

Presbyterian Women's 2023 Annual Fund (Mission Pledge) Promotional Resource



Photo © Rich Miller, Morro Bay, CA

Jesus said therefore, "What is the kingdom of God like? And to what should I compare it? It is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in the garden; it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches."

—Luke 13:18-19

For Presbyterian Women Groups and Leaders

A Letter from PW's 2021–2024 Churchwide Moderator

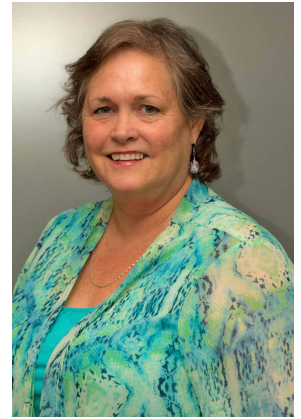
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—Luke 13:18–19

I'm not sure I've actually seen a mustard plant. I've seen a mustard seed, though, and marveled at how such a tiny seed can grow to be a 7- or 8-foot tall shrub, large enough for birds (attracted to its seeds) to build nests in its branches. What a miracle of nature!

Imagine Presbyterian Women as the plant that grew from the small mustard seed—its branches home to many birds and their nests. The nests are the numerous organizations and projects working to ensure health and growth for all God's people. PW has long been involved with building hospitals, clinics and schools that provide shelter and care for the people they serve. Presbyterian Women

supports ministries that provide clean water in isolated areas and ministries that help establish businesses for women so they can build their own branches to provide nests for their own families. Your gifts to Presbyterian Women's Annual Fund make it possible for PW to continue our long-standing tradition of generous giving to improve the lives of millions of people, both here in the United States and throughout the world, in the name of Jesus Christ.



Thank you,

Kathy Reeves

Kathy Reeves, PW Churchwide Moderator, 2021–2024

Por lo tanto, Jesús dijo: "¿Cómo es el reino de Dios? ¿Y con qué debo compararlo? Es como una semilla de mostaza que un hombre siembra en su campo, y que crece hasta llegar a ser como un árbol, tan grande que las aves se posan en sus ramas".

—Lucas 13:18–19

No estoy seguro de haber visto una planta de mostaza. Sin embargo, he visto una semilla de mostaza y me ha maravillado cómo una semilla tan pequeña puede crecer hasta convertirse en un arbusto de 7 u 8 pies de altura, lo suficientemente grande como para que los pájaros (atraídos por sus semillas) construyan nidos en sus ramas. ¡Qué milagro de la naturaleza!

Imagínese a las Mujeres Presbiterianas como la planta que creció de la pequeña semilla de mostaza—sus ramas son el hogar de muchos pájaros y sus nidos. Los nidos son las numerosas organizaciones y proyectos que trabajan para garantizar la salud y

el crecimiento de todo el pueblo de Dios. PW lleva mucho tiempo participando en la construcción de hospitales, clínicas y escuelas que proporcionan refugio y asistencia a las personas que atienden. Las Mujeres Presbiterianas apoyan los ministerios que proporcionan agua potable en zonas aisladas y los ministerios que ayudan a establecer negocios para las mujeres, de modo que puedan construir sus propias ramas para proporcionar nidos a sus propias familias.

Sus donaciones al Fondo Anual de las Mujeres Presbiterianas hacen posible que PW continúe con nuestra larga tradición de donaciones generosas para mejorar la vida de millones de personas, tanto aquí en los Estados Unidos como en todo el mundo, en el nombre de Jesucristo.

Gracias,

Kathy Reeves, Moderadora de la Iglesia PW, 2021–2024

그러므로 예수께서 이르시되 “하나님의 나라가 무엇과 같을까 내가 무엇으로 비교할까 마치 사람이 자기 채소밭에 갖다 심은 겨자씨 한 알 같으니 자라 나무가 되어 공중의 새들이 그 가지에 깃들었느니라.”

— 누가복음 13:18–19

실제로 겨자나무를 본 적이 있는지 잘 모르겠습니다. 그러나 저는 겨자씨를 보았고, 어떻게 그런 작은 씨앗이 7~8피트 높이의 관목으로 자라서, (씨앗에 이끌린) 새들이 나뭇가지에 둥지를 지을 수 있을 만큼 커지는지에 놀랐습니다. 얼마나 경이로운 자연의 기적입니까!

