



PENTECOST
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

God, from my youth
you have taught me.

— PSALM 71:17

Building a Life of Faith



2020

LEADER'S GUIDE
APRIL 13–MAY 31



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Presbyterian Mission

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
specialofferings@pcusa.org
presbyterianmission.org/specialofferings

Child Advocacy/Children at Risk

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

Ministries with Youth

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

Young Adult Volunteers

Destini Hodges
800-728-7228, Ext. 5300
destini.hodges@pcusa.org
youngadultvolunteers.org
@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

 **TWITTER** | twitter.com/pcusa_so

 **FACEBOOK** | facebook.com/specialofferings



2020

LEADER'S GUIDE
APRIL 13–MAY 31

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> |



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Presbyterian Mission



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 — children, youth, and young adults.

Psalm 71 testifies that a foundation of faith established during childhood helps ensure lifelong faith and service. The patterns and lessons established during these formative years continue to bear fruit throughout a person's life. By giving to the Pentecost Offering, your congregation participates in helping our children, youth, and young adults grow up to proclaim with the Psalmist, “O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.”

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.
- ❖ 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 more than \$15 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 more than 20 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 the design of a new Christian Formation 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.

Provide a grant to the Presbyterian Youth Workers’ Association—a professional association for paid and volunteer adult youth leaders seeking to serve God in their work with young people. Learn more at www.pywa.org

Sponsor a meeting of the governing board of the Presbyterian Youth Workers’ Association.

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 www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/youthministry

Support the planning of the 2019 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.

Support Faith in 3D 2017. An event held over the MLK Observance weekend in January 2017 — that brought together over 2000 youth to explore faith, discipleship and justice.

Provide partnership funding for the daily digital devotion at www.d365.org

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 one million children by 2020.

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

Providing financial support to local homeless shelters.

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.

Providing training for volunteers for the Child and Youth Protection Policy.

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

Providing assistance to teen pregnancy resource centers.

Supporting or creating a program that packages nutritious, life-saving meals for starving or malnourished children and their families in developing countries and the United States.

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 THE OFFERING 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 31) or other youth-focused Sundays (such as Youth in the Church and World on August 16), 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 “Ways to Involve Children and Youth”** with your Christian education and worship committees. Learn more at presbyterianmission.org/pentecost
- ✦ **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 presbyterianmission.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 (presbyterianmission.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: MICHAEL ERDELYI, PYT

4 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 — *Building A Household* and *Right Here, Right Now* — 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 (presbyterianmission.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.)



5 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 COUNCILS
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
PO Box 643751
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3751

CONGREGATIONS
*(through your normal receiving agency,
usually the presbytery)*
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
PO Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

The Agency will record and notify presbyteries of congregational donations.

Congregations may continue to remit to their normal receiving agency if so desired.

Share your stories with us!

We'd love to hear the unique ways you promoted the Pentecost Offering.
Email specialofferings@pcusa.org to share your story with the wider church.

"We encourage congregations to participate in the Pentecost Offering to support Triennium, or similar local youth events. If a congregation has no youth in their membership, they can give their retained portion to the presbytery so we can provide the opportunity for other local youth to participate!"

— Rev. Dr. Debby Brincivalli, Executive Presbyter,
West Jersey Presbytery

6 MINUTE FOR MISSION

BUILDING THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD WITH CHILDREN, YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

Take a minute to look back on your life. Who all have you lived with? In the earliest parts of our lives, we might live with parents or grandparents or other caring adults. Perhaps siblings. Over the years, we might live with friends and extended family, family of choice or even sometimes with strangers. And sometimes we might find ourselves living alone.

No matter whom we live with now, or whom we have lived with before, God's vision for the world is that **everyone** find a place within God's kingdom—God's house. What we celebrate at Pentecost is God's pouring out of the Holy Spirit so that people of every identity and language can hear a word of welcome into God's household. **All** belong in God's household, and we get to live together, and learn together and celebrate together.

