



PENTECOST
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

**God,
from my youth
you have
taught me.**

— PSALM 71:17



MATTHEW 25

*Building a Life
of Faith*

2021

LEADER'S GUIDE
APRIL 5–MAY 23



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
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

 TWITTER | twitter.com/pcusa_so

 FACEBOOK | facebook.com/specialofferings



2021

LEADER'S GUIDE
APRIL 5-MAY 23

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 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 presbyterianmission.org/ministries/youthministry

Support the planning of the 2022 Presbyterian Youth Triennium!

Enable the Office of Ministries with Youth to serve the denomination by providing free and low 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 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 improve the quality of public education.

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 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 23) or other youth-focused Sundays (such as Youth in the Church and World on August 15), 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/pentecost/resources
- ✦ **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: TAMARH ELLEN, FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, GREENSBORO, NC

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 — *O God, From My Youth* and *Teaching At Any Age* — 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.)



THREE WAYS YOUR MEMBERS CAN GIVE



Through your congregation



Text PENTECOST to 91999



pcusa.org/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 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.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LANGLEY HOYT



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.

"I know Presbyterians are energized by the young adults who do YAV and are so committed to the life of this wonderful church. Because that is the case, we must continue to support the Pentecost Offering and ensure that young people from all backgrounds are fully and equitably supported."

— Langley Hoyt, former YAV

6 MINUTE FOR MISSION

O GOD, FROM MY YOUTH YOU HAVE TAUGHT ME, AND I STILL PROCLAIM YOUR WONDROUS DEEDS.

— PSALM 71:17

Who have been your most influential teachers? All types of teachers — at school, at church, at work and in families — help shape who we become. We are grateful for all our teachers.

In Psalm 71, the author uses the image of a teacher for God by stating, “O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.” Jesus, himself, was called a rabbi — a “teacher” — so we get a clear sense in the Bible that God thinks teachers are important.

When we think about teachers, it’s pretty common for most of us to think about young people, too. But do we take the time to recognize the ways young people are our teachers? Over this past year, we have seen how important it is to watch and learn from young people.

Throughout our church, and around the world, children, youth and young adults have been part of teaching technology to older adults. They have been important in teaching about injustice and leading movements for change in their own communities.

We know how important it is to give young people a good foundation in faith, in education and in life. The Pentecost Offering helps us support the development of our young people through ministries of education, spiritual formation events like the 4,000+ gathering called the Presbyterian Youth Triennium, and through service as Young Adult Volunteers. It also encourages us to see how children, youth and young adults teach us new things and help us shape our faith, too.

The Psalmist says, “O God, from my youth, you have taught me ...” and that is true. But he could have also said, “O God, from **the** youth, you have taught me,” and he would have stated something almost as true. As we make our gifts to the Pentecost Offering, remember that 40% stays with our congregation to support local ministries with children, youth and young adults. The gifts we share will help young people learn important lessons about life and faith, and because they teach us, we will get to learn some lessons, too. Please give generously, for when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

SAMI HAN, PROTEST FOR IMMIGRATIONSOUTH KOREA



Let us pray —

God, teach us
through every young person
we meet.

May we see your house,
not only as a place where
young people are present,
but where they are actively building
the world you would have us create.

Amen.

6 MINUTE FOR MISSION

LIVING THE “DREAAM”

Tracy Dace, a passionate advocate for at-risk youth had just relocated to Champaign, Illinois, to start a doctoral program in special education at the University of Illinois when he found his heart calling him back into the community and, eventually, through the doors of a Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) congregation.

As Tracy was working in schools, after-school programs, a juvenile detention center and the county jail, he had an opportunity to build relationships with African American males.

“These boys and young men were brilliant, with so much promise and potential, and yet they also had experienced trauma,” he said. “I saw the opportunity to think about using a pipeline approach to prevent them from developing behavioral issues that can derail their lives, to strengthen their academic skills and disrupt generational poverty. That was the beginning of DREAAM.”

DREAAM — which stands for Driven to Reach Excellence and Academic Achievement for Males — was Tracy’s brainchild. It is a program designed to invest in African American males at risk and to walk alongside them and their families from the ages of five through 24.

