



The Christmas Joy Offering reflects that God is with us, through the generous gifts that support church leaders among us, retired, present and future, who have pointed us to God. Even as we support our current and former church leaders through the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, God is calling new leaders for our Church and world, through the ministry of Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color — offering students the means for a brighter future and enhanced opportunities to use their talents and skills to serve God, the Church and the world for years to come.



The Christmas Joy Offering is one of four annual special offerings. The church-wide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) play an important role in defining what it means to be a connectional church in the 21st century, bringing together the diversity of the PC (USA) to focus and take faith-based action on shared concerns. The Special Offerings offer opportunities for partnership, learning, and witness and they profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.


WAYS TO GIVE


Through your congregation

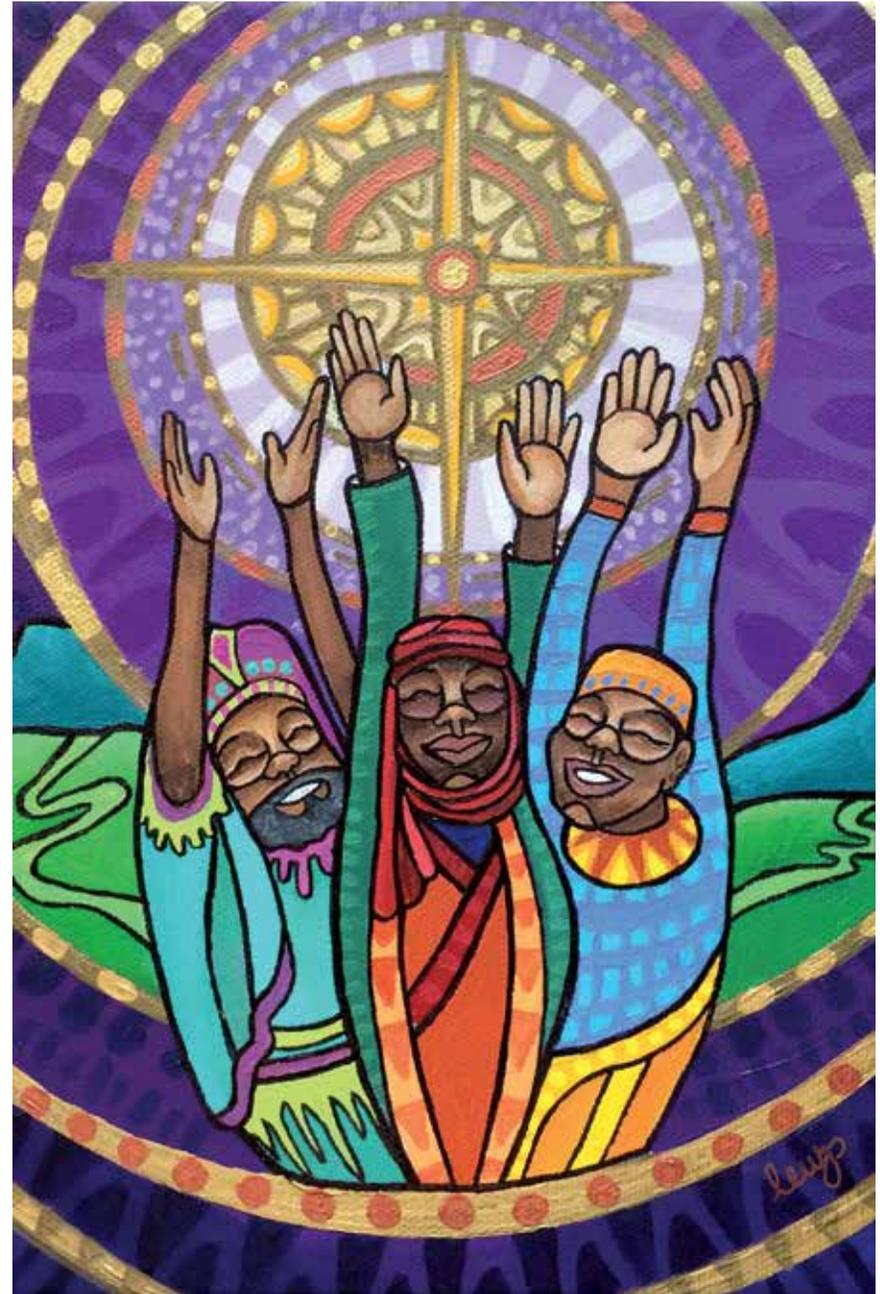

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Text **CHRISTMASJOY** to 91999 to give or visit pcusa.org/christmasjoy



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When we give to the Christmas Joy Offering, we share our love with the leaders of our Church — past, present and future.

50%

of your gifts assists current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial needs.



Rev. Meg Shoeman's career has been a long journey. Receiving her M.Div. in 2007 but not seeking ordination because of the ban on gays and lesbians, she worked at an animal shelter until being ordained in 2018 to the Children's Hospital of Alabama. A year later, she left this call and worked on a PRN basis as a chaplain at Hershey Medical Center, part-time at a coffee shop and also in a temporary pastoral position at the Market Square Presbyterian Church in Pennsylvania. When COVID shut the coffee shop down she lost critical income. Thankfully, an Emergency Assistance Grant from the Board of Pensions brought her both stability and peace of mind in a difficult time.

"I am grateful for the generosity of Presbyterians, whose Christmas Joy offerings make it possible to provide support and sustenance to those like Meg, whom God has called. Such gifts bring essential peace of mind and demonstrate our gratitude for God's gift, in the Christ child."

— Rev. Cheryl Galen, (Interim) Executive Presbyter for the Presbytery of Carlisle

50%

of your gifts make it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.



Because of the ongoing violence against young girls that terrorized their community, Sarah Valentina Hernandez Solache's parents decided to send her, like her older sister before her, to pursue a safer life and a good education at the Presbyterian Pan American School in Kingsville, Texas. Thanks to scholarships funded in part by the Christmas Joy Offering, the experience was transformative. Both are graduates with Sarah now a pre-med student and her sister a Houston-based architect. "Coming to Pan Am and to this Christian community is where I actually found myself and my faith, and where I knew that I loved God," Sarah said. "I found my blessing here."

"Through the sharing of the Christmas Joy Offering — and prayers — every student receives the gift of reaching his or her full potential. This important source of funding makes a difference in the lives of the students entrusted not only to Pan Am but also to the other Presbyterian-related racial and ethnic schools and colleges."

— Dr. Gordon A. Govens, President and Head of School, Presbyterian Pan American School



PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY...
FOR WHEN WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!