



PENTECOST
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

“I am coming to you.”

—JOHN 14:18b

*Uniting Presbyterians in support of young people sharing
their faith, ideas and gifts with the Church and the world.*



PHOTO: KRIISTEN YOUNG



MATTHEW 25



2024

LEADER'S GUIDE
APRIL 1-MAY 19

Thank you!

... for your energy and support in promoting the Pentecost Offering.

Let us celebrate the fulfillment of God's promise to us through the coming of the Holy Spirit by guiding our young people toward a brighter, faith-filled future.

PLEASE FEEL WELCOME TO GET IN TOUCH IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR NEED HELP!

Special Offerings

800-728-7228, Ext. 5047
special.offerings@pcusa.org
pcusa.org/specialofferings

Child Advocacy/Children at Risk

Alonzo Johnson
800-728-7228, Ext. 5780
alonzo.johnson@pcusa.org
pcusa.org/children

Presbyterian Youth and Triennium

Gina Yeager-Buckley
800-728-7228, Ext. 5497
gina.yeager@pcusa.org
pcusa.org/youthministry

Young Adult Volunteers

Destini Hodges
800-728-7228, Ext. 5300
destini.hodges@pcusa.org
pcusa.org/yav
@yavprogram

Standing Orders

Presbyterian Customer Service
800-533-4371
customer_service@presbypub.com

EASY WAYS TO STAY UP-TO-DATE ON ALL THINGS SPECIAL OFFERINGS.

Stay up-to-date on all things Special Offerings by subscribing to the Special Offerings blog, "liking" the Special Offerings Facebook page, or following Special Offerings on Twitter. Update your congregation throughout the year on how the money is being used.



BLOG | pcusa.org/blogs/weekly_offerings



FACEBOOK | facebook.com/specialofferings



INSTAGRAM | instagram.com/special_offerings



2024

LEADER'S GUIDE
APRIL 1-MAY 19

WHAT'S IN A LEADER'S GUIDE?

This tool was created for you.

As one of the four Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people in Christ and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world.

You have likely received a shipment of Offering materials. These are to help your church members learn and understand the work supported by their gifts and motivate them to give. Please distribute these resources and help us share the important message of building a life of faith.

This guide also includes examples of effective ways to promote and celebrate the Pentecost Offering. But don't feel limited! Your enthusiasm and creativity are invaluable to this cause.

CONTENTS

1 Your Gifts at Work	<i>page 5</i>
2 Making a Difference: How congregations are using their 40%	<i>page 6</i>
3 Promoting Pentecost: Before the Offering	<i>page 7</i>
4 Promoting Pentecost: During the Offering	<i>page 9</i>
5 Promoting Pentecost: After the Offering	<i>page 10</i>
6 Minutes for Mission	<i>page 11</i>
7 Resources and Materials	<i>page 16</i>
8 Order Form	<i>page 19</i>





PENTECOST

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

THE PENTECOST OFFERING HELPS OUR YOUTH BEGIN LIFE WITH A STRONG START — A SOLID FOUNDATION OF FAITH FORMED IN THE FIRST THIRD OF LIFE, FROM CHILDHOOD THROUGH YOUNG ADULTHOOD.

Each year on Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the church. The Holy Spirit remains with us still, connecting us with *the church of the past*, continuing to inspire *the church of today*, and pointing us to *the church of the future*. Each year, this celebration is marked by receiving the Pentecost Offering which nurtures the faith of those who are the church to come.

Pentecost arrives 50 days after Easter and 10 days after the Ascension — when Jesus ascends into heaven. Jesus and the Scriptures are making an important theological point at Pentecost. Jesus ascends and the church is born. If his mission and ministry is to continue, it is upon us, his disciples, to keep it going, and we have the Holy Spirit to lead us, who blesses us all with different gifts to be used at different times and in different ways. Our gifts to the Pentecost Offering connect with God's hope and future, supporting ministries with children, youth and young adults by building a life of faith.

QUICK FACTS

- Congregations keep 40% of raised funds to initiate or support programs for young people in their communities.
- The first Presbyterian Youth Triennium was held in 1980. Visit presbyterianyouthtriennium.org for more information and new online resources.
- The Day of Pentecost is referred to as the birthday of the Church.
- Pentecost is usually represented with the color red, which symbolizes the fire of the Holy Spirit.

Since the Pentecost Offering started in 1998, Presbyterians have raised nearly \$18 million for ministries that benefit younger members of God's family. We believe we are called to do even more — to support and care for young people as they build a strong foundation of faith.

1 YOUR GIFTS AT WORK

Congregational Initiatives with Young People

40% of the Pentecost Offering remains with your congregation to support ministries with children and youth in your church and local community.

Churches have used these funds to:

- Run an affordable day care for young teen mothers to enable them to complete their education.
- Identify and train local leaders for participation in the “Educate a Child: Transform the World” national initiative.
- Conduct workshops and presentations and develop resources to end child sex and labor trafficking.
- Help promote the National Observance of Children’s Sabbaths.
- Create web and print resources to address systemic issues that impact children, such as poverty, health, and consumerism.
- Initiate local, afterschool or summer programs for latchkey children.

See page 6 to learn how other congregations have been inspired to use their portion of the Pentecost Offering.

Serving Communities (Young Adult Volunteers)

25% goes to Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) experience. Your gifts to the Offering have helped this ministry area to:

- Train and equip volunteers to engage in mission at 13 sites in the U.S. and around the world.
- Reduce barriers to serve by providing assistance with student loan debt, medical insurance, and a simple living stipend.
- Provide additional funding to ensure all young adults have the opportunity to participate.
- Provide funds for retreats, orientation events, and counseling to help YAVs discern God’s call.

Guiding Youth (Youth Ministries)

25% supports ministries with youth, ages 12–18, and those called to accompany them. Your gifts to the Offering helped this ministry area to:

- Fund a new endeavor called *The Senior Project*. This project offers a path and plan for graduating seniors to explore their next steps in faith, community, and vocation.
- Create new Quicksheets—free, downloadable resources for youth ministry, covering a wide variety of relevant, insightful topics.
- Fund the design and translation of Spanish Language Quicksheets presbyterianmission.org/ministries/youthministry
- Support the ministry of Presbyterian Youth!
- Support the many platforms offered as a part of the Presbyterian Youth Triennium.
- Enable the Office of Ministries with Youth to serve the denomination by providing free, low cost/no cost, digital resources, consultation and connection.
- Provide partnership funding for the daily digital devotion at www.d365.org as well as a new book of d365 devotions.

Child Advocacy

10% supports the “Educate a Child, Transform the World” national initiative, which was affirmed at the 221st General Assembly (2014). The goal of this initiative is to motivate and inspire Presbyterians to better the lives of children by joining in God’s ongoing transformation of the world by working and advocating to ensure equitable, accessible, quality public education so that all children, created in the image of God, may grow into the fullness of life.

2 MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Inspire your congregation to give by sharing some of the ways other churches have used their 40% of the Pentecost Offering on behalf of children, youth, and young adults in their communities:

Assisting the Families of Children at risk

- Supporting a child advocacy center where the focus is on the needs of child abuse and neglect victims, as well as their non-offending caregivers, as they go through investigative and legal processes.
- Supporting a program that pairs children with disabilities such as autism with children who do not, where strengths are celebrated and differences are accepted.
- Creating, promoting, and expanding services for grandparents and other relatives who have taken on the responsibility of surrogate parenting due to the absence of parents.

Supporting Education for at-risk Youth

- Providing vouchers for new school shoes.
- Collecting and providing school supplies.
- Supporting a collaborative project where multiple agencies with shared goals and values co-locate to provide programming for low income and homeless families and youth at the elementary school.

Growing Mission Work with Youth and Young Adults

- Contributing to the congregation's own children and youth fund.
- Supporting college outreach ministries.
- Providing scholarships to summer camps.
- Supporting the Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) program within the local presbytery.

Ministering to at-risk Children and Teens

- Contributing and volunteering at an affordable day care ministry for teen parents.
- Contributing to a school backpack program so low-income children get the nutritious foods they need when school is not in session.
- Supporting a program that builds the self-esteem of black, male, teens through education and service.
- Providing guidance for teenage girls through a program that teaches health, exercise, nutrition, self-esteem and offers a safe place to discuss issues affecting young girls.
- Contributing to a center for children of abused spouses.
- Providing a weekly Wednesday night meal free of charge.
- Offering funds to an anti-bullying program at the local elementary school.

Providing for Health and Safety

- Preventing youth suicide through awareness, upstream educational programs, and activities that support and empower youth, their families, and the community.
- Supporting a program to increase awareness about personal and community issues, prevent and treat substance abuse, and to promote healthy families and a safe community.
- Contributing funds to programs that improve the lives of foster children with school supplies, toys, and a suitcase so they don't have to travel from home to home with their belongings in a trash bag.

3 PROMOTING PENTECOST: BEFORE THE OFFERING

PLAN

Life is easier when a plan is in place. If you make arrangements ahead of time, promotion will go more smoothly, and you'll make the most of every opportunity to motivate your congregation to share and support the Pentecost Offering.

- **Set dates with your session.** Congregations commonly receive the Offering on Pentecost Sunday (May 19) or other youth-focused Sundays such as College and Young Adult Sunday (August 4) or Youth in the Church and World (August 11), or during Vacation Bible School.
- **Commit to a goal with the session**—one higher than the total raised last year—and discuss ideas on how to use your congregation's portion (40%).
- **Contact Presbyterian Customer Service** 800-533-4371 or customer_service@presbypub.com to order any additional materials you may need.
- **Locate and open the shipment of materials you received.** Display the Pentecost poster in a prominent place within your church. Find other tools to help with developing your interpretation plan by reviewing the outline of available resources on page 16.
- **Share the Pentecost Curriculum** with your Christian education and worship committees. Learn more at pcusa.org/socurriculum
- **Ask young people to present Minutes for Mission** from the pulpit. Note the bulletins feature unique messages that expand on specific Minutes for Mission (pages 11-15, feel free to pair as you like). Minutes for Mission can also be downloaded at pcusa.org/pentecost
- **Ask your pastor about sending a promotional email or letter** to each person in your congregation (there is a sample pastor letter online). Be sure to include the link to the Pentecost Offering website (pcusa.org/pentecost), so your members can learn more about the work supported by their gifts.
- **Use the Presbyterian Giving Catalog** to get people involved and to give examples of how the Mission Agency uses some of its funds. presbyteriangifts.org



BE CREATIVE

Though we've laid out a plan for you, your creativity and voice is an important part of this process. We'll never know your congregation the way you do. What kind of activities do they love?

- **Ask for suggestions** from the youth and young adults in your congregation about how to use the 40% kept by your congregation.
- **Think** about how you can integrate the worship resources into your service holistically rather than treating them as add-ons. Doing this emphasizes the role our witness in the world plays in our own discipleship.
- **Create a plan for involving children and youth** in promoting the Offering through a skit or other worship activity. One option is having your youth choose one of the Pentecost-supported gifts from the Presbyterian Giving Catalog to sponsor, and present it to the congregation along with how they think their gift will make a difference for others.

You can find additional resources to help you plan your Offering interpretation on page 16.



PHOTO: DREAM

4 PROMOTING PENTECOST: DURING THE OFFERING

PLAN

- **Hang the Offering poster** in a prominent location, if you have not already created a display.
- **Place a folded insert in the Sunday bulletin every week.** There are two inserts — *“I am coming to you”* and *We are There* — this year. Feel free to use the same bulletin for multiple weeks if you are promoting all month.
- **Put Offering envelopes in pew racks** every week.
- **Present Minutes for Mission**, and encourage your members to give generously, with reminders of the goal you set with the session.
- **Use the worship resources** found on our website, including a set of customizable PowerPoint slides, and focus on the Offering in a sermon.
- **Involve children and youth** — ask them to hand out bulletin inserts as an alternative to placing them in pews.
- **Promote the Offering** on your church’s Facebook page with the Pentecost cover photo.
- **Use the provided art**, graphics, and content in your church newsletter, blog, or website.
- **Send a letter to your congregation from the pastor** (a customizable letter can be found online). This provides members who might have missed the Offering collection a chance to support the ministry. Be sure to include the link to the Pentecost Offering website (pcusa.org/pentecost), so members can learn more about the work supported by their gifts.
- **Ask your pastor** about sending a reminder email or letter to each person in your congregation, encouraging generous support. (Surveys show this makes a significant difference in congregant giving.)
- **Create a display** in the narthex. Visit pcusa.org/pentecost-display



THREE WAYS YOUR MEMBERS CAN GIVE



Through your congregation



Text PENTECOST to 91999



pcusa.org/give/pentecost

5 PROMOTING PENTECOST: AFTER THE OFFERING

- **Thank your congregation** for their generous gifts and share the total raised.
- **Celebrate meeting or exceeding your original goal!** Remind them of the causes they have supported: ministries with youth, young adult volunteers, and advocacy and education for children at risk.
- **Keep 40%** of the Offering for your congregation's use on behalf of local, youth-focused ministries and programs. See page 5 for ideas, and share how the retained portion will be used.
- **Send in the remaining 60%** as your congregation's offering. At the direction of the 220th General Assembly (2012), congregations are encouraged to remit Pentecost gifts directly to the Presbyterian Mission Agency, with "Pentecost Offering" on the memo line.

MID COUNCIL remittance
PC(USA)
PO Box 643751
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3751

CONGREGATION remittance
(through your normal receiving agency, usually the presbytery, OR)
PC(USA)
PO Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

The Agency will record and notify presbyteries of congregational donations.

Share your stories with us!

PRESBYTERIAN MINISTRY AT THE UNITED NATIONS



We'd love to hear the unique ways you promoted the Pentecost Offering and also how your congregation used its portion of the offering.

Email specialofferings@pcusa.org to share your story with the wider church.

"I am so grateful for the support that the church provides to the YAV program. When donors give generously to the Pentecost Offering, it proves that our church and its members really want to empower young people and bring them into the church. It goes beyond just words and sends a message to young people that there is advocacy work to be done within the church and we would like them to be a part of it."

— Maggie Collins, young adult volunteer,
Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations

6 MINUTE FOR MISSION

“I AM COMING TO YOU” (JOHN 14:18b)

Do you ever feel — just *off*? Lost, disconnected or maybe even ... a little defeated?

Truth be told, we all feel this way once in a while. Yet we do the best we can to live every day to its fullest, and always with the reality that God’s love, God’s grace, which is the very essence of God, will never leave us.

Many of us have seen studies or polls that seem to come out every day reporting that the church is dying, its influence waning, and that people would rather spend their weekend doing things other than worshipping God and serving together in the name of Jesus Christ. Yet I know that for many of us, one of the primary places we return to — week after week to regain a sense of connection or realignment with ourselves and the world — is right here. In Church.

Pentecost celebrates the renewal of the relationship between God and the community of faith. We know that God continually comes to us and that we will never be forgotten by the God whom we know is here with us in the person of Jesus Christ.

In a world that so desperately needs to hear that God is right here with us, coming to us, and calling us to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with God, it is our call as a congregation and as believers to share this Good News with the world.

The Pentecost Offering helps us live this call. Through our giving we are able to tell the story of God, who is always there for us, coming to us. The Offering supports children at risk through the *Educate a Child, Transform the World* initiative and high schoolers attending the Presbyterian Youth Triennium, which shows them the inescapable loving presence of God. It also enables young adults to share Christ’s light while living in solidarity with those on the margins of society and preparing themselves for a life of service through the Young Adult Volunteers program.

Our gifts, no matter how big or small, when combined with those from other congregations show the world the ways God comes to us every single day. So please give generously to the Pentecost Offering, for when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!

PHOTO: YOUNG ADULT VOLUNTEERS



Let us pray —

*God of grace and glory,
wing your flight right here.
Come to us again
like you did in the person of Jesus.
Help us be transformational
in our ministry,
and may our gifts transform the world
to be more like your reign
of justice, love and peace.
In Christ’s name we pray, **Amen.***

6 MINUTE FOR MISSION

“¿CUÁNDO TE VIMOS?” “WHEN DID WE SEE YOU?”

Offering innovative, creative and collaborative ways to bring Presbyterian youth together is one of the primary objectives of the Office of Presbyterian Youth and Triennium, or PYT. With this in mind, PYT published four free online resource guides inspired by the theme “When Did We See You?” for youth and their leaders to contextualize and make their own.

The “When Did We See You?” resources were originally intended to be a part of a new endeavor called PYT BEYOND. This program is a way to expand the reach of the content, learnings and conversations that happen at the Triennium but can really be experienced everywhere. BEYOND is a way to share and reshare an important gospel message about faith grounded in and surrounded by justice, awareness and faithfulness.

One such opportunity created with these resources was last April at Primera Iglesia Presbiteriana Hispana de Fayetteville in North Carolina, the “¿Cuándo te vimos?” (kwan.do/te/veemos) (“When Did We See You?”) bilingual conference for youth ages 11 to 22. It focused on mental health and included the Emergency Medical Service program from Fayetteville Technical Community College, the local county EMS, the presbytery youth council and a psychologist.

Creating opportunities for the Good News to reach young people — wherever they may be — is what the Pentecost Offering, one of the PC(USA)’s four Special Offerings, is all about.

The Pentecost Offering theme, “I Am Coming to You,” connects so distinctly to an event, moving out and about the church. Literally, the Good News is coming to you!

For over 25 years, the Pentecost Offering has not only been empowering young people by providing financial support to PYT, but the Offering also helps to fund the Young Adult Volunteer Program and the Educate a Child, Transform the World national initiative.

Forty percent of the Pentecost Offering is retained by our congregation for our ministries with youth in our community, while the remaining 60% is used to support children at risk, and youth and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. ([Specify how your congregation’s funds will be used.](#))

One of the conference participants, 17-year-old Hector Cardenas, said, “It is important that Presbyterians and other people give money to support programs like ‘Cuándo te vimos’ through the annual Pentecost Offering. It gives us the opportunity to bring churches together that do not have the capabilities of doing things like this — experiencing new activities, learning and meeting new people. I think funding these events also brings our presbyteries closer because it gives us a goal and a mission to be selfless and share these experiences with others.”

Selflessly sharing with others, specifically children, youth and young adults, is the mission we share through our gifts to the Pentecost Offering. Please give generously — for when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

Let us pray —

*Lord God, we all dream for a world
more like your reign of justice,
love and peace.*

*We commit today to work with you
so that young people can have
the education and tools
they need to be transformative
leaders in your world,
but to do so in ways that
show forth the love you made known
in your son, Jesus Christ.*

In his name, Amen.

6 MINUTE FOR MISSION

EXPLORING FAITH AND PASSION THROUGH SERVICE AS YOUNG ADULT VOLUNTEERS

Once worlds away, Juliet Owuor (*ō-war*) and Maggie Collins now find themselves mere inches apart. They share a small New York City apartment with two other young adults — but that’s not all they share.

Juliet — a native of Kenya, whose family eventually settled in Lubbock, Texas — and Maggie, who calls Winston-Salem, North Carolina, home, were both commissioned last summer to serve as part of the Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) program, an ecumenical, faith-based year of service lived out in sites across the U.S. and around the world.

Juliet, who received her undergraduate degree and is now in the midst of graduate work at Texas Tech University, says, “The YAV program gave me the freedom to try something new. To be here [in New York], I knew I had to let go of everything. I knew if I wanted something different, I would have to do something different.”

For her, the “something different” that was just the right fit at the right time for her was the YAV program.

Young adults like Juliet and Maggie, who seek to transform not only themselves but also the systems that perpetuate injustice in the U.S. and across the globe, are supported, in part, through the Pentecost Offering, one of the PC(USA)’s four Special Offerings.

Gifts to the Pentecost Offering support the YAV program and also the Office of Presbyterian Youth and Triennium and the “Educate a Child, Transform the World” national initiative. A hallmark of this shared offering is that 40% of it is retained by our congregation for our ministries with young people, while the remaining 60% is used to support young people through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

Maggie said that she was initially attracted to the YAV program because of the way that it gives young

people the opportunity to live across the United States and the world in order to explore their passion and faith in a unique way.

And that’s exactly what the Pentecost Offering has been about for over 25 years.

Maggie shares, “I am so grateful for the support that the church provides to the YAV program. When people give generously to the Pentecost Offering, it proves that our church and its members really want to empower young people and bring them into the church.”

Juliet adds that it is important to invest in youth — and we agree. Please give generously to support our young people — here in our own community, throughout the Church, and in places around the world. For when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

Let us pray —

God, we give you thanks

*for people like Juliet and Maggie
and all who serve as YAVs
around the world.*

May we work with you

*to create a world
where children have all the tools
they need to grow, learn and lead.*

Amen.

6 MINUTE FOR MISSION

PENTECOST OFFERING HELPS YOUNG DREAMERS DREAM BIG

What does one van, three adult leaders, five days, six young people and a whole lot of faith add up to? A great trip and one big, life-changing DREAM.

In October 2023, the DREAM group traveled to Niagara Falls and then on to New York City with a goal not only of opening young minds and hearts, but also of developing leaders. For this trip, the group connected with The First Presbyterian Church in the City of New York, where the church staff designed a mission project focused on homelessness.

DREAM, which stands for Driven to Reach Excellence and Academic Achievement for Males, is a program designed to reach, teach and invest in vulnerable African American boys and to walk alongside them and their families beginning at the age of 3 until they reach the age of 24.

Now in its ninth year, DREAM was the brainchild of founder and chief executive officer Tracy Dace, an educator and tireless advocate for vulnerable youth. DREAM is a ministry of the First Presbyterian Church of Champaign, Illinois.

Since day one, Tracy has never stopped thinking of new and creative ways to grow DREAM's mission.

"A homelessness project was perfect," said Tracy. "About three years ago, DREAM participants became very interested in homelessness and formed an afterschool club called 'Neighbors Without a Home' to learn more about homelessness and to create service projects. With this trip, it was important for them to understand and experience the context of homelessness in New York City. It was interesting to observe them helping with confidence and comfortability as caring young servant leaders. They returned to Champaign even more excited to continue serving their neighbors without a home."

Such transformational experiences are made possible, in part, through the Pentecost Offering, one of the

PC(USA)'s four Special Offerings. Gifts to the Offering support children at risk through the "Educate a Child, Transform the World" national initiative, and also support the Office of Presbyterian Youth and Triennium and the Young Adult Volunteer Program. A hallmark of this shared offering is that 40% of it is retained by our congregation for our own ministries supporting young people.

"Traveling is life-changing and builds a leader mindset," said Tracy. "The goal for the trip was for them to experience a world of possibilities and to spark more ideas and dreams about a positive future. We teach and empower DREAMers to dream big!"

Tracy talks about gifts to the Pentecost Offering as being "hope in action." And turning hope into action is what we strive for with our gifts. Please give generously, for when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

Let us pray —

*God of Every Age,
may we return thanks to you
by enlivening a world
where our children know
they are safe,
have what they need to thrive,
and are left with a world
that is more like your reign of
justice, love and peace.*

In Christ's name, Amen.

6 MINUTE FOR MISSION

'I AM COMING TO YOU'

In John 14:18 we hear the words Jesus shared with the disciples at the Last Supper: "I am coming to you."

"I am coming to you" — words meant to inspire comfort, reassurance; for with these words, we know Jesus will always be at our side. This is the hope and inspiration that carries us forward and is fundamental to our faith.

Today I want to talk about the importance of instilling this faith, this understanding — this assurance — from an early age. The Pentecost Offering helps our young people begin life with a strong start, a solid foundation of faith formed in the years from childhood through young adulthood that will last a lifetime.

Through our gifts, we are able to tell the story of our God, who is always there for us, coming to us.

The Offering supports partners like the *Educate a Child, Transform the World* initiative, which seeks to equip, connect and improve the quality of public education.

It also supports the Presbyterian Youth Triennium, which gathers high school age young people for an event every three years focused on worship, disciple making, Christian compassion and justice, and biblical/theological education.

It enables young adults to share Christ's light while living in solidarity with those on the margins of society and preparing themselves for a life of service through the Young Adult Volunteer program.

Forty percent of the funds we receive will remain right here with our congregation to support our ([Describe your program/youth ministry](#)). The remaining 60% will be used to support children at risk, youth and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Our gifts, large and small, make a difference.

Over the past few weeks, you may have heard stories from those who have come to know the inescapable

loving presence of God through transformational experiences, made possible, in part, through the Pentecost Offering.

One story is that of Maggie Collins, a Young Adult Volunteer whose strong commitment to the church's role in advocating for peace placed her at the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations. She says, "When donors give generously to the Pentecost Offering, it proves that our church and its members really want to empower young people and bring them into the church. It goes beyond just words and sends a message to young people we would like them to be a part of it."

Our gifts, when combined with those from other congregations, help instill in our young people a heartfelt understanding of the ways God comes to us every single day. Please give generously ... for when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!

Let us pray —

*O God, you knit us together
in our mother's womb.*

*You walk with us
as we grow and learn and mature.*

*We pray that the things we do
as individuals and
as a Church work together
to make a big impact
in this world.*

In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

7 RESOURCES AND MATERIALS

This guide serves as a basic introduction to the Pentecost Offering, but there are many other ways to learn more about the Offering and stay in touch with the Special Offerings. Your standing order contains the foundational materials you'll need to promote the Offering, and our website has even more.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES ONLINE

Visit pcusa.org/pentecost for the following Pentecost materials:

- Downloadable bulletin inserts
"I am coming to you" and *We are There*
- Downloadable poster
- Children's Curriculum
- A set of customizable PowerPoint slides
- Sample pastor's letter for reference when writing a letter to your members
- Facebook covers and posts specially designed to use on your church's Facebook page
- Blog post or newsletter content that can be shared with your congregation
- Minutes for Mission in larger type for easy reading
- Downloadable Presbyterian Giving Catalog
- Recommendations and tips to involve your children and youth in the Pentecost Offering



"I am coming to you" poster



PHOTO: PRIMERA IGLESIA FAYETTEVILLE



PHOTO: PRIMERA IGLESIA FAYETTEVILLE

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR INTERPRETATION

Educate A Child: Toolkit For Congregations and Education Covenant



The three foci in Matthew 25 calls us as a church to eradicate systemic poverty, dismantle systemic racism and promote congregational vitality. Public education is one of the many critical issues that embody the intersectional concerns of poverty and social inequity. These resources are designed to assist Presbyterians who seek to be engaged in this important work.

The Educate a Child Toolkit provides practical tools and starting points for congregations working or seeking involvement with direct service and advocacy for education. Want to start an education-oriented ministry in your congregation but don't know where to begin? Already have an education program but want to be more effective? Involved in direct service but looking for a way to participate in local education advocacy? Have great ideas for a ministry but looking for funding sources?

The Educate a Child Covenant is an important theological resource that provides guidance of how churches can be faithful to living out Jesus' call to love, accept and advocate for all children. The EAC Covenant also provides useful and tactile practices that engage people of faith in the Spirit's transformative work of educating children and advocating for just and equitable systems that foster life-long learning and the opportunity to thrive.

presbyterianmission.org/wp-content/uploads/EaC-Covenant.pdf

Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) Program

Please share this opportunity with young adults you know as we hope to place as many young people into a formational year of service and accompaniment as possible.

The Young Adult Volunteer program (youngadultvolunteers.org) is a faith-based year of service for young people, ages 19-30, in sites across the United States and all around the world. **Volunteers** accompany local agencies working to address root causes of poverty and reconciliation while exploring the meaning and motivation of their faith in intentional community. YAVs serve during the academic year, August to August.

Program benefits during the YAV year include a regular stipend, housing, all transportation-costs covered and student-loan assistance throughout the duration of the service year.

Follow @yavprogram for program updates and learn more online at youngadultvolunteers.org.

Interested candidates can apply online at: youngadultvolunteers.org/apply

IMPORTANT YAV DATES!

March 1, 2024

Most sites available, final date to apply to international sites

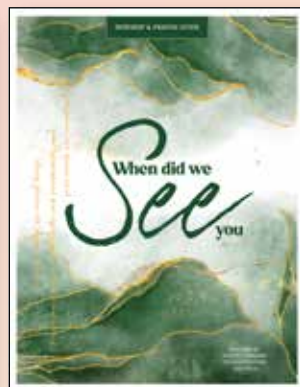
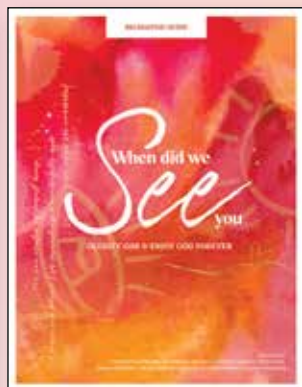
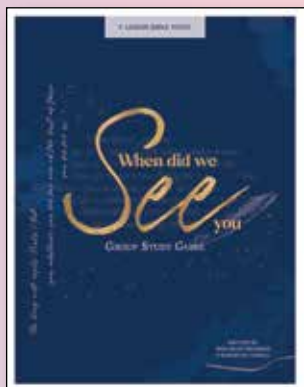
June 1, 2024

National sites only, limited spots available, final date to apply

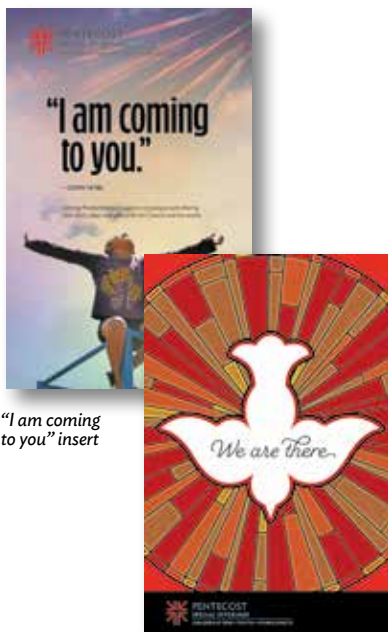
MINISTRIES WITH YOUTH

Quicksheets: Fast and Focused Youth Ministry Resources

Four new Presbyterian Youth Triennium (PYT) Connect resources are available in English and Spanish based on the theme of “When Did We See You?” These can be used to create and host your own local or regional PYT theme experience and are FREE for you to use to launch this timely biblical theme into the hearts and minds of your youth, young adults, families and intergenerational groups. Each can be adjusted for a wide variety of events and settings, including a small church, presbytery gathering, weekend retreat, regional PYT experience or mid-week series. The resources include a Group Study Guide, a Recreation Guide, a Worship & Prayer Guide and an Event Planning Guide. The resources also include info on how to use each guide, supply lists, planning suggestions and more! In addition, there is a variety of single focus topic resources called “Quicksheets” also available on the website. Topics such as “Understanding Gen Z”, “Intergenerational Civil Rights Study/Tour”, and many others are at your disposal. These are free downloadable resources. Go to presbyterianyouthtriennium.org.



**ALL MATERIALS
ARE FREE
TO HELP YOU
PROMOTE THE
PENTECOST
OFFERING.**



"I am coming to you" insert

We are There insert



Offering Envelope

If you find you need additional copies of resources...

- Contact Presbyterian Customer Service at **800-533-4371** between 9:00 am – 5:00 pm EST; email customer_service@presbypub.com
- Fax this order form to **800-541-5113**
- Copy or clip and mail this order form to **PC(USA) Store, Customer Service, 100 Witherspoon Street, Louisville, KY 40202.**
- Download copies online at pcusa.org/pentecost

QTY.	PRICE	PDS#	UOM	ITEM
ENGLISH RESOURCES				
	FREE	12144-24-032	limit 2	Poster
	FREE	12144-24-033	P25	Bulletin Insert – "I am coming to you"
	FREE	12144-24-034	P25	Bulletin Insert – We are There
	FREE	12144-24-036		Leader's Guide
	FREE	12144-23-075	P25	Offering Envelope
	FREE	12144-11-037	each	Coin Box
SPANISH MATERIALS (others available online)				
	FREE	12144-24-062	limit 2	Poster
	FREE	12144-24-063	P25	Bulletin Insert – Volveré para estar con Ustedes.
	FREE	12144-24-064	P25	Bulletin Insert – Ahí estamos
	FREE	12144-17-055	P25	Offering Envelope
KOREAN MATERIALS				
	FREE	12144-24-072	limit 2	Poster
	FREE	12144-24-073	P25	Bulletin Insert – 내가 너희에게로 오리라
	FREE	12144-24-074	P25	Bulletin Insert – 우리가 거기 있습니다
	FREE	12144-20-056	P25	Offering Envelope

SHIP TO:

THIS IS A: CHURCH ADDRESS PERSONAL ADDRESS

CHURCH: _____

ATTENTION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE: _____ PIN/CUSTOMER I.D.#: _____

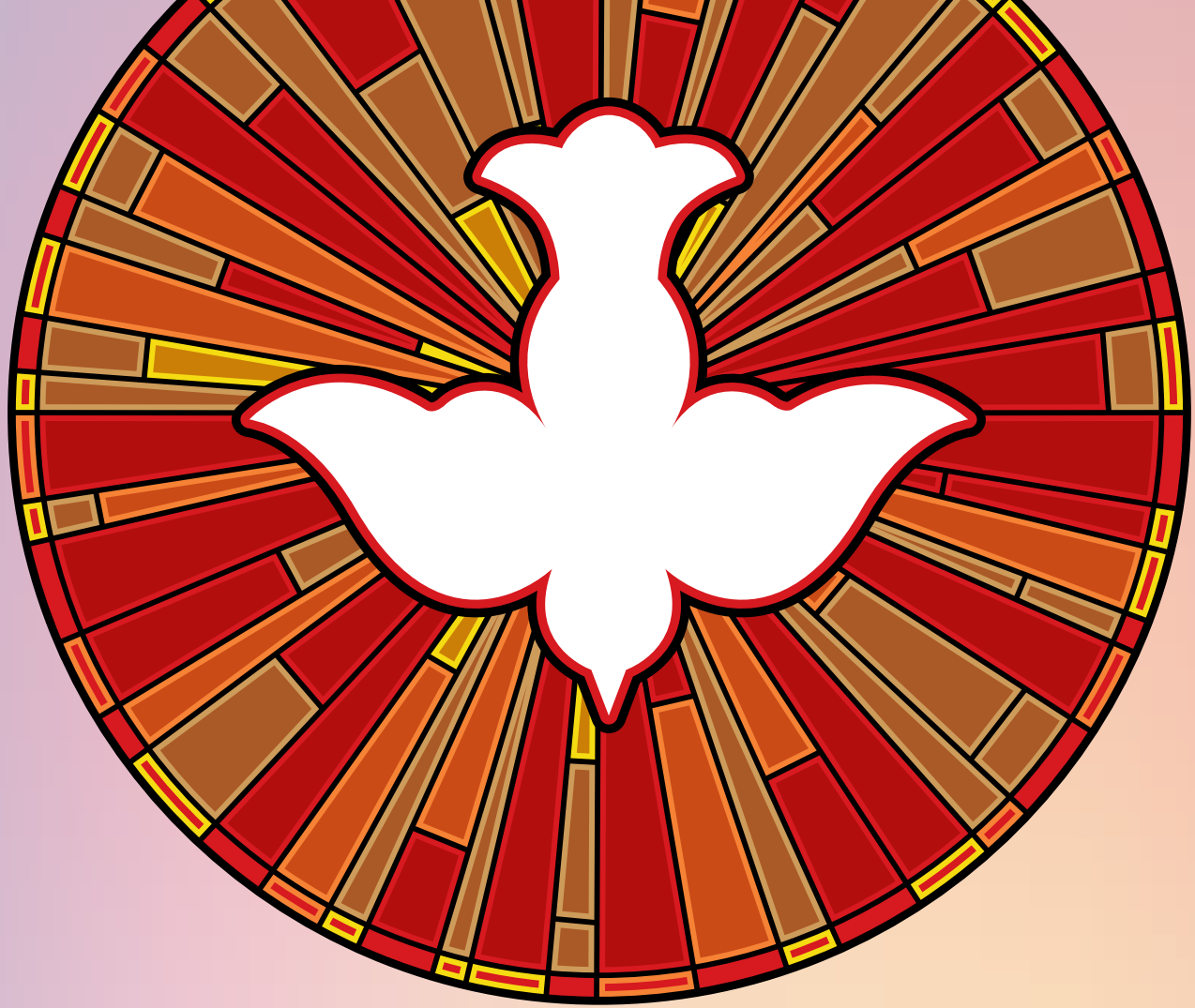
*Permanent Identification Number. See General Assembly Statistics Book.

- Bill me (shipping and handling will be included). Will bill to listed shipping address unless told differently.
- Check or money order enclosed (include 10 percent of the order total for priced items: \$7.50 minimum, \$65 maximum).

If you are only ordering Pentecost Offering materials, then no sales tax or billing details are required.

However, if this is part of a larger order, or you are adding non-Pentecost resources, sales tax and billing info are needed for your other items. Please add appropriate sales tax for orders being shipped to CA, DC, KY, NY, and PA.

Note: All orders will be shipped by the most efficient method as determined by our distribution center. Any special handling charges will be billed to the recipient.



*The Holy Spirit remains with us, connecting us with the church of the past,
continuing to inspire the church of today, and pointing us to the church of the future.
Thank you for your support of the Pentecost Offering.*

**IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE,
IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!**

QUESTIONS?

Feel free to contact us at

800-728-7228, ext. 5047

or email special.offerings@pcusa.org

PC(USA)

Office of Special Offerings

100 Witherspoon Street

Louisville, KY 40202



The Pentecost Offering is one of four annual special offerings. The four church-wide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) — One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost Offering, Peace & Global Witness Offering, and Christmas Joy Offering — play an important role in defining what it means to be a connectional church. Over the years these offerings have provided ways for individuals and congregations to join together with each other and in partnership with other Christians in responding to a variety of concerns; and offer opportunities for partnership, learning, and witness that profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.