.)

Gathering Words (Proverbs 8:32-35**)

One: And now, my children, listen to me: happy are those who keep my ways.

All: Hear instruction and be wise, and do not neglect it.

One: Happy is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors.

All: For whoever finds me finds life and obtains favor from the LORD.

Hymn Suggestions*

"We Give Thee but Thine Own" (GtG 708)
"Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom" (GtG 174)

Meditation

In these verses from the book of Proverbs, we encounter wisdom personified as a woman who was active in creation and continues to instruct, guide, and proclaim God's activity in the world. Much like a street preacher, Woman Wisdom cries out at the city gates and in the doorways of homes, teaching us that righteousness and faithfulness is a treasure to be sought. As she might say, being right with God and our neighbor is an important part of the way of wisdom.

When I reflect on Woman Wisdom from Proverbs, I can't help but think about the wise women who have taught me to seek God, to share with others, and to learn from my forebears in the faith. I am overwhelmed with gratitude for these lessons that have made me the person I am today.

I remember my grandmother, an active church leader, treasurer, member of Pastor Nominating Committees, and PW Honorary Life Member. I have a collection of Bibles with her name written inside. These are not pristine, gift Bibles. They are dog-eared, used Bibles that demonstrate she took very seriously her study of scriptures and her life as a woman of faith.

I remember the Presbyterian Women of Second Presbyterian Church in Little Rock, Arkansas. I was new to the congregation, but that didn't matter. When I got married at the church and had a baby two years later, they showered me and my family with parties, gifts, meals, and love. These PWs lived out their commitment to generous hospitality to old-timers and newcomers alike.

I remember the Women of the Church at the Presbyterian Church of the Covenant in Elizabeth, Indiana. This group began every circle meeting by singing old songs from hymnals their mothers and grandmothers had used. Inevitably, a familiar and cherished tune would be accompanied by a story about the woman who had sung it. This circle revered their ancestors and kept their memories as a blessing.



Woman Wisdom ends this lesson by declaring the joys of those who find her, saying that those who find her, find life and favor from the Lord. May we all seek and find wisdom in all her forms and at all her gates.

Litany of Thanks for Wise Women

One: We give thanks for the lessons taught to us by women who show us the way of wisdom.

All: Happy are those who keep her ways.

One: We rejoice in the instructions given by Woman Wisdom who shows us how to proclaim God's goodness at home and out at the gates.

All: Happy are those who keep her ways.

One: We rejoice in the faithfulness demonstrated by Sarah who shows us how to trust that God will fulfill promises given to all.

All: Happy are those who keep her ways.

One: We rejoice in the prophetic word spoken by Anna who shows us that a Savior is near who will redeem the world.

All: Happy are those who keep her ways.

One: We rejoice in the strength of Prisca who shows us how to lead the church through service to others.

Happy are those who keep her ways. All:

One: We rejoice in the generosity of Mary who shows us that giving an expensive gift of perfume can demonstrate hospitality and devotion.

Happy are those who keep her ways. All:



One: We rejoice in the commitment, bold witness, and grace shown to us by women we find in scripture. May we listen, learn, and be made wise through them.

All: Happy are those who keep her ways.

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, we give you thanks for providing for our every need: food, shelter, wisdom, skill, friendship, affection. We remember that these gifts come from you and are meant to be shared. Creator, Giver, for all of this, we thank you. Bless these Thank Offering gifts as they touch the lives of others. Bless the children who will receive the education, nutrition, safety, and love they need. Bless the women who will have greater access to housing and childcare, healing from disease, trauma, and addiction, and relief from food insecurity. In the name of the One who became fully open to all who are in need and responded with unbounded love and generosity, Christ our Teacher. Amen.

Hymn Suggestions*

"For All the Faithful Women" (GtG 324) "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending" (GtG 716)

Benediction

May the Wisdom of the Holy One and the lived examples of women who have come before, lead you out with a renewed spirit.

May you journey out into this broken and hurting world with the full assurance that

by listening, watching, and waiting, you will find life.

And may the Wisdom, Power, and Grace of God be upon you now and through all your days. Amen. (Extinguish the Christ Candle.)

Cheri Harper is the PW mission associate and serves as a supply pastor in the Presbytery of Ohio Valley.

- Hymns marked "GtG" are from Glory to God (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 2013)
- ** New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Used by permission.



PROMOTING THE THANK OFFERING

In your PW group

- Download and print materials such as bulletin covers and inserts for free at www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank.
- Order poster/placemats and offering envelopes at www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank.
- Show the Thank Offering promotional video, available on the PW YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/presbyterianwomen).
- Make a presentation at your fall gathering.
- If you do not have regular gatherings, ask each circle to receive the offering once a year around Thanksgiving.

In your church

- Promoting the Thank Offering to the entire congregation!
 - o Get session approval.
 - o Make the Thank Offering announcement during worship and ask givers to put money in a basket specifically for the offering or give online at www.presbyterianwomen.org/give.
 - o Use the Thank Offering bulletin cover for worship and include the Thank Offering bulletin insert.
 - o Include an announcement in your church newsletter about the Thank Offering and how it helps change lives. Use an example from this booklet.
 - o Display the Thank Offering poster in a prominent place.
 - o Hold a special event, like a Thanksgiving meal, where you receive the offering. Use Thank Offering poster/placemats at the tables.
 - o Host a Thank Offering gathering on your church lawn—or perhaps drop off a fall treat (and giving envelope) to the home of PW sisters.

