### 2025 PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

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For the Lord your God
will bless you
in all your produce
and in all your undertakings,
and you shall surely celebrate.

-Deuteronomy 16:15b



Give or learn more about the Birthday Offering by visiting presbyterianwomen.org/birthday.

<sup>\*</sup> New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Used by permission.



#### Dear Presbyterian Women and Friends,

The PW Birthday Offering was born in 1922 when Hallie Paxson Winsborough challenged members of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Presbyterian Church in the United States to give a penny for each year of her life, encouraging them to offer "a penny for every year you have lived, and if that is a secret, bring a dollar!" Funds from that first "birthday gift" benefitted Miss Dowd's School for Girls in Kochi, Japan, as well as construction of the beloved entrance gate at the Montreat Conference Center in Montreat, North Carolina.

As members of the Creative Ministries Offering Committee of Presbyterian Women, we celebrate the two significant projects chosen for this year's grants that address housing for Native Americans and disaster recovery in the Mississippi Delta region. We ask that you enthusiastically and faithfully share this information and encourage giving to the PW Birthday Offering.

Thank you for continuing to support our long PW tradition of extending God's blessings to our neighbors in need.

Blessings,

Creative Ministries
Offering Committee

Creative Ministries Offering Committee Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA), Inc.









2025

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

### Birthday Offering

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#### 2025 Birthday Offering Recipients

The PW Birthday Offering is an annual tradition for Presbyterian Women. Since its beginnings over a century ago, grants from this offering have funded more than 200 major capital projects and today the fruits of this labor are still found in places such as South Korea, Peru, Malawi and all across the U.S. By providing funds for hospitals, schools, homes for children and so much more, givers to the PW Birthday Offering help carry the promise of God's love, grace and kindness to people in all parts of the world.

Support the Birthday Offering so that organizations like the ones selected for 2025 will continue to receive God's blessings "and they will surely celebrate"! (Deut. 16:15b). Give through your PW group or at presbyterianwomen.org/give.



#### Leland Presbyterian Church Windward Volunteer Housing Facility Leland, Mississippi \$150,000

Much of the population around Leland Presbyterian Church, located in the heart of the Mississippi Delta region, struggles with barriers to adequate housing, healthcare and food access. When disaster strikes, residents do not have adequate resources to recover. Volunteers who travel from outside the area to assist in home repairs and community improvements can be the determining factor in whether a family can fully recover.

This Birthday Offering grant will help build a housing facility at Leland Presbyterian Church. Windward Volunteer Housing will offer safe and comfortable accommodations, including showers, laundry equipment and a kitchen. Members of the community who need a temporary place to stay and volunteer groups who come for disaster recovery will find a warm welcome in Leland.





#### Red Cloud Renewable

Lakota Thiyuha Dome Home Project
Pine Ridge, South Dakota
redcloudrenewable.org
\$150,000

Tribal communities in the U.S. are experiencing a housing crisis, and the Pine Ridge Reservation alone needs an estimated 4,000 to 5,000 homes. Responding to this great challenge, Red Cloud Renewable, a Native-led grassroots nonprofit organization on the Pine Ridge Reservation, provides free training and workforce development opportunities designed to "teach our tribal relatives to fish."

Thiyuha in Lakota roughly translates to "having a home; starting a family; settling down; creating new life." The Lakota Thiyuha Project aims to increase housing availability through construction of innovative dome homes that are energy efficient, economical, simple in design and easily teachable. The Birthday Offering grant will construct three dome homes, providing housing as well as creating publicity for this affordable option. Construction apprentices will gain experience in this building technique that can rapidly and affordably increase housing availability for Lakota families in need.





#### **Dedication Service**

BY KRISTEN CAMPBELL AND SHONDA GALLOWAY

#### Call to Worship (from Psalm 55)

One: Come into the land of God.

All: We come seeking a land of love.

One: Live as the people of Christ.

All: We gather to grow as a community of love.

One: Follow in the ways of our Lord.

All: We move forward on the path of love.

One: Come, young and old, friend and stranger, for all are

welcome here.

All: We come to live and grow in the love of Christ

Jesus. Praise God for this wonderful gift!1

#### Hymn Suggestions\*

"Here in This Place" (GtG 401)

"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly" (GtG 509)

#### Scripture

"For the Lord your God will bless you in all your produce and in all your undertakings, and you shall surely celebrate."

