“Teaching is my ministry. I love to teach. To empower. To equip. To set people free ... to live into the graces and gifts they’ve been given.”

—Rev. Dr. Katie Geneva Cannon, 1950-2018
The Christmas Joy Offering of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) assists leaders and their families—past, present, and future. The offering supports church workers and their families who have retired, those who continue their ministry, and those who will be our future leaders. Each of us gives thanks to someone who points us to God and the gift of Jesus Christ in our lives.

This past August, the PC(USA) celebrated the life and ministry of the Reverend Dr. Katie Cannon, a gifted leader and the first African American woman ordained in the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. Dr. Cannon was a graduate of Barber Scotia College and, at the time of her death, she was the Annie Scales Rogers Professor of Christian Social Ethics at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia. A renowned lecturer and the author of seven books, Dr. Cannon received the Award for Excellence in Theological Education in June of this year at the 223rd General Assembly (2018) in St. Louis. Her gifts of teaching, mentoring, and advocacy for women, especially women of color, helped develop leaders for ministry.

Your gift to the Christmas Joy Offering will be used to support education at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color and leadership development efforts of the Racial Equity Office of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

During this Advent season, we lift up the testimony of Dr. Cannon’s life to encourage the whole church in its support of our leaders; past, present and future. Please give generously.