

# 2022

## Annual Report



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
**Presbyterian Mission**



Contributed photo



Contributed photo

*Top to bottom:  
The congregation of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, Del., sings "Silent Night" by candlelight on Christmas Eve.*

*The student choir from the Institut Médical Chrétien du Kasai nursing school in the Democratic Republic of Congo performs at a worship service. The nursing school is a legacy project of the Presbyterian Church and was founded by missionaries in 1954.*

*Aisha Brooks-Johnson, conference preacher, uses red heart glasses as a reminder to seek Christ in the world at the Presbyterian Association of Musicians Worship and Music Conference.*

*The Rev. Pepa Paniagua, founder and coordinating pastor of kin-dom community and co-director of kin-dom camp, leads a morning gathering at the kin-dom camp for LGBTQIA+ youth.*



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Presbyterian Mission Agency

# 2022

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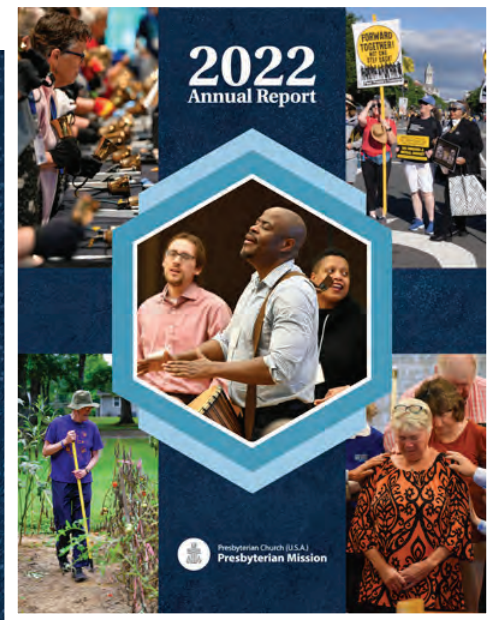
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### ON THE COVER

*Top left: Many conference participants join handbell ensembles, co-directed by Brian Childers. The second day of the Presbyterian Association of Musicians Worship and Music Conference included worship and the start of classes, ensembles, lectures and more at Montreat Conference Center in Montreat, N.C.*  
 Presbyterian Mission Agency

*Top right: First Presbyterian Church members and others protest in the state capital in Raleigh on behalf of the poor.*  
 Contributed photo

*Center: The Rev. Alonzo Johnson, the Rev. Denise Anderson and Henry Koenig Stone lead worship.*  
 Contributed photo

*Bottom left: Jim Layman, a volunteer at Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry and member of Black Mountain Presbyterian Church, works in the church's community garden.*  
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*Bottom right: The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Host Site at First Presbyterian Church in Calvert City, Ky., is commissioned during worship on Oct. 23. Volunteers at the site assist recovery from tornadoes that struck Western Kentucky in December 2021.*  
 Presbyterian Mission Agency

About the

# Presbyterian Mission Agency

Presbyterian Mission Agency



*“What does the  
Lord require of  
you but to do  
justice, and to love  
kindness, and to  
walk humbly with  
your God?”*

*– Micah 6:8*

For over 200 years, Presbyterians have been responding to the call of Jesus Christ, taking the gospel into all the world and bearing witness to Christ’s saving love to the ends of the earth. Today, we seek to inspire, equip and connect Presbyterians, mid councils and congregations to engage in the Matthew 25 vision of building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism and eradicating systemic poverty more deeply — and three intersectional priorities that fully connect to the current Matthew 25 foci: climate change, gender justice and heteropatriarchy, and militarism.

Matthew 25:31–46 calls us to actively engage in the world, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. Convicted by this passage, both the 222nd and 223rd General Assemblies (2016 and 2018) exhorted the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to act boldly and compassionately to see our neighbors through Jesus’ eyes and serve those who are marginalized or in need — people who are hungry, thirsty, naked, sick, imprisoned, strangers, poor or oppressed in other ways and in need of welcoming.

