



“Empowered by the Holy Spirit,” Presbyterian Women continues its commitment to prayer and Bible study; supporting mission; working for justice and peace; and building a beloved community that strengthens our church and world. This annual report provides a snapshot of Presbyterian Women in service in 2022, a year that required courageous **BOLDness!**

# B

**B is for Bible study.** Presbyterian Women’s annual **PW/Horizons Bible study** is award-winning and rare! PW publishes one of the few mainline denominational women’s studies. Used by PW groups, PC(USA) adult Sunday school and Bible study groups as well as ecumenical partners, the insightful and beautiful studies are easily adapted for many purposes. Rosalie Hemingway of Valarie Presbyterian Church in Albany Presbytery, shares that Presbyterian Women leads one church service a year that draws inspiration from a PW Bible study—an ongoing tradition since 1998!

In the 2022–2023 *PW/Horizons Bible study*, ***Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God’s Gift of Rest and Delight***, Carol M. Bechtel encouraged readers to move from busyness to embracing the many restorative aspects of Sabbath.

# O

**O is for Organized.** PW is organized at all levels of the church: from the heart of our organization—the church group—to national leadership and all points in-between. PW is connected and connectional and ever at the ready to lead with the care that the Spirit puts on our lives and hearts.

“Reconnecting and renewal” were top of mind and heart for PW in 2022. **Synods** gathered; some online (Mid-Atlantic, Living Waters); others in-person or hybrid (Lakes and Prairies, Sun, Covenant, South Atlantic). **Hispanic Latina PW** came together (“a dream come true” shares Margarita Reyes, pastor and attendee) for Encuentro X. **Local PW groups** gathered, too.

# L

**L is for Leaders.** Presbyterian Women remains the largest PC(USA) mission partner and Presbyterian women—individually and as a faith community—increasingly provide guidance and direction in all that matters to the church. Although many may not “see” all that PW does, the organization’s faithful witness is felt at home and around the world.

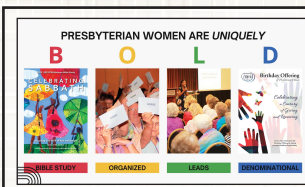
PW leads, indeed, but where to begin? In our **communities and regions**, PW is there! In **pulpits, board rooms, session meetings, hospitals, food banks, living rooms, bedside and schools**, PW is there! PW advocates for women and children at the **United Nations Commission on the Status of Women**, awards grants to worthy projects and ministries, and is active in ecumenical witness through the **Fellowship of the Least Coin and World Day of Prayer**.

Learning about issues of consequence prepares PW to lead. In 2022, **PW’s Justice and Peace reading group** tackled vital subjects, including economic, racial, immigration and reproductive justice, as well as the death penalty. Over the year, more than a thousand PWs from across the nation joined these discussions via Zoom.

# D

**D is for Denominational.** Presbyterian Women is the women’s organization of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Our congregational, presbytery, synod and national networks, our ecumenical and international connections, and our commitment to mission and advocacy are rooted in our denomination.

In 2022, PW and the PC(USA) renewed a **longstanding covenant** based upon shared beliefs, complementary visions and commitments, common history and a relationship of mutual respect and cooperation. And in 2022, PW affirmed the PC(USA)’s stance on **reproductive justice** (see [presbyterianwomen.org/roe](http://presbyterianwomen.org/roe)). PW also adopted an **antiracism** policy created by the **Diverse Voices Table** in response to a recommendation of the 224th General Assembly.



“PW are uniquely BOLD” is a short yet powerful two-minute video that highlights the unique and important witness that PW brings to the church and world. Available on PW’s YouTube channel, the video debuted at the 225th General Assembly (2022), and is an excellent tool for showing why Presbyterian Women matters.





McCleary House offers temporary housing for individuals experiencing homelessness.



Insulating and weatherizing the home was vital for Maine winters.



Both of the homes bathrooms were renovated and a new water heater was installed.

