

Text **OGHS** to **91999** to support these vital ministries, or visit pcusa.org/oghs.

10138-27-107

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education and opportunity. The work supported by One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) — addressing disaster, hunger, poverty, climate change, and immigration/migration and refugees — serves individuals and communities in need. This work provides people with safety, sustenance and hope.

Received during the season of Lent (Feb. 10–March 28), each gift to OGHS helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHS is the single largest way Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.

Thank you for promoting and supporting One Great Hour of Sharing, an Offering that responds directly to the call to do justice in Micah 6:8.

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



FVEE FJKM MADAGASCAR

If you need help or have questions, contact us.

Special Offerings
800-728-7228, ext. 5047
special.offerings@pcusa.org
specialofferings.pcusa.org

Standing Orders
Presbyterian Customer Support
800-533-4371
customer_service@presbypub.com
pcusastore.com

One Great Hour of Sharing *history*

Immediately following World War II, U.S. Protestant churches made appeals for relief and reconstruction in areas devastated by the war, primarily in Europe and Asia. In 1949, the leaders of several denominations formed a committee to organize an appeal for support of the separate campaigns of their churches. Their joint statement in support of this effort remains remarkably contemporary.

A program called One Great Hour was broadcast on the evening of Saturday, March 26, 1949, over major networks and many independent stations. The script was written under the direction of playwright Robert Sherwood. The cast included some of the foremost dramatic and musical talents of the time, such as Gregory Peck and Ida Lupino; President Harry Truman brought greetings. The broadcast closed with a request that listeners attend their local church the following morning and make a sacrificial contribution. No exact measure of receipts was possible, but it was estimated that more than 75,000 churches participated.

The next year, the Offering was repeated, using the name "One Great Hour of Sharing" for the first time. At times, One Great Hour of Sharing was coordinated with the Roman Catholic Bishops' Fund Appeal for Overseas Aid and the Jewish Passover Appeal. Free time and space were donated to this joint appeal through the Advertising Council.

From the beginning, this has been an ecumenical effort. While each denomination allocates its gifts differently, all use their funds for ministries of disaster relief, refugee assistance, and development aid. Today, causes supported by One Great Hour of Sharing are under way in more than 100 countries.

READ A TRANSCRIPT OF THE ADDRESS
https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/230062



OGHS IS OUR DENOMINATION'S LARGEST SPECIAL OFFERING.
And the thing most people associate with their first memories of this Offering?

Fish banks, of course!

Keep up with the stories of Gracie the OGHS fish at pcusa.org/oghs.

One Great Hour of Sharing is the single largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a

better world.

THIS TOOL WAS CREATED FOR YOU. YOU PLAY A CRUCIAL ROLE.

This guide will walk you through effective ways to promote and celebrate One Great Hour of Sharing. But don't feel limited! Your enthusiasm and creativity are invaluable to this cause. When church leaders encourage their congregations to support initiatives like the Special Offerings, their members give significantly more.

You have likely received a shipment of resources. These are intended to help your church members understand the work funded by their gifts and motivate them to contribute again. Please distribute these resources and help us share this message.

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

facebook.com/specialofferings

instagram.com/special_offerings

How Your *gifts* Are Used

DISASTER RECOVERY

The PC(USA) works with mid councils and churches to provide immediate support after natural and human-caused disasters. It also assists with long-term recovery efforts, connecting mid councils and churches with resources to help them rebound and thrive. This emergency ministry enables our congregations and mission partners to witness to the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crises and catastrophic events.


Photo courtesy of CWSA

International Response

Myanmar/Burma

In 2025, Myanmar experienced a devastating 7.7-magnitude earthquake, followed shortly by a 6.7 aftershock. In partnership with Community World Service Asia, urgent relief was provided to affected communities, including emergency kits with tents, tarps, blankets, sleeping bags and first aid supplies; food aid consisting of nonperishable items and ready-to-eat meals; water, sanitation and hygiene support through hygiene kits, bottled water and water purification tablets; and psychosocial and community support such as children's items, counseling materials and engagement activities.


Photo courtesy of KRD

Somalia

Following devastating floods, Kaalmo Relief and Development, with help from the PC(USA), provided urgent relief and recovery support to flood-affected communities in Dolow, Somalia. The project reached hundreds of households with food vouchers, livestock (dairy goats), safe drinking water, hygiene kits, and essential nonfood items like blankets, cooking utensils and solar lanterns. This improved nutrition, livelihoods, water access, health, and safety for vulnerable Internally Displaced People (IDPs) and host communities.

National

Florida, volunteer host sites

Wintergarden Presbyterian Church, in Port Charlotte, and First Presbyterian Church, Sarasota, both opened their doors to welcome neighbors affected by hurricanes Ian and Helene. A volunteer host site offers facilities for volunteers who come to help rebuild after a disaster and are guided by a spirit of Christ-like cooperation among congregations, mid councils, partners, the PC(USA) and volunteer work teams.