Make no mistake, Jesus is calling us to perform ordinary acts of compassion in daily life. In so doing, we continue Christ’s work of proclaiming release to captives and good news to the poor — the good news of God’s righteousness, justice and peace for all.

As you read through the many stories sharing the good news of God’s love, we hope that you will be inspired to use your gifts and engage in mission in your neighborhoods and communities around the world.

You can find out more by visiting [presbyterianmission.org](http://presbyterianmission.org) or by following us on Facebook and Instagram.

*Above: The Rev. Kendra Buckwalter Smith prepares Communion at the Presbyterian Association of Musicians Music and Worship Conference at Montreat Conference Center.*



**“In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth praying, ‘Come, Lord Jesus.’”**

*— From “A Brief Statement of Faith”*

*Youth group at Myers Park Presbyterian means learning how to cope in today’s world through prayer and mindfulness.*

*A Message from the*

# *ED/PMAB Co-Chairs*

evolve



**Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett**  
*President and Executive Director of  
the Presbyterian Mission Agency*



**Rev. Shannan Vance-Ocampo**  
*Co-Chair, Board of Directors*



**Rev. Michelle Hwang**  
*Co-Chair, Board of Directors*

In 2022, Presbyterian Mission Agency leadership designated “evolve” as our guiding theme for the year. And it has certainly been a year of evolutions both within Presbyterian Mission Agency and beyond. Globally, Covid has remained present, but vaccines have continued to do their work and, bit by bit, restrictions have eased. There is no returning to the world before the pandemic, but we are evolving into the world that will exist after it. Meanwhile, communities around the world have been forced to evolve in response to catastrophic disruptions: the invasion of Ukraine; the ongoing famine in Somalia; Hurricanes Ian, Nicole and Fiona in the Caribbean and the United States; and mass shootings in Buffalo, New York, Uvalde, Texas, and far too many other places to name.

As we seek to respond to the needs of an evolving world, Presbyterian Mission Agency remains grounded in our Matthew 25 priorities: building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism and eradicating systemic poverty. And we have also opened ourselves to evolving in new ways as we live out this Matthew 25 vision. In 2022, we welcomed new leaders and embraced new leadership models, encouraging wherever possible greater interdepartmental and interagency collaboration. We expanded the edges of our work with new ministries like the Center for the Repair of Historic Harms. We invested ourselves in new systems for measuring progress and maintaining accountability.

And we have grown! Our efforts have yielded so much new life and ministry. We have rejoiced at the birth of dozens of new worshiping communities and disciples of Jesus Christ in the 10th year of our 1001 program. Elsewhere we have mobilized support for disaster-stricken communities here in our own country and around the world. And we



*Valerie & Ed*

have celebrated surpassing our goals around growing the Matthew 25 movement with an ever-growing number of new congregations, presbyteries and synods. More and more, we are being church as Jesus calls us to be.

We both hold fast to our values and embrace adaptability and change so we can continue to live out God's calling for us to inspire, equip and connect the church in mission, bearing witness to Jesus Christ and sharing the love and justice of God in the world.

This report contains stories of some of the work we've done in this effort over the past year. We could not have accomplished that work or evolved in the ways we have needed to without your prayerful and faithful support. We are grateful. Thank you for your gifts, your donations, your encouragement and your commitment to Christ. Thank you for being our partners in ministry.

In faith,

The Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett

The Rev. Shannan Vance-Ocampo

The Rev. Michelle Hwang



*A strong and consistent vision for the*

# *Presbyterian Mission Agency*

The Presbyterian Mission Agency continues in its mission to inspire, equip and connect Presbyterians, mid councils and congregations to engage in the Matthew 25 vision so that our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities.

The Matthew 25 invitation focuses on Matthew 25:31–46, the parable of the sheep and goats, in which Jesus clarifies that what we do matters to God and how we treat others is important.