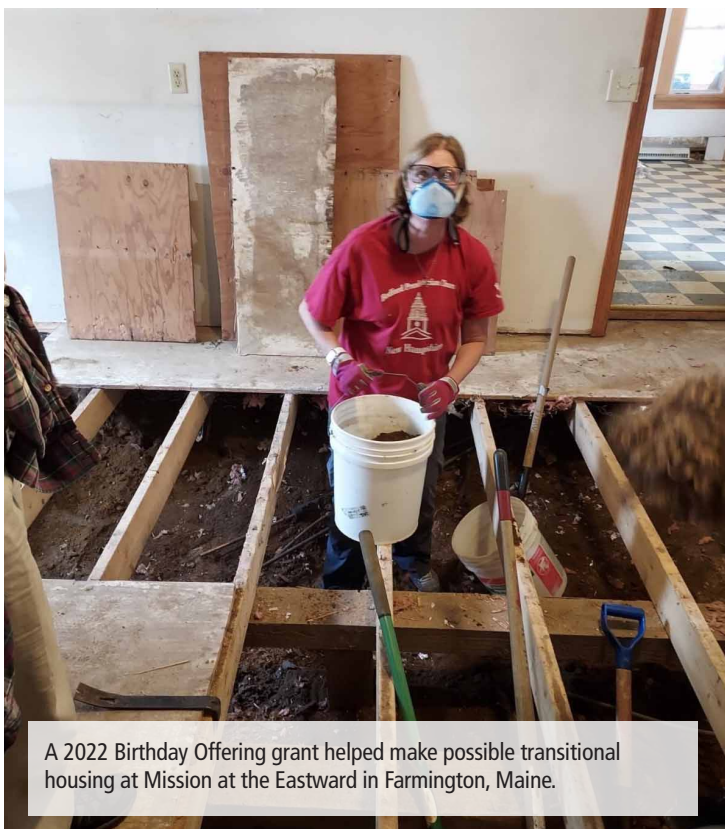
미국장로교 총회 여성연합회를 작은 겨자씨에서 자란 식물로 상상해 보십시오. 그 가지에는 많은 새와 둥지가 있습니다. 둥지는 모든 하나님 백성의 건강과 성장을 보장하기 위해 활동하는 수많은 조직과 프로젝트입니다. 오랫동안 PW

는 그들이 섬기는 사람들을 위해 피난처와 보살핌을 제공하는 병원, 진료소 및 학교를 건설하는 데 참여해왔습니다. PW는 고립된 지역에 깨끗한 물을 제공하는 사역과 여성을 위한 사업체를 설립, 가족을 위한 보금자리를 제공하기 위한 자체의 지부를 지을 수 있도록 돕는 사역을 지원합니다.

미국장로교 총회 여성연합회의 연례 기금에 헌금해주세요. 미국과 전 세계 수 백만 명의 삶을 개선하기 위해, 예수 그리스도의 이름으로 풍성하게 기부하는 우리의 오랜 전통을 PW를 통해서 보여주십시오.

감사합니다.

캐시 리브즈, 미국장로교 총회 여성연합회 전교회 연합회, 2021–2024



A 2022 Birthday Offering grant helped make possible transitional housing at Mission at the Eastward in Farmington, Maine.

Sowing Miracles

Presbyterian Women has sown many mustard seeds throughout the years, even over generations. And from these tiny seeds, cast in love, have sprung mighty ministries and programs that provide refuge and replenishment. Some of the seeds have blossomed into well-known and respected denominational ministries, including the Presbyterian Hunger and Peacemaking Programs as well as the *Mission Yearbook of Prayer & Study*. Some have blossomed into fully functioning hospitals and clinics, and many march on, aiding orphaned children and championing women's concerns through PW's NGO at the United Nations as well as through ecumenical partnerships such as the Fellowship of the Least Coin. Presbyterian Women's grant programs, including PW's Birthday Offering, in its 101st year, and Thank Offering, in its 134th year, have generously bestowed more than \$63 million to make real God's realm for so many of God's beloved people. Presbyterian Women's faithful and strong networks provide a way for each of us to participate; together, our impact provides real hope for real people.



By sending delegates to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, PW strengthens the global call for justice for women.

Providing Possibilities (Our Impact)

Investing in Community Health

Sometimes a little seed money can make a big difference. For 8,000 people living on the western edge of Kenya's Rift Valley who rely on the Nyakach Dispensary for health care, a \$50,000 Thank Offering grant provided sufficiently to meet the clinic's most critical needs. Nyakach, built in 1906, received much-needed structural and grounds upgrades—a new laboratory and office equipment, new patient furnishings and facilities, improvements to the kitchen, garden, and laundry—as well as two motorbikes for making house calls! Following PW's initial investment, a donation of more fenced land helped additional expansion. Kenya's government also provided staff, as well as a youth and children's department and programs. The government paved the formerly dirt road leading to the dispensary. These upgrades mean better management of diseases, including best-management practices on tuberculosis, malaria and others. Nyakach is now recognized as a Level B Health Center by Kenya's government and can now accept hospital insurance plans.



Nyakach Dispensary used their 2022 Birthday Offering grant to upgrade their facilities to meet the needs of more people in Kenya's Rift Valley.

2021 Annual Fund Giving—\$662,847

Our monetary support and participation in PW at any level is a blessing that, through the working of the Holy Spirit, transforms and empowers both giver and recipient. The PW “garden” is vast—group members, Bible study field testers, Birthday Offering supporters, *Horizons* magazine readers, Churchwide leaders—but is intimately connected and connectional. Together, we serve.

