



Fellowship of the Least Coin

BY LIZA B. LAMIS



Around the world the Fellowship of the Least Coin (FLC) brings connection and comfort. Whether one prays for wholeness for all people, setting aside a coin as a symbol of that prayer, or participates in a program made possible by an FLC grant—or both!—the Fellowship of the Least Coin changes lives. In 1956, when Shanti Solomon envisioned this prayer movement, she saw it as global and ecumenical, rooted in the pursuit of wholeness for all people.

The FLC Prayer Movement is simple, yet significant and unique.

- ✦ It brings Christian women together in a fellowship of prayer without any discrimination of race, nationality, culture or denomination. Christian women of the world demonstrate solidarity with each other through their common concern and love for humankind and creation. They are bound together in both giving and receiving.
- ✦ The offering is unique because all—regardless of income, education, nationality or home—give only the smallest coin of their currency. All are within the same discipline and share the common concerns of women around the world.
- ✦ It is stewardship, both of the idea and the funds. The least coins, when put together, become a large amount in the same way individual prayers offered by many members throughout the world become a strong force in bringing about reconciliation, peace and justice.

We praise and thank God for those who support FLC, who pray earnestly, give generously and share Shanti's vision for more justice, peace and reconciliation in our world. More than 60 years since Shanti first conceived of the movement, our least coins, which accompany our prayers, still flow around the world. I invite you to participate in the FLC movement by regularly praying for peace, justice and reconciliation, and setting aside a least coin (bigger coins and bills are perfectly fine, too!), and allow your everyday life and faith to be richly blessed.

Each year, least coins from around the world make possible several types of grants. Project grants support 20–25 initiatives around the world. Block grants support regional ecumenical organizations, women's programs, the World Council of Churches Just Community of Women and Men and the World Day of Prayer International Committee (WDPIC) to enhance their work and to strengthen ecumenical solidarity. Emergency grants for disaster relief and rehabilitation are also given to show loving concern to disaster-stricken countries.

Thank you for your prayerful support of justice, peace and reconciliation initiatives around the world.

2024 Funding

Block Grants \$52,000

Project Grants \$48,000

Scholarships \$3,000

Emergency Grants \$8,000

Block grants are given to regional ecumenical organizations, the World Council of Churches Just Community of Women and Men, and the World Day of Prayer International Committee (WDPIC) to enhance their work and to strengthen ecumenical solidarity. The International Committee for the Fellowship of the Least Coin reviews applications for project grants and selects 20–25 projects for funding each year.

Project Grants

Africa

Wake Wa Neema
Anglican Church of Kenya,
Diocese of Machakos
Kenya, \$4,000

Empower women who have been widowed, strengthening their psychosocial, spiritual, economic and physical wellness

Women and Girls, Wake Up
Women, Open the Door of
Leadership Development
United Methodist Church,
Women's Department
Burundi, \$4,000

Mobilize and empower women to secure roles in church leadership positions (such as pastors or committee leaders) and equip women with knowledge of their role in church development and speaking out against violence

Building Resilience in Pastors'
Widows Through Life Skills
Development

Presbyterian Theological Seminary
(PTS) Kumba
Cameroon, \$4,000

Address the socioeconomic vulnerability of pastors' widows through rapid propagation of plantains for sale and relief aid

Rescue Our Girls and Stop
Genital Mutilation
Leadership Improvement and
Social Advocacy Centre
Cameroon, \$4,000

Help end female genital mutilation (FGM), integrate health and ministry counseling against FGM and support parents who refuse the practice through skills training for their daughters

Asia

Publication of *in God's image* (iGi,
a Feminist Theological Journal)
Asian Women's Resource Centre
for Culture and Theology
Taiwan, \$4,000

Continue encouraging Asian women to share their experiences of struggle, achievement, reflection, dreams and aspirations, so that they support and be enriched by the culture, faith, and theology of other Asian women

Project Mangai, Ensuring Fullness
of Life Among Girls and Women
Forum for Women's Rights and
Development
India, \$4,000

Nurture women and girls about their human rights and human dignity, offering training and scholarships so they can be economically independent; also provide education about the human body and personal hygiene