Photo by Michele Holiftela

Texas

After deadly flash flooding in the Texas Hill Country, First Presbyterian Church of Kerrville was one of the leading organizations providing Disaster Case Management to Kerr County residents. National Response Team members visited with faith leaders and members of FPC Kerrville, Schreiner University, Mo Ranch Assembly, and several Community Action Agencies of rural and underserved communities to assess short-term and long-term needs.


Photo by Kathy Lee-Cornell

How Your *gifts* Are Used



Photo courtesy of Asociación de Mujeres Cristianas Mam Para el Desarrollo



Photo courtesy of CERDET



Photo courtesy of Farm & Forest Growers Cooperative



Photo courtesy of Hoʻōla Hou iā Kalauao

HUNGER RELIEF

The PC(USA) works to alleviate hunger and eliminate its root causes, working through relationships and partnerships in the United States and around the world. As recognized by PC(USA) policies, hunger is an extremely complex phenomenon with economic, political, environmental and social causes. The PC(USA) seeks to find out why people are hungry and to encourage action that will help address the underlying causes.

International Response

Guatemala

Asociación de Mujeres Cristianas Mam Para el Desarrollo in Guatemala provided 15 women $400 each to invest in cattle breeding, which is generating income and supporting their families. The initiative aims to empower women economically, provide training in livestock management and business operations and positively impact local communities through increased sales of livestock products.

Bolivia

In the harsh conditions of Bolivia's Gran Chaco, CERDET and Don Abel are helping lead the community toward greater food security. Indigenous families are using agroecological practices to grow healthy food despite extreme heat, poor soil and limited water. Abel's leadership is also inspiring younger generations to learn and carry forward sustainable farming practices. Together, these efforts are strengthening food security and preserving Indigenous knowledge for the future.

National

Minnesota

Farm & Forest Growers Cooperative in Minnesota is a group of small-scale farmers and growers working collectively to produce climate-smart tree seedlings for Minnesotans engaged in tree planting and forest restoration efforts. The cooperative cultivated 20,000 tree saplings that were planted by landowners and reforestation organizations. Together, this work is strengthening ecosystems and cultivating long-term environmental stewardship.

Hawai'i

Hoʻōla Hou iā Kalauao in Hawai'i hosted community workdays at Kaʻōnohi (the farm and land), engaging more than 1,000 volunteers in restoring ʻāina (land that feeds and sustains people) impacted by urban development. Through hands-on stewardship rooted in Native Hawaiian values, participants strengthened relationships, deepened cultural connection and increased collective care for the land. These efforts are contributing to the long-term restoration of both the ecosystem and the community.

How Your *gifts* Are Used

POVERTY

The PC(USA) is committed to eradicating systemic poverty and evaluating the forces that push people into poverty and keep them there. This is done by entering into partnership with groups of economically poor, oppressed and disadvantaged people; interacting with presbyteries; helping to facilitate their work; and encouraging a deeper understanding and involvement of the Church in the process of self-development.



Photo courtesy of Doña Cheva

International Response

Panama

Doña Cheva Frozen Fruit Bars Community Group of Panama earns money for six families and makes it possible to overcome community hurdles. The venture was started to purchase water storage tanks to help the communities of Burunga (Arraiján) and Tocumen and expand product sales to other communities, generating employment opportunities. The goal is to continue growing, positioning themselves in mini-supermarkets, stores, and even in local establishments or restaurants.



Photo courtesy of Women's Group of Boca la Caja

Boca la Caja, Panama

The Women's Group of Boca la Caja is a grassroots community initiative empowering women and families living under challenging socio-economic circumstances. It aims to increase its capacity and be established as a legally recognized micro-enterprise. This will provide an opportunity to strengthen the economic initiative that has been established to provide direct economic benefits to each of the entrepreneurs.

National

Massachusetts

The Worcester Homeless Action Committee focuses on protecting the rights of unhoused individuals and pushes for systemic solutions to the housing crisis. That work is now taking place under the auspices of both Dismas House and the Commonwealth Green Low-Income Housing Coalition (CGLIHC). Together, they work on creating new housing vouchers for homeless inmates, developing restorative justice opportunities in the courts; working on education and advocacy campaigns for homeless and former offenders; and clean energy opportunities for low-income housing to lower utility costs.



Photo courtesy of CGLIHC

Pennsylvania

Why Not Prosper, run by women who were once incarcerated, supports formerly incarcerated women in Philadelphia. It offers programs like pre-release services at prisons, residential services at community houses, family reunification, substance abuse counseling and Medication Assisted Treatment. It also helps the women discover their own strength, providing them with the support and resources to become responsible, economically self-sufficient and contributing members of the community.