## PW'S MISSION OF CARE

Imagine facing imminent homelessness. Now imagine facing imminent homelessness with three young children, including an infant and a toddler, just before Christmas, with the nearest "rough and tumble" shelter a 35-minute drive (if you had a car) from your hometown. Thankfully, **McCleary House in Farmington, Maine**, helped this young family find a safe place to rest their heads and provided services and care for independent living.

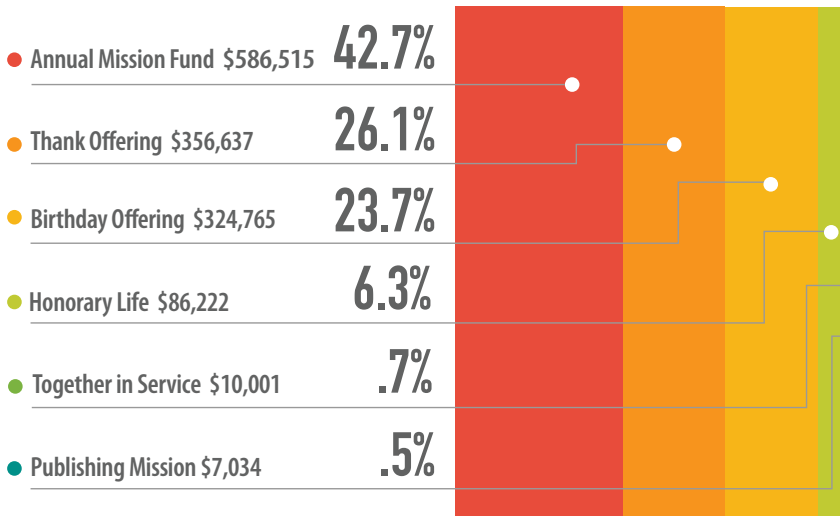
**McCleary House Transitional Housing** received an \$80,000 Birthday Offering grant from PW in 2022. This grant provided needed funds to renovate McCleary House to provide shelter and a safe space for psycho-social, educational and vocational support for individuals experiencing homelessness. "Without your support," shares Christopher L. Lisele, executive director of McCleary House, "this wouldn't have been possible."

PW's 100 years of Birthday Offering has awarded more than \$30 million in grants. In 2022 alone, PW granted \$185,000 to two projects through the Birthday Offering (and \$289,490 to ten projects through the Thank Offering). Need continues as does PW's generous response.

Imagine not having a maternity ward, a hospital, a place to recuperate from abuse, enough to eat? Presbyterian Women **BOLDly** meets the needs of God's people in difficult circumstances while providing faithful women a way to joyfully connect in all seasons, including fun seasons! Glenda Watts shares in the June 2022 Presbytery of Heartland newsletter that she has been active in PW since 1975 and shares that she continues this walk as "I have learned so much and been transformed by being a part of Presbyterian Women." Through decades of faithful experience, Glenda shares her heartfelt enthusiasm and wisdom: "If you are asked to accept an office in PW, just say yes! Or better still, volunteer! You will enhance your soul, deepen your intimacy with Christ, and enrich your relationship with others."

Presbyterian Women is connected and connectional and our networks are strong and informed! Take for instance: McCleary House is in Farmington, Maine. Thanks to a PW newsletter, a couple from California volunteered at McCleary House and "were instrumental in completing" several painting projects!

## PW Giving, Jan. 1–Dec. 31, 2022



## GIVE

- In your circle
- Online  
Give securely at [presbyterianwomen.org/give](https://presbyterianwomen.org/give).
- By mail  
Presbyterian Women, Inc.  
PO Box 643652  
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3652
- Gifts of stock, third-party gifts, and employment-match donations are also accepted.

**Questions?** Contact Rhonda Martin, 502/569-5506, or email [rhonda.martin@pcusa.org](mailto:rhonda.martin@pcusa.org)