The Presbyterian Mission Agency inspires our churches in the United States and our international partners worldwide to become a revolutionary presence in the world. Led by its unwavering faith, the Presbyterian Mission Agency celebrates the action congregations, presbyteries and synods are taking to become the change they want to see in the world.

In 2022, the mission agency recognized three General Assembly-mandated intersectional priorities that fully connect to the current Matthew 25 foci of dismantling structural racism, building congregational vitality and eradicating systemic poverty. These three intersectional priorities are climate change, militarism and gender justice/heteropatriarchy. These intersections were identified in the Presbyterian Mission Agency's strategic visioning process as persistent and serious threats to the well-being of communities thrust to the margins.

When we welcome others, we welcome Christ; when we bring together people who are divided, we are doing God's reconciling work. We are called to serve Jesus by making disciples and contributing to the well-being of the most vulnerable in all societies — rural and urban, small and large, young and not-so-young. Whether it's working to bring about affordable housing, community gardens, equitable educational and employment opportunities, healing from addiction and mental illness or enacting policy change — we do everything in the name of Jesus Christ.

Jesus is calling us to perform ordinary acts of compassion and justice in daily life. In so doing, we continue Christ's work of proclaiming release to the captives and good news to the poor — the good news of God's righteousness, justice and peace for all.

We are following Jesus, who has called and commissioned us by the power of the Holy Spirit to do this challenging and joyful work. With God, what seems impossible is possible. The Presbyterian Mission Agency is grateful for the privilege of sharing in ministry with you and for helping people in our many locations make the impossible possible every day! To God be the glory!





*Jim Layman, a volunteer, and Cheryl Wilson, executive director of Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry, share a lighthearted moment.*

Matthew 25

# Building Congregational Vitality



Second Presbyterian Church

## **THE CALL TO SERVE BEGINS EARLY**

The future of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is more promising because Matthew 25 is being used to transform churches' children and youth ministries. Christian educators found that the concepts of building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism and eradicating systemic poverty resonate with youth, especially when the concepts are rooted in story and community action. Second Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis uses a child-forward approach to ensure spiritual concepts are accessible for children. It adapts the concepts of faith to language "that fits in the mouth of a child." The church's Northside Food Pantry also encourages children to learn from an early age the importance of helping and caring for others.

*Left: Children learn at an early age how God calls them to help the "least of these" by growing food for others.*

## **RE-TURN, RE-FORM, RE-ENVISION**

Vitality is all about joining in what God is doing to bring life, love and justice into every community, relationship and person on earth. As of 2022, there were approximately 37 presbyteries and 185 congregations enrolled in the Presbyterian Mission Agency's Vital Congregations program. We walk and work alongside leaders of existing congregations continually assessing, discerning and living into faithful actions that increase vitality through intentional spiritual practices that take them deeper into following Jesus Christ. As believers grow in faith, their lives are changed, congregations are transformed, and the mission of God spreads throughout particular communities and the world.

### **NEW WORSHIPPING COMMUNITIES NEAR 750**

As the church left the building and followed Jesus' call to make disciples, diverse worshipping communities began to spring up in places and spaces where people had not been welcome. These adapted ministries, part of the 1001 New Worshipping Communities (NWC), now number about 750 in the U.S. and abroad. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) committed substantial financial resources and deployed a team of creative, experienced church planters to encourage the start and success of these congregations. The NWC Seed Grant provides \$10,000 to help start a 1001 community and support the first year of ministry. Additional funds are available after the first year. A list of NWCs and a video celebrating a decade of innovation and dedication among worshipping communities are available at [presbyterianmission.org/ministries/1001-2](http://presbyterianmission.org/ministries/1001-2).