Tracy’s vision and mission began to align after attending the PC(USA)’s 2013 Big Tent event in Louisville.

“It was at Big Tent that I found a greater calling on our faith and our denomination. I saw people who looked like me. I saw worship done in a contemporary and multicultural way, and I heard and witnessed leaders who promoted racial justice and transformation within Presbyterianism. This larger church that I felt I could be a part of helped me to better appreciate our local expression of church.”

Tracy took his idea for DREAAM to the mission committee at First Presbyterian Church. The church, upon hearing Dace’s presentation, also made the

connection with the denomination’s larger goals — especially as they are now expressed in the PC(USA)’s Matthew 25 initiative — and supported him with seed money to get the project off the ground.

DREAAM is also supported in part with gifts to the Pentecost Offering. Forty percent of the Pentecost Offering is retained by congregations for local ministries, while the remaining 60% is used to support children-at-risk, youth and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

Gifts to the Pentecost Offering make a real difference. “Our young people are not only our future, but they are also our present,” said the Rev. Dr. Alonzo Johnson, coordinator of the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People. “It is incumbent upon us as people of faith to make sure we are nurturing our young people in the faith and also nurturing them with our love. The Church is going to have to find ways to be vital to young people because they really need that right now.”

Let’s build God’s house by laying down a strong foundation of faith. Please give generously.

Let us pray —

*Teach us,
as your children,
God, and by your children, too.
Gather us all in your house,
that we might share all
that we have with one another.
Amen.*

6 MINUTE FOR MISSION

A WORLD AWAY, YET CONNECTED THROUGH FAITH

Just when most young people were beginning to imagine what nontraditional instruction might look like during COVID-19, Sami Han took things a step farther — a big step farther.

She moved to South Korea with her parents.

When the 15-year-old's parents, the Revs. Myung Sung "Martin" Han and Jieun Kim Han, accepted the call to serve as regional liaisons for East Asia in World Mission for the Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA), Sami left everything she knew in the U.S. behind — church, school, her two older brothers, her friends — but the one thing she didn't leave behind was her deeply felt connectedness to her church.

Sami enjoyed developing, planning and leading a worship service as a member of the youth group at New Goshen Presbyterian Church in Kentucky, where her father most recently served as transitional pastor before the family relocated to Seoul. She also participated in many other ministries, and even volunteered at two of the PC(USA)'s national Big Tent events, first in Indianapolis in 2011 and then in Louisville in 2013.

It is through young Presbyterians like Sami that we are building the Church, together. Gifts to the Pentecost Offering help our youth build a strong foundation of faith that will last a lifetime. Our gifts support the Presbyterian Youth Triennium, Young Adult Volunteer Program and the "Educate a Child, Transform the World" national initiative. Sami says she is already setting her sights on joining teens from all over the world who will attend the 2022 Youth Triennium **(INCLUDING — FROM OUR CHURCH)**.

Although the Pentecost Offering may be taken anytime, most congregations receive it on Pentecost Sunday. Sixty percent of the offering is used to support children-at-risk, youth and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency while

40% of the offering is retained by our congregation for local ministries with our youth and young adults.

Supporting young Presbyterians like Sami is what the Pentecost Offering is really all about, according to Gina Yeager-Buckley, Mission Associate for Formation including the Presbyterian Youth Triennium and other youth-focused ministries.

"It's such a joyful, positive and formative thing to invest in as we continue to watch young people like Sami take their next steps into leadership in the church and in their communities," she said. "To me, the Pentecost Offering witnesses to a church — from every level, local to national — that is excited in lifting up its young people and connecting them. You've got a healthier church. You've got a vital church. That's what I believe in."

That's what we all believe in, too. And here is something else we believe ... when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot. Please give generously to the Pentecost Offering.

Let us pray —

*Pentecost Spirit,
inspire our faith,
again,
through the young people
in our Church.*

*Let the bright faith they share
light your fire in all.*

Amen.

6 MINUTE FOR MISSION

YOUNG ADULT VOLUNTEERS STAND UP TO INJUSTICE AND WORK FOR HEALING

As a student at Presbyterian-related Davidson College, Langley Hoyt knew her own mind. The lifelong Presbyterian ventured beyond the college's bucolic campus into the streets of West Charlotte, N.C., where the world's injustices were all too apparent.