Photo courtesy of Why Not Prosper

How Your *gifts* Are Used



Photo courtesy of Mustard Seed Impact International

IMMIGRATION/MIGRATION/REFUGEES

California

In Gardena, California, Mustard Seed Impact International serves a diverse population of immigrant families, with a focus on African diaspora women. The organization provides trauma-informed, culturally sensitive support for clients affected by war, violence and displacement. They help navigate grief, displacement and cultural adjustment through counseling, leadership training and community-based initiatives.



Photo courtesy of Leesburg Presbyterian Church

CLIMATE CHANGE

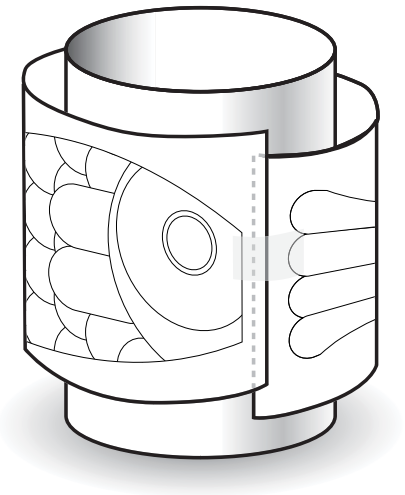
Virginia

As an Earth Care Congregation, Leesburg Presbyterian Church in Virginia is modeling environmental stewardship through a hands-on composting program. Even preschool students participate, turning food scraps into healthy soil while learning lifelong habits of caring for the Earth. This work is reducing waste and greenhouse gases in the atmosphere while nurturing the next generation of environmental stewards.

Here's Help for *promotion*

PLAN

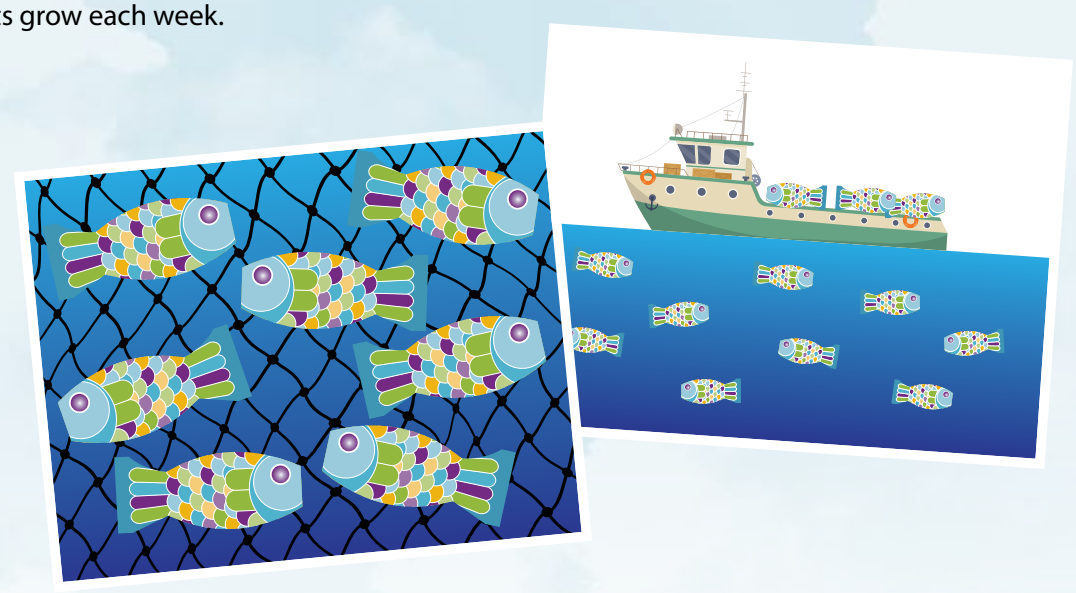
- **Set dates** to receive the OGHS Offering with your session. Congregations commonly receive the Offering on Palm Sunday (March 21) and/or Easter Sunday (March 28), though any date is appropriate.
- **Aim for a higher goal** than the sum raised last year.
- **Unpack your shipment of materials** and review the resources to help you develop your plan.
- **Call Customer Service** at 800-541-5113 or email customer_service@presbypub.com to order any additional materials you may want or need.
- **Recruit a church member** to read a Minute for Mission.
- **Distribute the fish banks** and use the children's curriculum during Lent for a fresh approach to this year's One Great Hour of Sharing. Be sure to use the new **Coin Bank Dedication Liturgies** found on page 11.
- **Download the Gracie the Fish story** for your Sunday School class.
- **Plan special congregational events,** such as church and school activities. Popular events include dinners or mission fairs highlighting OGHS-supported ministries and events promoting "Blue T-Shirt Sunday" on Feb. 14 or Self-Development of People Sunday on March 14.
- **Challenge other congregations in your area.** See page 10 for an example.
- **Use the worship resources** found on the website.
- **Create a plan for involving your children** in promoting the Offering using the Gracie the Fish story or the Sharing Calendar on page 13. Use items in the Presbyterian Giving Catalog to present to the congregation, sharing how this gift can make a difference for others.
- **Use the social media images** provided at pcusa.org/oghs in newsletters and bulletins and on your social media platforms.
- **Enclose the brochure/envelope in a church mailing,** along with a letter from the church pastor (surveys show this makes a significant difference in congregant giving), for members who might have missed the Offering collection. (See sample letter on website.)
- **Remind parents to encourage their children to fill up their OGHS fish banks.** Hand out copies of the Sharing Calendar found on page 13.
- **Use the can wrapper or bottle stickers** in place of the fish coin box if that is easier for you. Find them at pcusa.org/oghs.