—Deuteronomy 16:15b

#### Meditation

As we write, your Presbyterian Women Creative Ministries Offering Committee (CMOC) just met in Louisville, Kentucky, and had the pleasure of being together, in person. There is nothing like physical presence!

Talk about celebrating what God is doing! Decisions were made and grant recipients were selected, after much discussion with deep, heartfelt emotional sharing (including a few warm, salty tears). Leaders in Presbyterian Women are truly passionate about mission.

In our scripture for this year's Birthday Offering, we acknowledge God's blessings and place an emphasis on celebrating. It is easy to Celebrate What God Is Doing! Or is it?

If it's so easy, how often do we really celebrate what God is doing? C'mon now. God knows we spend plenty of time discouraged, down and out, distressed, disgruntled, even plagued with worry, fear and doubt. But by God's grace, we are blessed, even when we are distressed! As faithful Presbyterian women, we should rejoice and celebrate God's blessings so that, through our actions and examples, we encourage others to give thanks and to rejoice and celebrate along with us!

Let's dig deep in our coin purses and (with God's help, of course!) just look at what we can do together: This year our PW Birthday Offering has \$300,000 to utilize in furthering God's glory!

So siblings in Christ, let's continue the great work of our hearts and our hands. And let us take time, making opportunities to celebrate what God is doing in our midst!

Take a moment right now, in whatever group you're in, to pause and invite each person present to talk about one wonderful thing God is doing: in your life, in your church, in your PW group, or even in your community, state or country. God is at work in our lives, and we are blessed to see with new eyes all that God is doing!

We know, God continues to work through humans, people just like you and me! And when we bless each other, we bless God.

So, keep up the good work, PW. And please, celebrate what God is doing!

May this 2025 Birthday Offering of Presbyterian Women continue to encourage and inspire one another to celebrate and bless God, as God continues to bless each of us. Thanks be to God!

#### **Prayer of Dedication**

Glorious and Awesome God,

You are our creator, our source of life and we come as your people. Gather us in, united, mindful of the ties that bind us together in your love. Write your promises upon our hearts and in our minds, that we may be generous and loving daughters,



sisters, friends. Strengthen us, Lord, by your Holy Spirit, that we may live loving, blessed lives transformed by your grace. Keep us hopeful and helpful, transforming lives of others for God's glory. We pray in the loving name of Jesus. Amen.

#### Hymn Suggestions\*

"Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me" (GtG 582) "God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian" (GtG 303)

#### Charge and Benediction

One: Mighty and magnificent God, every good and perfect gift comes from you. Guide us to become more like you in all we say and do. Siblings in Christ, go out and show love to God and neighbor.

All: We go forth in the love of God.

One: Go to welcome the stranger.

All: We go forth with love for the whole wide world.

One: May we all go in peace, and all God's people said,

AMEN!

Kristen Campbell is the Synod of the Sun representative and Shonda Galloway is the Synod of Mid-America representative to the Churchwide Board of Directors.

#### **Notes**

- 1 from PW Board of Directors worship service, 2024.
- \* Hymns marked "GtG" are from *Glory to God* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 2013)



#### SUPPORT THE BIRTHDAY OFFERING

#### Group gift



PW group members can support the Birthday Offering with cash or checks. Envelopes to receive gifts from a group are available free of charge in packs of 25 from the PW Shop (presbyterianwomen.org/shop; item PWR12501) or the PC(USA) Store (800/533-4371).

**PW** in the Congregation treasurers, please receive your Birthday Offering gifts and send to your PW in the Presbytery treasurer.

**PW** in the Presbytery treasurers, send your Birthday Offering gifts with your presbytery's other quarterly contributions to Presbyterian Women Remittance Processing, PO Box 643652, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3652. Visit presbyterianwomen.org to download a remittance form. Has your treasurer changed? Let us know by contacting Rhonda Martin at rhonda.martin@pcusa.org or 844/PW-PCUSA (844/797-2872), ext. 5596.