At Pentecost, we look especially to the children, youth and young adults with whom God has called us to live. The psalmist reminds us of the importance of faith being established during our earliest years, saying, "God from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds." God's youngest family members need support to build their full potential in both faith and life, and all of us have a role to play. These young ones also show and sometimes teach all of us more about faith in Jesus Christ and how the Holy Spirit is moving in our world.

The Pentecost Offering lets us support the development of children, youth and young adults in our community and throughout the country. Forty percent of this offering stays within our community because we want to build the household of God together, in this place. The remainder is sent on to our denomination so that young adults can lay a foundation for their lives through a year of service as part of the Young Adult Volunteer program. It is also used to support ministries with youth, through experiences of worship and formation like the Presbyterian Youth Triennium, which gathers nearly 5,000 young people

every three years to learn and grow together (*Did your congregation send a delegation? Mention it here*).

There is also a portion of this Offering that supports the education of every child in this country, through the *Educate a Child, Transform the World* national initiative. Even when there are no children or young people in the places where we live, there are many, many with us in the household of God.

During this Pentecost season, I want us to celebrate the fact that we are building a life of faith and building the household of God with our children, youth and young adults. Through our gifts today, we join with them and with God in building that household together. And you know what we always say ... if we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

Let us pray —

Holy Spirit, breathe on us.

*Inspire us to give and to grow
your household.*

*Thank you for the special place you offer to
the youngest members of your family.*

*May our efforts reflect the joy and delight
that Jesus showed in welcoming children.*

Amen.

6 MINUTE FOR MISSION

BEING IN THE NOW

When Rev. Dr. David Gambrell was asked to speak at the Presbyterian Youth Triennium (PYT) last year, he knew it would be both challenging and extremely personal.

“Not many preachers have the opportunity to address several thousand teenagers,” he says. “So I did this with a healthy dose of humility, fear and trembling, especially mindful that one of those teenagers was my own daughter.”

David attends Highland Presbyterian Church in Louisville, Kentucky, where he volunteers to teach confirmation classes. He has witnessed and guided the faith journey of many young people—including his two daughters.

As each of us considers a gift to the Pentecost Offering, he says every person, young or old, should understand that ministry with youth is not just about the future, but also about **being in the now**.

“Our kids need to know they are valued in this moment—their gifts, wisdom and experiences are important,” David explains. “They need to know that we take them seriously and honor them as members of Christ’s body and that we want to learn from them even as they learn from us.”

It’s one of the things Gina Yeager-Buckley, Associate for Ministries with Youth at the Presbyterian Mission Agency, truly appreciates about being a Presbyterian—all people, regardless of age, are welcomed into ministry. Gina handles the organization of the Triennium, which is funded in part by the Pentecost Offering. (Did your congregation have youth attend, or adults volunteer at the PYT? Mention it here.)

“Ministry is not just for older adults or the middle-aged. Presbyterians understand that each of us, youth as well as adults, is called to be in relationship with God and to share our faith,” she says.

The Pentecost Offering not only supports the Triennium, it also supports the Young Adult Volunteer Program and children at risk through the *Educate a Child, Transform the World* national initiative.

“We tend to say something like ‘we’re investing in the future because the youth are the future of our church,’” says David. “But our youth already have gifts to give and important ways to serve and lead in the church. Supporting the Offering is a way to give youth the opportunity to do things and share their gifts in the present moment.”

Serving others is a joy Gambrell experienced as both a faith leader and a father. Following his service at PYT, he received a truly special gift—a text from his daughter who attended. It read, simply, “I’m proud of you, dad.”

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

Let us pray —

God of all people,
stir in us a commitment to help
shape the lives of our children,
youth and young adults.
As we teach and mentor,
help us to listen to how you are
calling our young people to lead,
here and now.
Amen.