Ways to Use the *fish coin box*

Here are some ideas to offer a starting point for creative promotion. Adapt these ideas to your situation and use them along with your own inventions to increase awareness and a deeper sense of stewardship among your congregation.

- **Cut out paper fish to represent each dollar given by the congregation to OGHS.** The combined fish can be placed in a net that is hung in front of the sanctuary. This way, the congregation can see the "catch" growing before their eyes as fish are added.
- **Challenge congregations in your area to a Fishing Derby.** Include categories for the largest fish (the fish bank that contained the most money), the heaviest fish (the fish bank that weighed the most), the total catch (overall gifts from a congregation) and the largest percentage increase from the previous year (over the limit).
- **Place a basket in the sanctuary** and fill it to overflowing with more and more fish as the gifts grow each week.
- **Cut out 12 fish and a boat and place them on a blue banner,** with the fish below the water and the boat on top. Each Sunday, have someone in the congregation pull a fish from the banner to be put in the boat to represent a dollar amount determined by your session/committee. By Easter Sunday, the member can see how many fish have been "caught."
- **Hang a fish from an enormous fishing pole.** Keep adding fish to the "catch" as gifts are received.
- **Keep a coin box in the church sanctuary.** It will remind folks to use their own coin boxes or to drop in extra change. Try putting up a "Feed the Fish" sign.



Looking for something different than the coin box? Use our online resources (pcusa.org/oghs).

- **Print the downloadable "stickers"** for a water or soda bottle or use the can wrapper on a soup can for your own coin collector.
- **Give each child a small plastic fishbowl** to collect their coins and pour each one into a larger fishbowl in church.

OGHS Fish Bank Dedication *liturgies*

Presbyterians have participated in the One Great Hour of Sharing since it began in 1947. In 1950, it was established as an ecumenical offering. Throughout the years, various coin banks have been used to help encourage children to participate in the Offering. Eventually the fish-shaped banks caught on. In 2006, a churchwide contest invited young people to suggest names for the fish. The name "Gracie" was selected. In the years that followed, children's stories, coloring sheets and activity pages have provided ways for the young people to imagine how they, too, contribute to God's justice and healing at work in the world by means of their giving. Here are two suggested litanies to encourage your congregation's newest generation of disciples to participate in the One Great Hour of Sharing. The first prayer can be used as the fish banks are distributed to the young people. The second litany of dedication can be used when the banks are received on the day of the Offering.

PRAYER AT TIME OF DISTRIBUTION

Gracious God, like little fish set out to sea, we send these fish banks out to the homes of our young people. As they fill the banks with the gifts from their lives, fill their hearts and minds with a growing sense of your grace and love. As we watch the banks increase with our giving day by day and week by week, may we be inspired to see the world through new eyes. And as we share our gifts together, inspire us to join your faithful people in this community and around the world to bring about healing, hope and justice in your name. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR PRESENTATION

You are encouraged to include a dedication liturgy with the children as part of worship. You may want to encourage the children to hold their fish banks and even shake them to make noise during the dedication.

One: In Scripture, we are shown that even small gifts can make a big difference. We offer these fish banks as our way of bringing about God's justice in the world.
All: **This is what love looks like. This is how justice sounds.** (shake your fish banks)
One: Like the boy who offered his lunch and the multitudes were fed, God reminds us to never underestimate the power of a child to change the world.
All: **This is what love looks like. This is how justice sounds.** (shake your fish banks)
One: For decades these fish banks have borne witness to the power of compassion and generosity.
All: **This is what love looks like. This is how justice sounds.** (shake your fish banks)
One: We dedicate these gifts to God's life-giving healing and love.
All: **This is what love looks like. This is how justice sounds.** (shake your fish banks)

Prayer: *Loving God, from the gifts that you have given us, we offer these gifts to you that they might become a blessing to others. Through this special offering, may you turn prayers into actions and coins into food. May these simple fish banks and their contents be transformed into justice, healing, and hope for the world you love and for whom you sent Jesus Christ to save.* **Amen.**

Value for *values*

Looking for ways to interpret the Offering and increase your giving? Here are a few examples of resources for families in need. The prices reflect the approximate average cost of providing the items to families where they are most needed. Consider making a donation at one of the levels listed and note the impact your gift can make.

$25 - Family of Chickens
Eggs for food, feathers for pillows and fertilizer for crops. By giving a family of chickens, you will be helping to improve food security for farmers and families around the world. In Guatemala, women are growing small businesses, generating income and creating greater opportunity for their families, as shown here.

$75 - Rainwater Catchment System
These systems harvest rainwater for use in gardens, cooking and everyday tasks. The collection, storage and filtering of rainwater can supply a reliable source of water during devastating dry seasons.

$150 - Family Nutrition Starter Pack
Give the gift of sustainable food and income by providing seeds for kale, tomatoes, onions, cabbage and okra for women-headed households identified by our partners around the world. For example, a mother in Guatemala is growing peppers for her family and is now able to add nutritious food to their meals while cultivating a more sustainable source of income.

$240 - Winter Heating Fuel
For less than a dollar a day, you can help provide warmth and comfort to families in developing nations who are experiencing harsh winter climates. Your support provides essential fuel and stability in unpredictable economic conditions.

WAYS YOUR MEMBERS CAN GIVE

- Through your congregation
- Text OGHS to 91999 to give
- Online at pcusa.org/give-oghs
- Or you can share this QR code with your members.
  Be sure to encourage them to include the identity of your church.
- In addition, members can help sustain the important ministries and programs that are supported by the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering by making a gift at any time throughout the year.

A Sharing Calendar for Lent 2027

Each day at or after a mealtime, gather around this map activity. Consider the reflection and questions, place a coin or a bill (a "gift") in your fish bank or can or bottle, and end by saying a prayer.

Feb. 10–13	**Ash Wednesday:** Read Micah 6:8. What does God require of us? How can we "do justice" in our day today?		**Thursday:** Our fish coin boxes will hold many gifts of money this season, but what other kinds of gifts can we give? What gifts can you give or share?		**Friday:** Sunday is Blue T-Shirt Sunday. What does the PC(USA) do to show God's love during a disaster? Choose something blue to wear or bring to church to celebrate.	
Feb. 14–20	**Sunday:** After a natural disaster, it may be hard to find places to cook or buy meals. Say a prayer of thanksgiving and give a gift for each meal you ate today.	**Monday:** Over 19 million Americans live in a food desert, far from a store where they can buy groceries. Give a gift for each grocery store nearby.	**Tuesday:** Electricity is usually the first utility that is lost in a storm. Give a gift for each electrical outlet in the room you are currently in.	**Wednesday:** Poor sanitation is a primary cause of waterborne diseases in many countries. Give a gift for each time you flush the toilet today.	**Thursday:** Find locations in the in the U.S. near you where there has been a disaster. Pray for these states and give a gift for each.	**Friday:** If you can read, you are more likely to be healthier. Learn a new word today and give a gift for every letter in your name.
Feb. 21–27	**Sunday:** Most people around the world don't have access to the many varieties of fruit and vegetables we have. Give one gift for each type of fruit in your house.	**Monday:** Climate change is forcing farmers worldwide to either adjust their farming methods or move away. Give a gift for each type of animal you saw today.	**Tuesday:** When families move, building a new community of friends and neighbors can be hard! Make a card or gift for someone new in your church or neighborhood.	**Wednesday:** Without the right nutrition in the first two years of life, a child's physical and mental development is compromised. Give a gift for each toddler you know.	**Thursday:** When roads are closed and electricity is off, going to see a doctor can be hard. Give a gift if you've been able to see a doctor in the past year.	**Friday:** It is estimated that 1 in 5 kids in the U.S. will experience hunger this year. Give at least one gift if you have not experienced hunger this year.
Feb. 28–March 6	**Sunday:** Where does your water come from? Many people carry buckets of water long distances to their homes every day. Give a gift for every faucet in your home.	**Monday:** Over 785 million people around the world can't get safe water to drink every day, not to mention water for cleaning and cooking. Give a gift for every glass of water you've had today.	**Tuesday:** Social barriers are like locked doors that hold people back and keep them from thriving. Give a gift for every door that can lock in your home.	**Wednesday:** If you could start a business of your own, what would it be? Give a gift for every good business idea you hear from those you are with.	**Thursday:** Rainwater is rare in some places, so special collection systems are built to catch the water. Give one gift for every day it rained (or snowed) in the past week.	**Friday:** Changing weather patterns mean old ways of farming don't work in some areas anymore, so farmers need to be taught new techniques. Give a gift for every farm you've visited.
March 7–13	**Sunday:** In some places, people walk for hours to go to church, where they find support and encouragement from friends and family. Give a gift for every time you went to church this month.	**Monday:** Hunger-related causes kill thousands of people every day around the world. Give a gift for meals you've had today.	**Tuesday:** Some people can't find jobs and care for themselves because they don't have access to a car or the right bus route. Give one gift for every wheel in your garage that helps you get places.	**Wednesday:** Poverty can make people feel like they are taking three steps forward as they progress but falling two steps back with surprise expenses or problems. Give a gift for every set of steps in your home.	**Thursday:** The most vulnerable are often the most impacted in emergency situations. Say a prayer for children impacted by disasters, and give a gift for every flashlight in your home.	**Friday:** Sometimes people need help advocating for their rights—like lawyers fighting for those impacted by unfair employment practices. Say a prayer for those who advocate for the poor.
March 14–20	**Sunday:** In South Sudan, women have found hope as they learn to farm so they can grow food for their families. Give a gift per plant in your house.	**Monday:** In Ohio, refugee women are able to market their sweet and savory treats at the farmers market, helping to take care of their families. Give one gift for every sweet treat you had today.	**Tuesday:** Immunizations give us hope for a day when certain diseases will no longer cause sickness and pain. Check your immunization record, make appointments for any missing shots and give a gift.	**Wednesday:** In Haiti, hope is seen in the leaves of the moringa tree, a superfood that can help many hungry people! Give one gift for every tree in your yard.	**Thursday:** Give a gift for every year you have been in school and find three books you can donate so another person can read and learn.	**Friday:** Learning new languages can be hard! Give five gifts for every language your family members speak. Find a neighbor or friend who speaks a different language and learn how to say "hello" to them.
March 21–27	**Sunday:** Blankets are used internationally to comfort those impacted by disasters. Give a gift for each blanket in your home or find some blankets you can donate.	**Monday:** Teaching healthy food choices and food safety can change the health of an entire community! Find some healthier foods you can donate to a food pantry or soup kitchen.	**Tuesday:** People who are homeless have nowhere to keep food. Give a gift for every time you opened the refrigerator today and research opportunities to help the homeless.	**Wednesday:** Communication can be incredibly difficult after a disaster. Give a gift for every phone in your home, and call, email or text a loved one.	**Thursday:** God's love is shown in so many ways. Find three things you can do today or tomorrow to share God's love.	**Friday:** Clean water is a precious resource all over the world. Find some ways you can conserve or use less water every day and commit to doing at least one for a month or more.
March 28: Easter	**Easter Sunday:** Present your gifts in your coin box to your congregation. Say a prayer for all those who will receive help from your generosity.					

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Minute for *mission*

WHAT DOES THE LORD REQUIRE OF YOU? "… TO DO JUSTICE …" – MICAH 6:8

Doing justice is at the heart of the causes supported by One Great Hour of Sharing.

What does it mean to do justice?

For many people of faith, justice is itself a form of spirituality, a way of sensing God's presence in our daily lives and participating in God's healing work in the world. And while "doing justice" can sometimes sound abstract, as Presbyterians we understand it as something we are called to live out together. Justice-seeking is at the very heart of what it means to follow Jesus Christ, and it is essential to the way we engage in ministry.

The prophet Micah lived in a world not unlike the present. In his time, the world was marked by inequity, disruption and competing voices clamoring for our attention. Knowing that God created the world to be different, Micah spoke a clear and enduring word from God: "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" In those few words, Micah reminds us that justice is not optional for people of faith. It is part of our calling.

In this season of the church's life, the PC(USA), through our General Assembly, has discerned several causes where we are called to embody God's justice in the world: responding to disaster, alleviating hunger, addressing poverty, confronting climate change, and accompanying immigrants, migrants and refugees.

God calls the church to show up with compassion, courage and hope. This is what Micah envisioned for the world through this prophecy.

And the good news is that we do not do this work alone. We do justice alongside faithful partners in our communities and around the world. We are companions in the journey of faith — listening, learning, sharing resources and bearing witness to the love of Christ together.

Working for justice belongs to all of us. As we approach Holy Week and prepare to remember Christ's sacrificial act on the cross and celebrate the promise of resurrection, let us each do our part in making God's justice known in a hurting world.

I encourage you to support One Great Hour of Sharing and its work addressing disaster, hunger, poverty, climate change, and immigration/migration and refugees. For when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

Indeed, we are the Church, **together.**

Let us pray

Loving God, come alongside us as we discern the movement of your Holy Spirit and respond to the reality of your love through our giving. May justice be enacted through the gifts we share. In Jesus' name, **Amen.**

Minute for *mission*

DOING JUSTICE AFTER DISASTER IN SOUTH SUDAN

For far too many years in her native South Sudan, fear was Mary Poni's constant companion.