In your presbytery and synod

- Include information about the Thank Offering in your newsletter.
- Send a special email encouraging local PWs to participate.
- Give a presentation about the Thank Offering at your fall gathering.
- Host a speaker from an organization in your area that has received a Thank Offering grant (contact PW's Mission Associate at cheri.harper@pcusa.org).
- Use the Thank Offering poster/placemats at a synod or presbytery meal.

We don't want to miss anyone!

Help us keep contact information current. When leadership, such as treasurers and moderators, in your congregation, presbytery and/or synod change, please let us know. Email changes to patricia. longfellow@pcusa.org.

WAYS TO SUPPORT THE THANK OFFERING OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Circle or group gift



Circle members and other PW group members traditionally support the Thank Offering by donating cash or check in the PW group setting. Envelopes to receive these gifts are available free of charge in packs of 25 from the PW Shop (www. presbyterianwomen.org/shop; item PWR16479) or the PC(USA) Store (800/533-4371).

PW in the Congregation treasurers, please receive your circles'/congregation's Thank Offering gifts and send to your PW in the Presbytery treasurer.

PW in the Presbytery treasurers, please send your PWCs' Thank Offering gifts with your presbytery's other quarterly contributions to Presbyterian Women Remittance Processing, PO Box 643652, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3652. Please contact Rhonda Martin at rhonda.martin@pcusa.org for a remittance form.

Individual gift



If you are giving outside a PW circle, use the individual giving envelope. You may give by check or credit card with this envelope, and you will receive a tax receipt for your gift. Fill out the envelope completely, including your presbytery and synod so they will receive credit for your gift. Envelopes are available free of charge

in packs of 10 from the PW Shop (www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop; item PWR20456) or the PC(USA) Store (800/533-4371).

Tip: Distribute these envelopes to your congregation for even wider support of the Thank Offering.

Online Giving

Make a Donation →

Make a secure online gift at www.presbyterianwomen.org/give.

QR Code giving



Support the Thank Offering through the QR Code on the cover or the one on this page, which allows giving through an app downloaded on smartphone or device. Leaders and planners can share the QR Code at virtual gatherings.

We don't want to miss anyone!

Help us keep contact information current. When leaders, such as treasurers and moderators in your congregation, presbytery and/or synod change, please let us know. Email changes to patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org



Happy is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors.



Thank Offering .2021





First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven, Sunday School and Day Care Center for Koinonia Ministries, Orange Walk, Belize Happy is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors.

-Proverbs 8:34*

In February 2021, the Creative Ministries Offering Committee of Presbyterian Women met to review applications for Thank Offering grants. Twelve of the projects were chosen for funding. More than 40 percent of the projects funded are health ministries. See the 2021 Summer issue of *Horizons* magazine for a list of this year's recipients. Please give so that more Thank Offering grants can be awarded next year, and promote the 2021 offering using the available resources.

Resources for Promoting the Thank Offering

Essentials

Available as a download, as well! The 2021 Thank Offering promotional booklet, which is routinely mailed to all PC(USA) congregations and PW leaders, includes grant recipient summaries; a dedication service; a greeting from the Creative Ministries Offering Committee of Presbyterian Women; ideas to promote and support the Thank Offering; a poster/placemat; and promotional resource flier. Item PWR21475; free.

2021 Thank Offering Korean- and Spanish-language promotional booklets are available on line. Free.

The 11" x 17" 2021 Thank Offering poster/placemat is versatile: use side one as a poster suitable for bulletin boards and trifolds; use side two as a placemat for dinners and tabletops. Available as singles so order as needed (limit 150)! Item PWR21473; free. Korean- and Spanish-language available on line as a download at www.presbyterianwomen. org/thank; free.

Receiving the Offering

Thank Offering group giving envelopes, traditionally used in PW circles and congregations, are available in packs of 25. Item PWR16479; free.

Individual giving envelopes are PW's "multipurpose" envelopes! These #10 green envelopes include an attached slip that allows an individual (or group) to choose where to direct her gifts as well as an area for credit card information. Available in packs of 10; item PWR20456; free.

2021 Thank Offering bulletin insert (one design)—Download at www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank; free.

2021 Thank Offering bulletin cover (8½" x 11")— Download at www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank; free.

2021 Thank Offering resource flier—Download at www. presbyterianwomen.org/thank; free.

2021 Thank Offering promotional video (English, Spanish and Korean)—Available on PW's YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/presbyterianwomen.

More to Explore!

The **Summer 2021 issue of** *Horizons* **magazine** includes the grant recipient list as well as a dedication service. Available to order July 2021; item HZN21220, \$4.00. (Not a *Horizons* magazine subscriber? Call 866/802-3635 or visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/horizons to subscribe!)

Coin/bill boxes, available in packs of 10. Item PWR07482; free

Ordering is Easy!

- Shop on line at www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop.
- Or call 800/533-4371, Monday-Friday, 9 AM-5 PM EST.

Note: Thank Offering promotional materials are shipped free of charge. Shipping charges for other resources are based on weight of order (\$6.25 minimum). International orders and orders to Puerto Rico may incur additional shipping charges. Prices and availability may change without notice.



To view the free 2021 *Thank Offering* promotional video, go to PW's YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/presbyterianwomen.

To order additional copies of the booklet ot poster/placemat, call 800/533-4371 or visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop.

To download copies of the flier, bulletin cover and bulletin insert, go to www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank.

Learn more about the Thank Offering at www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank.





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Happy is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors.

-Proverbs 8:34*



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Give or learn more about the Thank Offering by visiting www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank