

# Mission News



Presbytery of Carlisle

## 2019 Mission Yearbook of Prayer and Participation by All Congregations

In 2019 the Mission Advocacy Committee will change the format of the Mission Yearbook to be more inclusive. During September letters were sent to pastors and clerks of sessions asking each church session to send either an article about a mission focus (see format on the website) or a short list of what is exciting their congregation during the coming year. Examples could include:

- 1) Our church is completing a fundraising campaign to improve our ministry to our local community.
- 2) We have a new director of (education, music, pastor, interim).

3) Church members are serving the community volunteering at local ministries such as: Downtown Daily Bread, Meals on Wheels, Food Pantry, Diaper Depot, etc.

Please share one to three things that your congregation does in mission that is exciting, and how this service spreads the gospel to the world around you.

Please send your submissions of one to three sentences, and the name of your congregation to Suzi Souder: *ssouder@carlislepby.org* no later than **October 15th**, so that we can include everyone. These submissions will be

included in our prayers for your church during 2019. To receive a copy of the September mailing, go to: [www.carlislepby.org](http://www.carlislepby.org). Hover over Committees in the smaller menu bar at the top of the home page. On the drop-down menu click Mission Advocacy, and scroll down the page to the mailing link.

If more information is needed, please contact 717-737-6821. We look forward to sharing something from everyone!

## Presbyterian Health, Education and Welfare Association

Each year the Peace Advocates Committee purchases a yearly membership for the Presbytery to PHEWA. All of the presbytery's churches are entitled to use the resource materials and information they provide.

What is PHEWA? In 1956 the General Assembly created the Presbyterian Health, Education and Welfare Association (PHEWA)

to be more responsive to the needs of those too often excluded, or on the margins of the church and of society, providing them with much needed voices and perspectives. PHEWA is a community of ministries. Their mission is to seek and voice God's Shalom; to proclaim the inclusive gospel of justice and mercy; to share in Christ's

work of compassion and love; and to witness the Spirit's prophetic activity to church and the world. One purpose is to provide resources, peer support and networking connections for Presbyterians involved in social welfare and justice ministries. PHEWA encourages the church to be

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### Special points of interest:

#### Article 1

The missions and ministries of our congregations are important. Praying together makes us all stronger in our service to Jesus Christ!

#### Article 2

PHEWA provides mission and ministry resources to help our congregations serve in their communities and beyond!

#### Article 3

Information about the Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

## PHEWA, *cont.*

responsive to the needs of the excluded and suffering providing programmatic, organizational and technical assistance to Presbyterians working for justice. PHEWA is organized around ten mission networks:

- Presbyterian Association for Community Transformation (PACT)
- Presbyterians Against Domestic Violence Network (PADVN)
- Presbyterian AIDS Network (PAN)
- Presbyterians Affirming Reproductive Options (PARO)
- Presbyterian Association of Specialized Pastoral Ministries (PASPM)
- Presbyterian Child Advocacy Network (PCAN)
- Presbyterian Criminal Justice Network (PCJN)
- Presbyterians for Disability Concerns (PDC)
- Presbyterian Health Network (PHN)
- Presbyterian Serious Mental Illness Network (PSMIN)

Members of the various networks are volunteers, who give thousands of hours working with individuals, congregations and middle governing bodies. A volunteer Leadership Team guides each of the 10 networks. Members of these teams share a passion for their network's ministry. They come through a variety of avenues – professionals in the ministry area, pastors, seminary or college educators, involved family members, consumers of services. They all volunteer because they want to see the church as a place of welcome. Each of the networks has a link to one or more of the programmatic offices in PCUSA. They also partner with the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy (ACSWP)

What do they do? They carry out the work of the General Assembly. They consult with individuals, congregations, and mid councils to help them as they seek to bring justice to persons, who are often marginalized by the church and society. They identify leadership with expertise for use church-wide in the areas of network ministries.

They provide leadership development and a Leadership Development Event. A biennial Social Justice Conference and other training events are hosted. They prepare and/or partner in the development of resources, and monitor, support, and advocate

for ministries of justice within the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

PHEWA's resources and expertise are available to all churches, because of our Presbytery's membership.