"Conflict and violence destroyed everything we had," said Mary, whose life was upended by decades of unrelenting warfare.

Family members were lost, homes were burned and fear became part of daily life.

She was by no means alone.

The U.N. Refugee Agency estimates that millions of South Sudanese have been driven from their homes since 2013, while thousands more have lost their lives. Catastrophic flooding further compounded the death and displacement toll. But just as Mary's pain — and her community's collective trauma — were nearing a breaking point, RECONCILE International interceded.

Founded in 2003, RECONCILE International, a partner of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) based in South Sudan, traces its origins to the New Sudan Council of Churches, which had a vision to promote reconciliation, conflict transformation and peacebuilding in shattered communities.

Mary said, "When RECONCILE International came to our community, they brought hope. They listened to our stories with compassion and treated everyone with dignity, regardless of their background. Through trauma healing sessions, I began to understand that the wounds I carried were not only physical but also emotional and spiritual. For the first time, I felt safe to speak openly about my experiences."

And helping the people of South Sudan and the wider East African region restore and rebuild their lives is just what support from the PC(USA) makes possible, primarily through Presbyterians' generous gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing.

Centered in the prophet Micah's call to do justice, One Great Hour of Sharing has been helping neighbors in need around the world for more than 75 years. The annual Offering gives the PC(USA) a tangible way to share God's love by helping to eliminate the root causes of the world's injustices.

As a result of RECONCILE's training, Mary joined a peace committee in her village. She shares, "Today, instead of encouraging conflict, I help mediate disputes before they become violent. I have witnessed families who refused to speak to one another begin working together again. Women who once lived in fear now participate confidently in community decision-making. Young people who were vulnerable to violence are becoming ambassadors for peace."

"RECONCILE helped us see that healing and justice can go hand in hand."

Mary wants people to know that she is the living proof that when people are given the opportunity to heal, reconcile and participate in rebuilding their communities, transformation is possible.

And One Great Hour of Sharing is there to support them.

We are the Church, together — and together we can make a difference in the lives of others who need our support — people like Mary and her neighbors. Please give what you can to One Great Hour of Sharing, for when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

Let us pray

Loving God, we humbly ask that your love and justice be made known in South Sudan and in all places impacted by conflict. We pray that our gifts help to heal the nations and bring peace. In your Son's name we pray, **Amen.**

Minute for *mission*

"WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?"

Even after she'd been serving for nearly a decade at the Eastridge Presbyterian Church in Lincoln, Nebraska, the Rev. Dr. Melodie Jones Pointon found she was still asking herself the same, familiar question.

Little did she suspect that a random email misdirected to her during the Covid pandemic would lead her — and the congregation — to answer that question in new and unexpected ways.

The email from a man in the Kansas City area was asking her and the church's associate pastor, Thomas Dummermuth, questions about their community, mainly to identify the issues that they were seeing.

And because the congregation and their mission committee had just been saying that [faith-based] community organizing was the kind of thing they wanted to be involved in, they sensed the movement of the Holy Spirit.

Since their discernment process got underway during the pandemic, the collaboration with their stakeholders began online, meeting virtually with a host of community and church leaders to identify which nonprofit, justice ministry organization would be the right fit to address Lincoln's needs.

When they were finally able to meet in person, something remarkable happened — an outpouring of interest that led to what Pastor Thomas refers to as the building of "webs of interconnectivity."

Creating just such "webs of interconnectivity" is at the heart of the Presbyterian Hunger Program's emphasis on congregation-based community organizing. This guiding principle led the Eastridge Church to partner with 23 local faith communities to found the faith-based nonprofit, Justice in Action.

Justice in Action's mission is to "harness the power of organized people to address big community problems." This approach demonstrates how community organizing can translate into concrete policy and systems change; preventing eviction, expanding access to care, supporting food security and building long-term power rooted in community voice.

And supporting congregational and other leaders with the resources they need to collectively address systemic injustice in their communities is made possible, in large part, by gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS).

Centered in the prophet Micah's call to do justice, OGHS has been helping neighbors in need around the world for more than 75 years. The annual Offering gives the PC(USA) a tangible way to share God's love by joining together to help eliminate the root causes of the world's injustices.

In addition to addressing America's eviction epidemic, food insecurity and community development, OGHS supports such causes as disaster relief and recovery, climate change, poverty and immigration/migration and refugees.

Who is my neighbor? There are many answers, but here is one: When we give to One Great Hour of Sharing, we become part of God's work to bring hope and healing and justice to our neighbors — across the globe and in our own backyards.

Please give generously, for when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot

Let us pray

Loving God, we give you thanks for faithful people called to action in the name of the love we know in your Son, Jesus Christ. Help us respond to the good news of Christ by loving our neighbors as we love ourselves, and by showing up for those who need it most. **Amen.**

Minute for *mission*

COMING TOGETHER FOR WORKERS' RIGHTS

Zully [SOO-lee] Estrada knew when enough was enough.