Presbyterian Women supports mission through several giving streams. The largest, PW’s Annual Fund (the Mission Pledge), makes PW possible at all levels of the organization and ensures that the other streams have shape and depth consistent with PW’s Purpose.

Ways to Give

Giving Through Your Group

Traditionally, women make commitments to the Annual Fund in their church groups and their leader informs the presbytery treasurer of the congregation’s commitment. Put another way, women pledge in 2022 for 2023 and their pledges are received throughout 2023. In this established model, Presbyterian women fund all levels of their important organization through gifts received by PW in congregations, which, in turn, provides a portion to presbytery, then synod, and finally churchwide (national). Our blessings, combined and set in motion in this way, provide women with the seeds and soil and sun sufficient to sustain our beloved PW. (Individuals also may give directly to PW’s Annual Fund and other PW ministries and programs; giving in this way has become an important source of funding for PW, particularly during seasons when meeting in person is challenging or perhaps no longer possible.)

PW leaders at all levels of the organization are called to promote giving to the Annual Fund, which sustains all ministries and programs of Presbyterian Women. Support materials as well as timelines are available online at presbyterianwomen.org/annual-fund.

Giving as an Individual

No matter how you choose to give to Presbyterian Women, your gift will help sustain PW’s work in carrying out God’s call to mission and ministry, locally and globally. Your faithful support is appreciated!

Online

Give securely at presbyterianwomen.org/give.

By Mail

Presbyterian Women, Inc.
PO Box 643652,
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3652 is the address for

- Checks,
- Third Party Gifts
(Gifts from your financial institution or donor-advised fund), or
- Employee Match Donations
Include your name, contact information and designate “PW Annual Fund” with the gift.

Gifts of Stock, Endowments and Estate Planning

Contact the Presbyterian Foundation, 800/858-6127, or client.services@presbyterianfoundation.org.

Questions?

For help (or to have employee match forms completed), please contact Rhonda Martin, 502/569-5596 or rhonda.martin@pcusa.org.

Thank you for promoting Presbyterian Women's Annual Fund!

As a PW leader, use this resource to show all the ministries that the Annual Fund makes possible and to encourage gifts to the Annual Fund in your circle, congregation, presbytery and synod. This visual interpretation of PW giving and funding can be shared at meetings and gatherings, on bulletin boards and in video meetings—any time Presbyterian women gather!

Another resource specifically for PW treasurers is available at presbyterianwomen.org/annual-fund or by contacting Rhonda Martin, PW finance manager, rhonda.martin@pcusa.org or 502/569-5596. The information for treasurers includes nuts-and-bolts instructions for receiving and forwarding gifts to PW's Annual Fund. All we do as Presbyterian Women supports our PW Purpose-ful ministry as articulated in our PW Purpose!

Presbyterian Women's Purpose

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves

- to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study,
- to support the mission of the church worldwide,
- to work for justice and peace, and
- to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.



A Garden Tended and Loved by Many

Horizons is the magazine and Bible study for Presbyterian Women. These award-winning resources bring together PW participants to explore scripture and topics that are meaningful to people of faith. Learn more at presbyterianwomen.org/horizons.



Presbyterian Women, together, with Purpose.

presbyterianwomen.org

PWR22011

Order more free copies of this resource or download at presbyterianwomen.org/annual-fund.



PW's Annual Fund at Work

“What is the kingdom of God like? ... It is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in the garden; it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches.”

—Luke 13:18–19



Preparing the soil



Every Presbyterian Women mission and ministry grows from the fertile soil of PW's Annual Fund. The soil holds the PW network—a system of roots stretching deep and wide—and is enriched with the faith, hope, commitment and financial support of PW groups and individuals.

Planting the seeds



Seeds are life. Within every seed is the possibility of a future blossom. Some seeds will bloom quickly, others take time to push through the soil. The seeds we sow today through our Thank and Birthday Offering grants, mission work, advocacy, resources and other PW ministries will thrive for seasons to come.

Watering the seeds

Watering carries nutrients from the soil throughout the plant. Even before we see a ministry growing, we faithfully tend the seeds with steady support from the Annual Fund and the community of PW. We do this believing the seeds will blossom into beautiful, life-giving parts of God's realm.



Tending the seedlings

We ensure that each ministry has what it needs to continue growing—a bit more attention, a touch more protection. With generosity and true joy, Presbyterian Women serve our church and in so doing, create a community of care who builds the realm of God, sister by sister by sister.



Nurturing the sprout



Presbyterian Women nurture our churches and communities by graciously sharing our resources, including time and effort. We build up the church and PW through our generosity and presence. Depending on the need, we roll up our sleeves and get to work! Our ministries involve meeting immediate needs and advocating for long-term change.

Celebrating the Yield



The flowers and fruits we see thriving today were established by sisters who came before us. Their vision for Presbyterian Women's garden continues to sustain us. Now is our time to prepare for future harvests. Our church, our world and our organization depend on a strong and vibrant PW (the organization and the women who are PW).

Learn about the many ministries seeded and lives changed by Presbyterian Women; visit presbyterianwomen.org.

