



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION



Amgad Beblawi

Proclaim Christ's Peace

Presbyterians are proclaiming Christ's peace by addressing systems of injustice around the world thanks to gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering (PGW). The PGW supports work for peace and justice in cultures of violence through collaborative projects supporting active peacemakers, education for the US church on the pressing issues of injustice, and advocacy with those most vulnerable to violence.

When is it received?

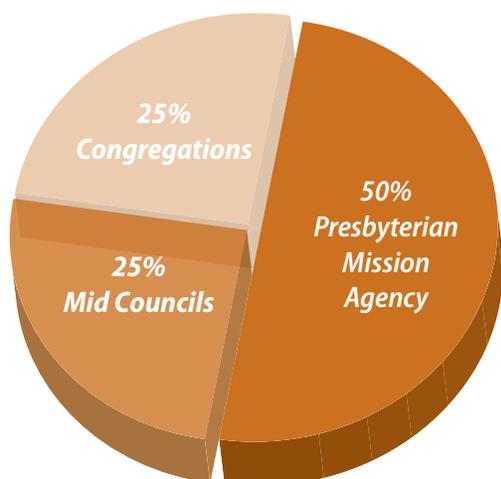
The season for this offering is September 3 to October 1 (World Communion Sunday) but can be received at any time during the year.

Visit pcusa.org/peace-global for resources.

“So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near . . .” Ephesians 2:17

How is my gift used?

A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the entire church to collaborate in our proclamation of Christ's peace. Congregations keep 25% and mid councils keep 25% to engage in peacemaking and build ministries of reconciliation in their own context or around the world. Some examples of how funds have been used:



- Support the work of Freedom Rising: a fund to address the worsening plight of African American Males (**see other side**)
- Give funds to HIV education/prevention programs
- Help fund educational assistance for veterans
- Train peer counselors in peacebuilding in refugee camps in war-torn countries



The 222nd General Assembly (2016) voted to "take specific action, not just in word, but also in deed, to address and improve the worsening plight of the African American male in any of the five specified cities as a pilot initiative pointing toward future and further nationwide intervention. Micah 6:8, with its powerful words to 'Do justice, love kindness and walk humbly [with your God],' calls us to action and not only proclamation. The following five cities where the plight of the African American male is especially egregious, including one where a future General Assembly will be held, are designated:

- **Baltimore, Maryland [site of the 224th General Assembly (2020)]**
- **Charlotte, North Carolina**
- **Cleveland, Ohio**
- **New York, New York**
- **Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**

The response in each city will take the shape of local needs and work with programs and agencies in their midst to ensure community responsiveness and maximize impact. The overture invites the whole church to consider using the portion of the Peace & Global Witness Offering retained by the local congregation or mid council to fund these initial pilot programs in these cities, reminding us of Jesus' teaching, "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21).

How Does My Congregation Participate?

1. Ensure your Congregation is participating in the Peace & Global Witness Offering
2. Have your session vote to dedicate the locally retained 25% for Freedom Rising
3. Download the bulletin insert and offer a minute for mission during worship, available at pcusa.org/peace-global
4. Send the locally retained 25% to:
Presbyterian Foundation
200 E 12th St. Jeffersonville, IN 47130
Write "Freedom Rising" in the memo line of the check
5. Send the remainder to your congregation's normal receiving site (presbytery or Presbyterian Mission Agency)