Forced to endure a hostile work environment, she sought a road to remediation and justice. And she found it through Arise Chicago.

A former factory worker and native of Mexico who has lived in the U.S. for 24 years, Zully first came to know Arise when she joined the organization for a workers' rights workshop after experiencing workplace harassment. At the workshop, her eyes were opened to the magnitude of the violations and exploitation at her workplace.

At Arise, Zully found the tools, resources and programs that would allow her and her husband, Juan, to thrive. She also discovered kindred spirits among the women called to lead the faith-based nonprofit, which serves to organize "the collective power of working-class immigrants in partnership with faith communities to uplift all workers."

"Zully has a compelling and touching story," said Arise's membership director, Margarita Valenzuela Klein, the daughter of political refugees from Chile who has dedicated herself to workers' rights and social justice for over two decades. "She and Juan came to every training for almost three years."

From the day that Zully attended her first Arise workshop, she became more involved with the organization.

Her passion to advocate for the marginalized is the same force behind the work of the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People (SDOP), a ministry of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) that engages with communities and ecumenical church partners to eradicate systemic poverty and its intersectional social- and economic-justice issues, like Arise Chicago.

Over the past 50 years, SDOP has awarded more than $95 million to communities of economically poor, oppressed and disadvantaged people across the U.S. and in over 65 countries, affirming God's concern for humankind.

And that support comes largely through gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS).

Centered in the prophet Micah's call to do justice, OGHS has been helping neighbors in need around the world for more than 75 years. The annual Offering gives the PC(USA) a tangible way to share God's love by joining to help eliminate the root causes of the world's injustices.

In addition to supporting community development and self-actualization, OGHS addresses such causes as disaster, hunger, climate change and immigration/migration and refugees through ministries affirmed by the General Assembly.

Arise Chicago has proved to be a lifeline for Zully and Juan.

"When people give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing, they're giving to growth," said Margarita, Arise's membership director.

And we are empowering marginalized communities to overcome their isolation, fears and exploitation.

Let's answer Micah's call to do justice with our gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing. Please give what you can, for when we all do a little — it adds up to a lot.

Let us pray

Loving God, you call us to be in solidarity with all people. May our giving ensure that all people have the tools they need to flourish as your beloved child. In Christ's name we pray, **Amen.**

Minute for *mission*

SPEAKING OF JUSTICE

Justice.

What exactly does that mean?

When we hear the word "justice," we often think about the court system, about holding people responsible for their actions, about the fair outcome of trials. But in the Bible, justice is defined as the active practice of doing what is fair, what is right. Jesus taught us that justice is deeply tied to mercy, love for our neighbors and caring for the vulnerable.

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is centered in the call to do justice so every person can fully live the life God intends for them. The Offering allows the PC(USA) to address such causes as disaster relief, food insecurity and immigration/migration and refugees, offering people safety, sustenance and hope in pursuit of God's justice.

Consider Mary Poni, whose life was devastated by decades of unrelenting natural disasters, warfare and trauma in South Sudan. Through RECONCILE International (the Resource Centre for Civil Leadership), a partner of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance that promotes reconciliation, conflict transformation and peacebuilding in shattered communities, Mary learned to mediate disputes before they become violent, showing that healing and justice can go hand in hand.

This is justice in action.

In Lincoln, Nebraska, 23 faith communities, including Eastridge Presbyterian Church, received training from the Presbyterian Hunger Program and founded Justice in Action. Justice in Action's mission is to "harness the power of organized people to address big community problems." One problem addressed was pre-eviction mediation, which entailed meeting with The Mediation Center, the courts, the landlords and the agencies serving people who are being evicted, to address the root causes and prevent long-term impacts.

This is justice in action.

And then there is Zully [soo-lee] Estrada, who, as an immigrant, had been forced to endure a hostile work environment. Seeking a road to remediation and justice, she found Arise Chicago where she attended a workers' rights workshop. Arise, a partner of the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, engages with communities and ecumenical church partners to eradicate systemic poverty and its related social and economic justice issues. Zully now acts as a facilitator at Arise, sharing what she learned, educating and empowering those who find themselves vulnerable.

Another powerful example of justice in action.

Our gifts to OGHS, when joined together with the gifts of congregations around the nation and the world, offer the PC(USA) a tangible way to share God's love and help eliminate the root causes of the world's injustices.

Often in this world we feel powerless to effect change. But we are not alone; we are the Church, **together**. We are the embodiment of justice in action.

Please give to One Great Hour of Sharing. For when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot

Let us pray

Loving God, as we seek your justice and share your love, may our giving help make your justice known to all people around the world. In the name of your son, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

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