6 MINUTE FOR MISSION

EDUCATE A CHILD, TRANSFORM THE WORLD

The second grader that Susan Byrne tutors at Willow Brook Elementary holds her hand the whole time they are together, working on building his reading skills. Can you just imagine how wonderful that connection must feel for both of them?

“My little guy is just so delighted to have an adult paying extra attention to him. When I peek in his classroom window, his face lights up,” Susan said. “No one is as glad to see me all week as that little boy. He’s so bright, but just needed a little help with reading.”

Susan, who attends First Presbyterian Church of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, helps organize tutors for the elementary school, and nearly half come from First Presbyterian. Willow Brook Elementary sits in one of the lowest-income neighborhoods in Oak Ridge, and many of the students’ parents are working multiple jobs to make ends meet, while others are incarcerated or absent. That means some of the children need a little extra help to further their learning.

It was First Presbyterian member Rosalyn McKeown-Ice who made the connection between the church and the school.

“I sit on an *Educate a Child, Transform the World* roundtable in Louisville. At the August 2017 roundtable meeting, we were challenged to ‘go home and try something,’” said Rosalyn. “Willow Brook’s principal Sherrie Fairchild-Keyes also attends the church, so I asked her for some ideas on how to help out at the elementary school.”

The result has been so good for everyone involved. The church provides volunteer tutors and the school provides training—teaching the volunteers how to work with the children in the most effective ways—and matching each volunteer with a student. Principal Fairchild-Keyes says she’s seen a transformation in the students who are part of the program.

“The relationship built between a tutor and student is so important—having another adult to count on and look up to. It makes the children more excited about learning and helps build their confidence and even correct behavioral issues.”

During the Pentecost season, Presbyterians around the country join in a churchwide effort to support young people and nurture their faith through the Pentecost Offering. A portion of this Offering supports the education of every child in this country, through the *Educate a Child, Transform the World* national initiative. Gifts to the Pentecost Offering also help youth and young adults build a life of faith.

God’s youngest family members need support for developing their full potential in both faith and life, and all of us have a role to play. “Our immediate support of children is critical,” says Susan Byrne. “If a person can get a good education, they have a chance to succeed in life, no matter where they come from.”

Please give generously.

Let us pray –

*Jesus, you called all children to you
and did not turn them away.*

*Let this church support all children
to develop in mind, body and spirit,
so that the potential you gave
each of them might be known
and shared to your glory.*

Amen.

6 MINUTE FOR MISSION

FROM NORTHERN IRELAND TO NASHVILLE: ONE YAV'S JOURNEY OF FAITH

Rev. Ashley McFaul-Erwin would not likely be a pastor for the Presbyterian Church today if she'd stayed in her homeland of Northern Ireland, and especially if she had never found the Young Adult Volunteers program. You may have heard us refer to this program as YAV and the young adults who serve as "YAVs" for short.

From Northern Ireland to the U.S. seems like quite a big leap, but it's not unheard of for young adults from overseas to take part in the YAV program. In search of her calling, Ashley contacted the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) offices in Louisville, Kentucky. They encouraged her to figure out her visa and they'd do the rest!

While looking for ways to serve in a faith community, Ashley came across the program at Second Presbyterian Church in Nashville. The church was offering a year of service with area nonprofits through its Nashville Epiphany Project.

Things moved quickly. Within a year she had relocated from Northern Ireland to Nashville to serve in a program called "Top Floor," based in a high school with one of the city's the lowest graduation rates. Top Floor is not just focused on graduating more students but helping them plan for what happens after high school—helping with college applications and more. Ashley still keeps in touch with many of the students she served.

The YAV program is supported in part through gifts to the Pentecost Offering and is often a path that leads to a lifetime of community service and leadership within the church, as it was for [now-Rev] Ashley.

"I'm proud that our denomination has a program that helps young adults learn how to live out their faith, not just in church, but embedded in the local community."