Please explore the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s website to discover what is offered, and how it could help your congregation to minister to, and be understanding of the different populations, who may come through our doors!

### October 7th

Worldwide Communion Sunday  
Peace & Global Witness Offering

### December 23rd

Christmas Joy Offering

**PHEWA has resources to help congregations with their ministries.**



## Carlisle Presbytery Peace Advocates

Who are the Peace Advocates? Formed in the 1980s from like minded members from churches within our presbytery, the Peace Advocates serves as ad hoc members of the Mission Advocacy Committee with voice, but not vote. The size of the original group has gotten smaller, but they still serve the presbytery helping to choose recipients of the presbytery's portion of the Peace and Global Witness offering each year. Also, they highlight peacemaking resources and events throughout the denomination and locally.

For more information about this group, contact the Mission Advocacy Committee Chair Diane Myers through the presbytery office.

*"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' and I said, 'Here am I; send me!'"* Isaiah 6:8



Presbytery of Carlisle

3040 Market St., Suite 1  
Camp Hill, PA 17011  
717-737-6821 • FAX 717-737-9137  
www.carlislepyby.org

*The Presbytery of Carlisle exists to support our congregations for faithful service to God in the name of Jesus Christ.*

*The Presbytery of Carlisle administers and supports a disaster recovery ministry, Lend A Hand, which has provided recovery, rebuilding and relief efforts across the United States. For information about Lend A Hand, please call 717-731-8888 or visit their website [www.lendahand.net](http://www.lendahand.net).*

*Also, the Presbytery ministers in partnership with the Presbyterian Church in Honduras helping to build homes, teach, and support the ministries of members and pastors. We support the service of mission co-worker Dori Hjalmarson to the area. For more information about this partnership, please contact the presbytery office.*

## Special Offerings

The Mission Advocacy Committee is charged with educating congregations about the four special offerings: One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost, Peace & Global Witness, and Christmas Joy. These offerings each have a special component for sharing the funds.

The **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering is a long standing ecumenical effort to alleviate the effects of poverty, injustice, and disaster. 32 percent goes to rebuild hope by working alongside communities as they recover natural or human-caused disasters. 36 percent goes toward growing food security by supporting initiatives that create sustainable food systems and alleviate root causes of poverty so all may be fed. The final 32 percent goes toward partnering in progress by providing resources and education to oppressed and disadvantaged communities working to overcome poverty and injustice through initiatives they own which benefit them directly.

The **Pentecost** offering connects with ministries that address the needs of at-risk children and encourage, grow, and support the church's greatest resource – our young people. Forty percent goes

toward supporting youth in your own church. You retain this portion of the offering to invest in local and church programs focused on developing youth and serving at-risk children in your community. 25 percent goes toward serving communities by bringing youth adults together in fellowship, worship and service by volunteering in communities around the world. 25 percent goes toward guiding youth by supporting ministries that inspire and guide youth as they grow and walk with Christ. The last 10 percent provides advocacy that protects and education that nurtures our children and youth.

The **Peace & Global Witness** offering unites with congregations and presbyteries in sharing the Peace of Christ and promoting reconciliation and peacemaking within cultures of violence and conflict – including our own. 25 percent is retained by your congregation to invest in local responses to violence and injustice, and to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. The rest is sent to Presbytery which retains 25 percent toward linking congregations through a special Peacemaking Committee who award grants. The final 50 percent is sent from the Pres-

bytery to PCUSA to advocate for Christ's Peace and Justice through collaborative initiatives of education and Christian witness.

The **Christmas Joy** offering joins in assisting our past and present church workers in their time of need by providing education and leadership development of our church's future racial ethnic leaders. 50 percent provides opportunities for future leaders and 50 percent is used to give back to those who gave their all through the assistance program of the Board of Pensions.

When contributing to any of these offerings, church treasurers and sessions should be aware of the percentage amounts that should remain in their local congregations and send the rest to the presbytery using the Contribution Form. The presbytery will send the appropriate amounts to Synod or General Assembly and retain what should remain with the presbytery.

Thank you so much for your continued, generous, support of our church's special offerings!