

Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all you do be done in love.





#### **Preparing the soil**

Every Presbyterian Women mission and ministry grows from the fertile soil of PW's Annual Mission 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 ever

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 Mission Fund and the community of PW. We do this believing the seeds will blossom into beautiful, life-giving parts of God's realm.



#### **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.



#### **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.

### **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.

Presbyterian Women, Inc. 100 Witherspoon Street Louisville, KY 40202-1396

For Presbyterian Women Groups and Leaders

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In celebration of 36 years of PW

Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all you do be done in love. —1 Cor. 16:13–14

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Presbyterian Women's 2024 Annual Mission Fund Promotional Resource

### What We Do

#### 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 Purpose-ful Witness**

Each point of the PW Purpose is given expression through service and participation at all levels of the organization. Consider one of the ways that PW nurtures faith through prayer and Bible study—the PW/Horizons Bible study. One of the very few mainline denominational women's studies still published annually, the study is written by women theologians of the Reformed tradition. Each study is made available in several editions with plentiful support materials. This tool for prayer and Bible study connects Presbyterian Women in shared opportunities to grow, learn and transform in Christian discipleship.

Presbyterian women throughout the church inform the study, from topic to author choice, field-testing first manuscripts, and many (many!) steps along the path. Supporting PW's Annual Mission Fund undergirds the publishing ministry of PW, making possible a churchwide committee that selects the topic and author, the field testing process, insights from additional theologians and educators and much more!

And our PW/*Horizons* Bible study is an important study for the whole church. Rev. Jeff Cover, an honorably retired PC(USA) pastor, shares, "Thanks to . . . Presbyterian Women for consistently fine Bible studies and the ability to share these particular insights with others."

#### Strengthening the PW Network

The PW "garden" is vast—from congregations to churchwide—but is intimately connected and connectional. Our impact is transformational.

PW groups live out the PW Purpose differently, based on the group's interests, resources, availability and more. The Purpose builds connection within the group and to other groups. Marylee Schultz, PW treasurer, included a note when she gave on behalf of her PW circle #4 at First Presbyterian in Jacksonville, Arkansas. She wrote, "We are a very small group in a very small church that is doing marvelous things in our community and beyond. This is our attempt to help the larger group. By all working prayerfully together and donating our talents, no matter how meager, we can impact more of God's children."

Your participation in PW at any level (whether as a group member, Bible study leader, *Horizons* magazine subscriber, gathering attendee) and support is a blessing that, through the working of the Holy Spirit, transforms both giver and recipient. Our gifts, combined together, magnified with God's blessing, are sufficient for supporting our shared ministry, Presbyterian Women.



Presbyterian Women, together, with Purpose. presbyterianwomen.org

PWR23011

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

#### A Letter from Your 2021–2024 PW Churchwide Moderator

My service as your PW Churchwide Moderator began in 2021, when I was installed at a live-streamed Business Meeting—a PW first! I stood in the glare of bright lights, with more computer monitors, sound boards and cables than actual people. Even with just the small contingent of essential PW participants and tech crew in the room, I felt lovingly surrounded by a cloud of witnesses, Presbyterian women like me, who were present—perhaps virtually, but also in prayer—not just to my journey but to our shared journey as women of faith.

During these three years as your moderator, I have witnessed firsthand the transformational promise that is Presbyterian Women. In 2022, we celebrated 100 years of the Birthday Offering and in 2023, we celebrated 135 years of the Thank Offering and 35 years as Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA). Even as we celebrate these "churchwide" milestones, we also celebrate the thousands of anniversaries of ministries located in our churches, presbyteries and synods. We honor faithful women with Honorary Life Memberships, invite friends to gatherings, study scripture through our PW/Horizons Bible studies, participate in advocacy and share our "least coins" to bring peace to the world and to our hearts. Thank you for sharing your talents and your treasure so that Presbyterian Women may continue to support our many ministries as articulated in our PW Purpose.



Thank you,

Kathy Reeves

Kathy Reeves, PW Churchwide Moderator, 2021–2024

Mi servicio como su moderadora de Mujeres Presbiterianas comenzó en 2021, cuando me instalaron en una reunión transmitida en vivo, juna primicia para MP! Me paré en el resplandor de las luces brillantes, con más monitores de computadora, placas de sonido y cables que personas reales. Incluso con solo el pequeño grupo de participantes esenciales de MP y el equipo técnico en la sala, me sentí amorosamente rodeada por una nube de testigos, mujeres presbiterianas como yo, que estaban presentes, tal vez virtualmente, pero también en oración, no solo en mi travesía sino en aquella compartidda como mujeres de fe.

Durante estos tres años como su moderadora, he sido testigo de primera mano de la promesa transformadora que son las Mujeres Presbiterianas. En 2022, celebramos 100 años de la Ofrenda de Cumpleaños y en 2023, celebramos 135 años de la Ofrenda de Gratitud y 35 años como Mujeres Presbiterianas en la IP (EE. UU.). Incluso mientras celebramos estos hitos "en toda la iglesia", también celebramos los miles de aniversarios de ministerios ubicados en nuestras iglesias, presbiterios y sínodos. Honramos a las mujeres fieles con membresías honorarias de por vida, invitamos a amistades a reuniones, estudiamos las Escrituras a través de nuestros estudios bíblicos MP/*Horizons*, participamos en la defensa y compartimos nuestras "monedas más pequeñas" para traer paz al mundo y a nuestros corazones. Gracias por compartir sus talentos y su aportes spara que las Mujeres Presbiterianas puedan continuar apoyando nuestros ministerios como se articula en nuestro propósito en Mujeres Presbiterianas.