After her year of YAV service ended, Ashley returned to Northern Ireland and began exploring options for seminary. She eventually returned to Nashville, attending Vanderbilt University while also managing a

group home for adolescent boys. She also completed Clinical Pastor Education, serving as a chaplain for women coping with drug and alcohol addiction.

She now lives in Long Island, New York and serves as the community outreach pastor at Setauket Presbyterian Church on Long Island.

"The YAV program laid the foundation for being embedded in the church and the local community," she says. "They gave me this feeling of freedom and opportunity to be my authentic self. To be authentic is so much at the heart of ministry whether I'm preaching on a Sunday morning or visiting a local homeless shelter. To be able to be fully who I am has been an incredible gift."

Please join your gifts with others in our Presbyterian community to help more young adults like Ashley build a life in faith—in authenticity—to share with the world now and as leaders of the church of the future.

Let us pray —

*Holy Spirit, stir in each of us a desire
to serve you and your people.*

*As we offer these gifts to help children,
youth and young adults,
may we also commit ourselves
to offering the fullness of our
authentic selves to the benefit
of all your people.*

Amen.

6 MINUTE FOR MISSION

BUILDING A STRONG FOUNDATION

Rev. Dr. David Gambrell spends plenty of time with young people. He is a father of two daughters, he volunteers to teach confirmation classes at Highland Presbyterian Church in Louisville, Kentucky and he was one of the youth leaders who preached at the 2019 Presbyterian Youth Triennium.

He says Triennium was quite an experience for him and shares: “Our kids need to know they are valued in this moment—their gifts, wisdom and experiences are important. They need to know that we take them seriously and honor them as members of Christ’s body, and that we want to learn from them even as they learn from us—*right here, right now.*”

Being valued is something that Rev. Ashley Faul-Erwin can certainly affirm makes a big difference in embracing a life of faith and service. A native of Northern Ireland, Ashley was looking for ways to express herself and serve in a faith community. After some searching, she connected with a program at Second Presbyterian Church in Nashville through the Young Adult Volunteer program. Her experience as a Young Adult Volunteer was so profound that Ashley decided to attend seminary and now serves as the community outreach pastor at Setauket Presbyterian Church on Long Island.

God’s youngest family members need support for developing their full potential in both faith and life, and all of us have a role to play. From projects like the churchwide *Educate a Child, Transform the World* national initiative to the Presbyterian Youth Triennium to tutoring and mentoring children in our own community—this is a mission that unites us as Presbyterians. Susan Byrne, a volunteer tutor at Willow Brook Elementary who attends First Presbyterian Church of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, says, “Our immediate support of children is critical. If a person can get a good education, they have a chance to succeed in life, no matter where they come from.”

And isn’t that what we all want? For our young folks to succeed in life? Our gifts to the Pentecost Offering support many programs for both children at risk and youth and young adults and are a testament to our commitment. And as a shared offering, our gifts also support countless programs in communities and congregations like ours. Here at **CHURCH**, we use our share of the offering **TO DO THIS**. (add your own information)

David says, “We tend to say something like ‘we’re investing in the future because the youth are the future of our church.’ But our youth already have gifts to give and important ways to serve and lead in the church.”

Together, we are building a life of faith and building the household of God with our children, youth and young adults. And every building needs a strong foundation—a foundation in faith that begins *right here, right now* and is strong enough to last a lifetime.