#### Individual gift



If you are giving outside a PW group, use the individual giving envelope. Envelopes to receive these gifts are available free of charge in packs of 10 from the PW Shop (presbyterianwomen.org/shop; item PWR20456) or the PC(USA) Store (800/533-4371).

Give by check or credit card with the individual giving envelope and receive a tax receipt for your gift. Fill out the envelope completely, including your presbytery and synod so they will receive credit for your gift.

Tip: Distribute envelopes to your congregation for even wider support of the Birthday Offering.

Note: Prefer using your own envelope? Mail your check to Presbyterian Women, Inc., Remittance Processing—Giving, PO Box 643652, Pittsburgh PA 15264-3652. Include "Birthday Offering" on the memo line of your check and note your presbytery or synod.

#### **Online Giving**

Make a Donation →

Make a secure online gift at presbyterianwomen.org/give.

#### We don't want to miss anyone!

Help us keep contact information current. When PW leaders in your congregation, presbytery and/or synod change, please let us know. Email changes to pw\_pcusa.org.

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The Presbyterian Women Birthday Offering helps fund projects that improve lives at home and around the world. This year's recipients are:

LELAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Windward Volunteer Housing Facility Leland, Mississippi \$150.000 RED CLOUD RENEWABLE Lakota Thiyuha Dome Home Project Pine Ridge, South Dakota redcloudrenewable.org \$150,000

Resources to Promote and Receive the 2025 Presbyterian Women Birthday Offering

#### Essentials

The **2025 Birthday Offering promotional booklet**, which is mailed to PW leaders, includes grant recipient summaries; dedication service; promotional resource flier; instructions for giving. *Available as a download in English, Korean and Spanish as well!* Item PWR25451; free.

The 11" x 17" **2025 Birthday Offering poster/placemat** is versatile: use side one as a poster suitable for bulletin boards and trifolds; use side two as a placemat for group meals and tabletops. Available as singles so order as many (or as few) as needed! Item PWR25453; free.

**2025 Birthday Offering promotional flier** ( $8\frac{1}{2}$ " x 11") Download only; item PWR25457; free.

#### Receiving the Offering

**Birthday Offering group giving envelopes**, traditionally used in PW groups and congregations, are available in packs of 25; item PWR12501; free.

**Individual giving envelopes** are PW's multipurpose envelopes. These #10 green envelopes include an attached slip that allows an individual (or group) to choose where to direct gifts as well as an area for credit card information. Available in packs of 10; item PWR20456; free.

**2025 Birthday Offering bulletin insert** Download only; item PWR25450.

**2025 Birthday Offering bulletin cover**  $(8\frac{1}{2}$ " x 11") Download only; item PWR25452.

**2025 Birthday Offering promotional video** (English, Spanish and Korean) Available on PW's YouTube channel: youtube.com/presbyterianwomen.

#### More to Explore!

The January/February 2025 issue of *Horizons* magazine includes the grant recipient list as well as a dedication service. Available to order January 2025; item HZN25200 \$4.00. (Not a *Horizons* magazine subscriber? Call 866/802-3635 or visit presbyterianwomen.org/subscribe!)

Messages of Reconciliation and Hope: 75 Years of Birthday Offerings, 1922–1997, by Catherine Stewart Vaughn. Item PWR00507, \$12.00 \$3.00 (special sale price).

#### Two Ways to Order

- Call 800/533-4371, Monday-Friday, 10 AM-5 PM EST.
- Or shop online at presbyterianwomen.org/shop (type "Birthday Offering" in the search box).

**Note:** Prices do not include shipping and handling (based on weight of order; \$6.25 minimum). International orders and orders to Puerto Rico will incur additional shipping charges. There are no shipping charges for free/promotional offering materials.

Help us keep contact information current. When leaders, such as treasurers and moderators in your congregation, presbytery and/or synod change, please let us know. Email changes to pw\_pcusa@pcusa.org.



#### Promotional Video Online!

To view the free 2025 Birthday Offering promotional video in English, Korean and Spanish, go to PW's YouTube channel: youtube.com/presbyterianwomen.

To order additional copies of the booklet or poster/placemat, call 800/533-4371 or visit presbyterianwomen.org/shop. To download copies of the promotional booklet, flier, bulletin cover and bulletin insert, go to presbyterianwomen.org/birthday.





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