Life and Educational Consultation
for Women and Children of
Foreign Heritage
Life and Educational Consultation
Center for Foreign Residents
Japan, \$4,000

Enhance awareness and usage of resources for women and children facing issues such as domestic violence, human trafficking, labor exploitation, precarious legal and visa status, and lack of cultural and linguistic knowledge

Church Women Human Rights
Defenders: Affirmation of
Our Calling, Sent Out to
Be Witnesses
KASIMBAYAN Women's Collective
Philippines, \$4,000

Increase church people's awareness of the threats faced by church women promoting human rights; engage institutions, agencies and individuals to help stop the persecution of those involved in the prophetic ministries of the church

Europe

Humanitarian Aid for Displaced
Ukrainians in Soroca City
Community Association SOARTA
Moldova, \$3,500*

Address the immediate needs—shelter, non-food items, hygiene and education—of Ukrainian refugees living in the Soroca district
*Funded by grant money returned to Fellowship of the Least Coin

Latin America

Training for Interveners in the
Accompaniment Against
Gender Violence
Fundación Vasti
Chile, \$4,000

Train people in tools for accompanying survivors of gender-based

violence in faith communities, and in ways to prevent this injustice

North America

Stitching Lives Together **Women-SEW Global Foundation** **United States, \$4,000**

Connect immigrant and refugee women with a free sewing program, easing the stressors of social isolation to positively impact their mental health

After the School Bell **Food Program** **Cumberland County Food Program** **Canada, \$4,000**

Respectfully promote the health of indigenous school children by providing food for the weekend when school breakfast and lunch programs are not available

Middle East **Empowering Women by** **Manufacturing Cloth Bags** **Papal Office for Projects,** **Coptic Orthodox Church** **Egypt, \$4,000**

Highlight the role of women as peace builders and agents of change in protecting the environment by training women in sewing and manufacturing environmentally friendly bags



Here's What You Can Do

Support the Fellowship of the Least Coin by joining this prayer movement. More information is available at fellowshipoftheleastcoin.org or on Presbyterian Women's Least Coin web page, presbyterianwomen.org/leastcoin. The following resources help share the story of FLC.



FLC Messages and Reports, 2024

This annual booklet includes reports from the ecumenical organizations that support FLC, profiles of the 2024 grant recipients, updates on past grant recipients and messages from officers of the International Committee for the Fellowship of the Least Coin; free download at fellowshipoftheleastcoin.org.



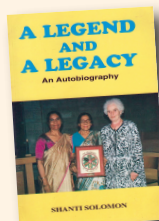
Circle of Prayer Devotional Booklet

Circle of Prayer, Volume 27, themed "Heal Our Selves, Heal Our World," includes reflections, testimonies and prayers from the many diverse people involved with FLC. Item PWR24465; free download at presbyterianwomen.org/shop.



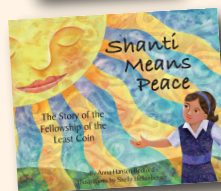
Celebrating the Legacy, **Visioning the Future, Living** **the Jubilee**

Published in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the FLC in 2006, this book features women from around the world describing their encounters with and commitments to the FLC prayer movement; item PWR06465; \$10.*



A Legend and a Legacy **by Shanti Solomon**

Shanti Solomon shares her story in this lovely book; item PWR06462; \$3*



Shanti Means Peace: **The Story of the Fellowship** **of the Least Coin**

This whimsical tale of the founding of the Fellowship of the Least Coin is told through the eyes of a girl from India who finds a nearly worthless coin and, by spinning it in her hand, is able to visit places and people touched by the Least Coin prayer movement. Written by Anna Hanson Bedford and illustrated by Shelly Hehenberger, this beautiful (and award-winning!) book is a wonderfully told story on its own, and a lovely way to introduce this international prayer movement to children of all ages; item PWR14470; \$7.50.*

A free downloadable resource packet (including recipes, crafts, a song and more) is available at presbyterianwomen.org/shanti-resources to help you interpret the story.

*Order from presbyterianwomen.org/shop or call 800/533-4371 (Monday—Friday, 10 AM to 5 PM ET). Prices do not include shipping (calculated based on weight of order, \$6.25 minimum).