Let us pray —

*Spirit of God, work with and through us
as we build a strong foundation
of faith with children, youth
and young adults.*

*May your household, O God,
bustle with the energy and leadership
expressed by young people
as together we work to share
your love with the world.*

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 *Building a Household* and *Right Here, Right Now*
- ❖ Downloadable poster
- ❖ 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

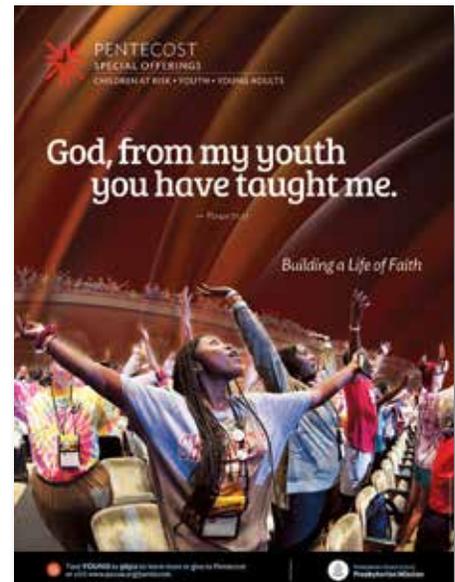
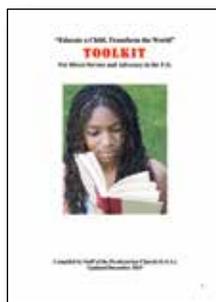


PHOTO: FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR INTERPRETATION

Educate A Child: Toolkit For Congregations



The 221st General Assembly (2014) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) launched a church-wide initiative calling on Presbyterians to work with partners in the US and worldwide to improve the quality of education for one million children by 2020. This initiative builds on our strong Reformed heritage and Presbyterian history of both educational mission, and advocacy and support for access to public education.

To aid 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?

To explore this toolkit and other helpful resources, visit: presbyterianmission.org/ministries/child/toolkit

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, 2020

Most sites available, final date to apply to international sites

June 1, 2020

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

PLAN NOW FOR THE 2022 YOUTH TRIENNIUM



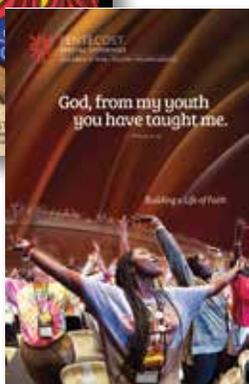
PHOTO: MICHAEL ERDELYI, PYT

The Presbyterian Youth Triennium is a gathering for high school age youth from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) that occurs every three years. The next Youth Triennium will occur in July 2022. The 2022 Youth Triennium will feature new ministry opportunities for youth and adult youth workers! Mission resources for youth and adults who are interested in attending the Triennium will be available in Winter 2021 at presbyterianyouthtriennium.org

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



Building a Household



Right Here, Right Now



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 presbyterianmission.org/pentecost

QTY.	PDS#	UOM	ITEM
ENGLISH RESOURCES			
	12144-20-032	limit 2	Poster
	12144-20-033	P25	Bulletin Insert – <i>Right Here, Right Now</i>
	12144-20-034	P25	Bulletin Insert – <i>Building a Household</i>
	12144-20-036		Leader's Guide
	12144-19-075	P25	Offering Envelope
	12144-11-037	P25	Coin Box

SPANISH MATERIALS

	12144-20-062	limit 2	Poster
	12144-20-063	P25	Bulletin Insert – <i>Aquí y ahora</i>
	12144-20-064	P25	Bulletin Insert – <i>Construimos un hogar</i>
	12144-17-055	P25	Offering Envelope

KOREAN MATERIALS

	12144-20-072	limit 2	Poster
	12144-20-073	P25	Bulletin Insert - 지금 여기에
	12144-20-074	P25	Bulletin Insert - 가정 세우기
	12144-20-056	P25	Offering Envelope

SHIP TO: (Please use a street address—UPS cannot deliver to a PO box.)

CHURCH: _____

ATTENTION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

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

- 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: \$5.25 minimum, \$65 maximum).

If you are only ordering Pentecost 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: Orders will be shipped by UPS or similar service unless otherwise requested. Please include a street address. 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 **502-569-5047** or email **specialofferings@pcusa.org**
PC(USA) Office of Special Offerings
100 Witherspoon Street, Louisville, KY 40202



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Presbyterian Mission

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.