"For two summers during college, I worked and lived in a neighborhood in Charlotte where my neighbors were mostly Black with low incomes and were very affected by systemic racism, over-policing and the housing crisis," Langley said. "Because I wanted to keep engaging in these issues of justice while remaining deeply rooted both in faith and community, I was drawn after college to the Young Adult Volunteer program."

The Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) program is an ecumenical, faith-based year of service for young people ages 19–30 in sites across the United States and around the world. YAVs accompany local agencies working to address the root causes of poverty and reconciliation while exploring the meaning of their Christian faith and accountability to their neighbors in the community.

Because of Langley's formative summer experiences interning with a nonprofit that advocates for affordable housing, she asked that her YAV placement be with the PC(USA)'s Office of Public Witness in Washington, D.C.

Langley said that her YAV year in Washington, D.C., reinforced the importance of her faith. She continues to discern how she wants "to live and be in the world," particularly in the light of the PC(USA)'s Matthew 25 invitation to "build congregational vitality, dismantle structural racism and eradicate systemic poverty."

It was the Matthew 25 initiative that guided much of her work during her year of service with the Office of Public Witness and as she pursues a future as an ordained minister.

"I worked on researching the Presbyterian Church's legacy of white supremacy," she said. "I believe the church body still has much to do to face its complicity in white supremacy, anti-Blackness and taking some more risks to keep changing course."

YAVs are supported, in part, through the Pentecost Offering, one of the PC(USA)'s four Special Offerings. Forty percent of the Pentecost Offering is retained by our congregation for local ministries and community grant-making, while the remaining 60% is used to support children-at-risk, youth and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

Together, we are building a life of faith and building the household of God with our children, youth and young adults. As every building needs a strong foundation, each of us needs a foundation in faith that is strong enough to last a lifetime. Please give generously.

Let us pray —

*Teach us, O God,
in every generation,
to offer ourselves in service
to your justice and peace.*

*May we learn with
and from our children,
youth and young adults
as we build your house,
together.*

Amen.

6 MINUTE FOR MISSION

WHO ARE OUR TEACHERS?

The Psalmist says, “God from my youth, you have taught me...” Psalm 71:17, and that is true. But it could have also said, “God from **the** youth, you have taught me” and stated something almost as true. With a foundation in faith built in the early years, our youth can teach us something about leading movements for change in their own communities and in the world.

Who are these young teachers?

Langley Hoyt’s faith formation was solidified as a Young Adult Volunteer (YAV). The YAV program has been heavily focused on racial reconciliation and poverty for the past 27 years. This focus, and its intersection with Matthew 25, is one of the reasons that Langley wanted to spend her YAV year working in the PC(USA)’s Office of Public Witness.

“I worked on researching the Presbyterian Church’s legacy of white supremacy, particularly its participation in enslaving hundreds of thousands of African Americans,” she said. “I believe the church body has much to do to face its complicity in white supremacy, anti-Blackness and taking some more risks to keep changing course.”

Langley is now pursuing ordained ministry in the PC(USA), with the goal of working for a more just world.

Langley is a teacher.

Sami Han helped develop, plan and lead a worship service as a member of the youth group at New Goshen, Kentucky, Presbyterian Church.

“During the worship service, instead of just reading a Scripture lesson, we would act it out as if the Scripture was a play,” Sami recalled. “This showed me how youth groups can generate ideas for more effective worship services for newer generations.”

Sami is a teacher.

Tracy Dace founded a program called DREAAM — designed to reach, teach and invest in African American boys at risk and to walk alongside them and their families from the age of 5 until they reach the age of 24. The pandemic has proven challenging for DREAAM, but offered important lessons.

“In many ways, the pandemic has opened up an opportunity for us to reprioritize what it is that we are here to do,” he said, “and that is to reach and teach boys and their families and empower them to actualize, to work, to develop their goals into reality and to affirm that they are resilient.”

Tracy is a teacher and his DREAAMers are showing the way.

