



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

An Opportunity for a Small Group or Intergenerational Event

This idea can be adapted to engage small group gatherings or an intergenerational event. Consider pre-recorded videos, a live presentation, or virtual gathering (Zoom/Skype/Google Meet). Possibly use this as a gathering on Sunday, Sept. 26.

Blessed are the Peacemakers

Becoming a Peacemaker involves hands and feet in action, advocacy and service. The Peace & Global Witness Offering helps move peace from a quiet thought into justice rolling down like rivers. Peace is getting to know new people and places. Peace is relationship building. We will spend this time together getting to know a bit about how our church, our presbytery and the Special Offerings of the PC(USA) will use their allotment of the Offering.

Your Church Working for Peace:

Invite someone from your congregation or community who is involved in peace and advocacy to share about one way your congregation is involved in social justice.

Talk about the way your church will use the 25% of the offering retained to use in your community to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace.

Perhaps invite someone from the community who will receive the gift from your church to share their story. If you are not able to meet in person, ask someone to make a five-minute video for the children.

- Example of questions they could answer on the video: I am ...; the organization I represent is ...; I am involved in peace and advocacy by ...; I began my social justice journey ...; your generous gift will help us to ...; etc.
- Example of a video to aid a person in your church or community if they need ideas on what to say. This is a hello message to a church in North Carolina from one of their [Mission Partners](#).

Your Presbytery Working for Peace:

Invite the Peace and Justice Advocates in your presbytery to record a five-minute video or, if it's possible, attend in person and share about how your presbytery will use the 25% of the Offering they will retain for peace and reconciliation.

Called to be Peacemakers:

Fifty percent of the Offering is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in the US and around the world through projects of education and Christian witness — and that includes giving aid to the International Peacemakers! You can find examples of the Offering in action by reading the [PGW Minutes for Mission](#) such as “The Light of

Understanding,” Tom Elander’s experience of surprise at what he witnessed at the U.S.-Mexico border as a participant in the [Presbyterian Peacemaking Program](#).

Let’s get to know the PC(USA) International Peacemakers!

Color A Sanctified Art coloring sheet found in the [PGW resources](#) — “Peace Prayer” or “Peace Be With You” — and send it to one of the Peacemaking Program’s 2021 [International Peacemakers!](#) Make sure you add your first name, your age or grade and your home state on the back of your artistic renderings. Include a prayer that you or your class will pray for this Peacemaker as they serve in their home country and as they share with congregations here. Ask the session of your church to invite an International Peacemaker to visit your congregation.

