



The Christmas Joy Offering provides assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need, and develops our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.



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.

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Cover: Communion by Debby Hudson; Minerals by Orfeas Green

WAYS TO GIVE



Through your congregation



Donate by credit card online at pcusa.org/christmasjoy



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



THANK YOU, GOD
for connecting us.

Thank you for neighbors, each with needs and gifts to share, and for our church, the Whole Church, together, and for Jesus Christ,
Amen.



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 assist current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial needs.



Retired since 2007, Rev. Ben Franklin Whitfield suffered a stroke in January 2021. Facing financial hardships after a lifetime in ministry serving primarily rural congregations, Ben and his wife Helen, received help from the Presbytery of Wabash Valley and the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions in the form of an Emergency Assistance grant and a monthly Housing Supplement for Retirees receiving Home Health Care. As he recovers, Ben — who had earlier served as a teacher in the Chicago Public Schools and Indianapolis Public Schools — is working toward regaining enough strength to start tutoring out of their home.

“How greatly we understand the uniqueness of the Presbyterian Church in its call to help people as Christ commands. And now, having so carefully laid out the importance of giving to the Christmas Joy Offering in the rural area congregations where Ben was pastor, we are so grateful to directly benefit from such financial assistance.”

— Helen Whitfield



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.

Growing up in a low-income family in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, Kyley Thompson was determined to follow in her grandmother’s footsteps of receiving a college education, so she enrolled, even with the prohibitive cost. Stillman College, a small, close-knit community right there in her own backyard became Thompson’s whole world. Her teachers helped her secure financial support for her studies and sometimes, her rent. Thanks to this support, Kyley graduated with honors — and with a presidential fellowship to do historical research at Stillman waiting for her.

“The money you give goes directly to students and keeps them in college. Like me, many students often feel like they are hanging by a thread. Your donation fills in the threads and makes a rope — a lifeline of financial assistance.”

— Kyley Thompson

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