The Pentecost Offering helps us support the development of our young people through ministries of education and spiritual formation events. As we make our gifts to the Pentecost Offering, remember that 40% stays with our congregation to support local ministries with children, youth and young adults. The gifts we share will help young people learn important lessons about life and faith, and because they also teach us, we will also learn some lessons. Please give generously, for when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

Let us pray —

*Teach us, oh God,
in every season of our lives,
to hear your voice
in the voices of all your children.*

*May our gifts to support children,
youth and young adults
grow into gifts they offer back
to the whole 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 *O God, From My Youth* and *Teaching At Any Age*
- ❖ 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

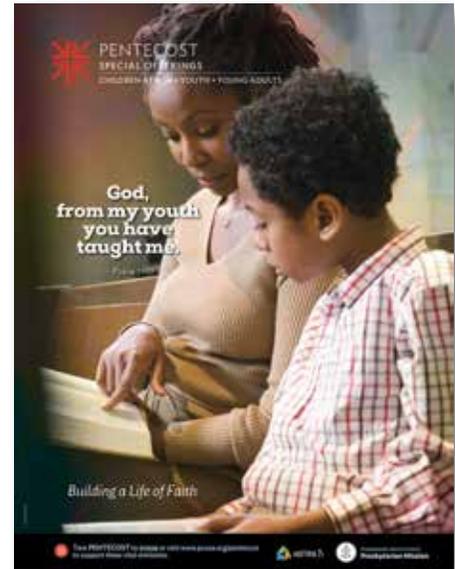
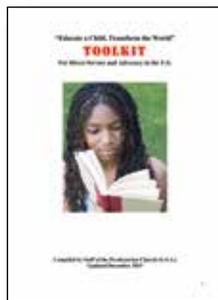


PHOTO: DREAM HOUSE



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR INTERPRETATION

Educate A Child: Toolkit For Congregations and Education Covenant



The 221st General Assembly (2014) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) launched a churchwide initiative calling on Presbyterians to work with partners in the US and worldwide to improve the quality of education for one million children. 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. The Educate a Child Covenant serves as a helpful resource to encourage congregations to live into ministries of child advocacy through Direct Service, Consciousness Raising, Systemic Change and Christian Disciplines that continue Christ's transforming ministry so that all children may grow in the fullness for which God created them.

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: pcusa.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, 2021

Most sites available, final date to apply to international sites

June 1, 2021

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

PLAN NOW FOR THE 2022 YOUTH TRIENNIUM “When Did You See Me?”



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. “When did you see me?” is the theme for the event.

Through worship, conversation, Bible study, and active engagement with the Word and Invitation Presbyterian young people will come to SEE their unique place in the faith community. Mission resources for youth and adults who are interested in attending the Triennium will be available in Spring 2021 at presbyterianyouthtriennium.org.

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



Teaching
At Any Age
insert

O God, From My Youth 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 | 12144-21-032 | limit 2 | Poster |
| | FREE | 12144-21-033 | P25 | Bulletin Insert – <i>O God, From My Youth</i> |
| | FREE | 12144-21-034 | P25 | Bulletin Insert – <i>Teaching At Any Age</i> |
| | FREE | 12144-21-036 | | Leader's Guide |
| | FREE | 12144-19-075 | P25 | Offering Envelope |
| | FREE | 12144-11-037 | each | Coin Box |

SPANISH MATERIALS (others available online)

| | | | | |
|--|------|--------------|---------|--|
| | FREE | 12144-21-062 | limit 2 | Poster |
| | FREE | 12144-21-063 | P25 | Bulletin Insert – <i>Oh Dios, desde mi juventud</i> |
| | FREE | 12144-21-064 | P25 | Bulletin Insert – <i>Enseñar a cualquier edad</i> |
| | FREE | 12144-17-055 | P25 | Offering Envelope |

KOREAN MATERIALS

| | | | | |
|--|------|--------------|---------|-------------------------------------|
| | FREE | 12144-21-072 | limit 2 | Poster |
| | FREE | 12144-21-073 | P25 | Bulletin Insert – 하나님이여 나를 어려서부터 |
| | FREE | 12144-21-074 | P25 | Bulletin Insert – 어느 때라도 가르치시므로 |
| | FREE | 12144-20-056 | P25 | Offering Envelope |

SHIP TO:

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: \$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: 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 **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.