#### Gracias,

Kathy Reeves, Moderadora de Mujeres Presbiterianas, 2021–2024

저는 2021년에 미국장로교 총회 여성연합회 회장으 로 사역하기 시작했는데, 여성 연합회 역사상 처음으 로 온라인 생중계 총회를 통해 회장에 임명되었습니 다. 저는 사람들보다 더 많은 수의 모니터, 사운드 보 드, 케이블 등에 둘러싸여 조명을 받고 서 있었습니다. 여성연합회 필수 참가자와 기술 스태프 등 소수 인원 만 참석했음에도 불구하고, 저는 저와 같은 장로교 여 성들, 곧 구름처럼 몰려든 증인들에게 사랑스럽게 둘 러싸여 있다는 느낌을 받았습니다. 이들은 온라인 상 에서 또 기도로 함께하며 제 여정 뿐만 아니라 믿음의 여인들로서 공유하고 있는 여정에 함께해 주었습니다.

저는 지난 3년 동안 여성연합회 회장으로서 미국장로 교 총회 여성연합회가 가진 변화의 가능성을 직접 목 격했습니다. 2022년에는 생일 헌금 100주년을, 2023 년에는 감사 헌금 135주년과 미국장로교 여선교회 창 립 35주년을 기념했습니다. 이러한 '교회 전체'의 기 념일을 축하하는 동시에 교회, 노회, 대회에 속한 수천 개의 사역 기념일도 함께 축하했습니다. 우리는 평생 명예 회원으로 신실한 여성들을 예우하고, 모임에 친 구를 초대하고, PW/*Horizons* 성경 공부를 통해 성경을 공부하고, 옹호 활동에 참여하고, 세상과 마음에 평화 를 가져다주기 위해 우리의 '작은 것'을 나누었습니다. 미국장로교 여성연합회가 그 목적에 명시된 대로 많 은 사역을 계속 지원할 수 있도록 여러분의 재능과 보 물을 나누어 주셔서 감사합니다.

감사합니다. 캐시 리브즈, 미국장로교 총회 여성연합회 회장, 2021-2024

#### **Our Impact**

The PW "garden" is vast—from congregations to churchwide but is intimately connected and connectional. Our impact is transformational.

PW's Annual Mission Fund, in a sense, shows all we do and plan to do in love for God and neighbor. Behind each dollar shared is a story—a story of faith and a story of love. Ultimately each story joins with other faithful stories to create ripples of kindness and grace.

One such story is a multi-generational story. This story begins with stirring of hearts in response to a staggering number of children left orphaned because of war. In 1868, Presbyterian women rolled up their sleeves and pooled their very limited resources to establish the Presbyterian Home for Children (PHFC) in Talladega, Alabama, which continues to serve at-risk and homeless children and their families and other vulnerable, precious souls. Much has changed since its founding—including an expansion of services and the physical site, which has grown from one grand building to a multiplex of buildings spread over 80 acres. The promise of stability and care for residents, however, remains unchanged. And although the Presbyterian Home for Children is now a 503(c)3 organization, Presbyterian Women continues to play an important role in the PHFC story. PWs from nearby presbyteries (Sheppards and Lapsley, North Alabama and South Alabama) are very active on behalf of PHFC, including PWP moderator Barbara Allen, who recently accepted an award of thanks from PHFC for PW's longstanding service to the home.

Like any good love story, this story continues to deepen and expand. In 2022, PW from all across the nation came together, pooled resources, and provided a \$50,000 Thank Offering grant to PHFC. The monies received and bestowed are making real accessible and affordable homes for adults with multiple disabilities through Union Village, a partnership program between PHFC and the Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind.



For generations, PHFC has served God by caring for those who need help the most.



PHFC's Union Village campus recently added six new tiny cottages, unveiled at a ribbon-cutting ceremony.



It's official! The tiny cottages are not just charming and homey, but also fully accessible.

### **PW Giving**

Presbyterian Women supports mission through several giving streams. The largest— PW's Annual Mission Fund (the Mission Pledge)—makes PW possible at all levels of the organization and ensures that the other giving streams (for example, Thank and Birthday Offerings and PW/*Horizons* Bible studies) have shape and depth consistent with PW's Purpose. The graph below provides a glimpse of funds received by PW Churchwide as mission giving in 2022 (the last full year of giving available at the time of this resource's creation). These gifts, along with other sources of revenue, make possible PW's grants, leadership development, resource and program development, and support of the mission of the church worldwide. All gifts received are shared forward, a symphony of love in service.

### 2022 Mission Giving Total—\$1,371,174



### Ways to Give

### **Giving Through Your Group**

Traditionally, women make commitments to the Annual Mission Fund in their church groups and their leader informs the presbytery treasurer of the congregation's commitment. Put another way, women pledge in 2023 for 2024 and their pledges are received throughout 2024. In this traditional 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, sustains our beloved PW.

#### Giving as an Individual

There are many reasons to give directly to PW Churchwide! Some Presbyterian women choose to give beyond what they pledge or give in their PW groups. Others participate in groups where giving isn't regularly emphasized. Still others don't have an active PW group nearby. And some individuals are inspired by a particular story or program from PW at the national level. Regardless of why, giving to PW Churchwide is easy!

#### 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 Mission 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.

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!



## PW are uniquely **B O L D**

Presbyterian Women—the organization, the women and the networks that are PW—are em**BOLD**ened to support Christ's church and people with grace, vision and love. "PW are uniquely BOLD" is a short video available on PW's YouTube channel.

Visit the presbyterianwomen.org/bold for a link to the video and to download a vibrant poster inspired by the video!