*Right: A new video celebrates 10 years of 1001 New Worshipping Communities.*

### **ENCOURAGING PEACE, STARTING IN THE STREETS**

In recent years, the city of Indianapolis experienced record-breaking violence. Faith Presbyterian Church is working to combat gun violence and get children off the streets in order to build congregational vitality. The church started the Indy TenPoint Coalition, a “boots-on-the-ground” nonprofit, to help reduce violence, increase employment and enhance educational achievement. “Many of us were in the shoes of these kids,” says the Rev. Charles Harrison, president of the Coalition board. More than 40 congregations have partnered with Faith — financially and by finding jobs for ex-offenders — to provide an alternative to guns and drugs. Like many congregations taking part in the Peace & Global Witness Offering, Faith is committed to the work of peacemaking at all levels of church and society.

*Right: Members of the Indy TenPoint Coalition gather before taking to the streets of Indianapolis.*



*Presbyterian Mission Agency*



*Contributed photo*

Matthew 25

# Racial Justice

# justice



Presbyterian Mission Agency

## ADDRESSING HISTORICAL INJUSTICES

The Race and Gender Justice Committee made major strides on day one of the 225th General Assembly, including righting the injustice of the closing of Memorial Presbyterian Church in Juneau, Alaska, in 1963. The Assembly voted to issue an apology to the Native Alaskan congregation's then-pastor, the Rev. Walter Soboleff, and his family. The denomination pledged \$350,000 to accompany reparative contributions from the K̄unéix̄ Hídi Northern Light United Church and the Presbytery of the Northwest Coast. This was just one of several overtures approved that was referred to the Center for the Repair of Historic Harms, which the Presbyterian Mission Agency launched in October 2022 with the calling of the Rev. Jermaine Ross-Allam to direct the Center. Additionally the the General Assembly vowed to continue its work with the murder and disappearance of Indigenous women, girls and two-spirit people; the murder of transwomen of color; and the need for improved reproductive care for Black mothers.

Left: The Rev. Walter Soboleff in a video shown via Zoom



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## CENTERING EQUITY AND INCLUSION

What additional information do we need to make an inclusive decision? Why are we trying to make the decision now? These are equity primes, prompts provided to commissioners of the 225th General Assembly to help prioritize Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) values of inclusion and equity in a shared space and to open the conversation to individuals and groups who have been silenced or not represented during past Assemblies. The primes provide “a more inclusive understanding of what it means to come together as Presbyterians,” said the Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly. “Equity primes are not just questions. They are things that will prime our brains for equitable action and choices,” agreed Jihyun Oh, director of Mid Council Ministries.

Left: Jihyun Oh, director of Mid Council Ministries in the Office of the General Assembly



*Leaders meet virtually via Zoom during the seventh plenary of the 225th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in July to discuss its plans to continue confronting racial injustice. Race and Gender Justice Committee Moderator Willye Bryan is pictured.*

### **RACIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVES RECEIVE OVERWHELMING SUPPORT**

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) devoted much of Plenary 7 of the 225th General Assembly to addressing injustice and inequities faced by communities of color and Indigenous people. Commissioners met via Zoom to discuss the work of the Race and Gender Justice Committee and consider items aimed at addressing racialized violence, health disparities and reparative justice. Steps to apologize for the church's participation in white supremacy and its patriarchal traditions were examined, as well as initiatives such as RJG-07, aimed at installing more pastoral leaders at churches of color and helping congregations of color pay off debt with help from the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program. The two-hour plenary ended with votes overwhelmingly supporting remedies, including creating additional educational/ scholarship opportunities and advocacy resources.

# poverty

Matthew 25

## Eradicating Systemic Poverty

### INDIANA COHORT STRENGTHENS MINISTRY EFFORTS

Three southern Indiana churches — First Presbyterian Church in Bloomington, First Presbyterian Church in Columbus and Fairlawn Presbyterian Church, also in Columbus — are living out their Matthew 25 call together. The focus for First Presbyterian Church in Columbus is on eradicating systemic poverty by addressing homelessness while, for example, advocating for African Americans to obtain mortgages and access to affordable housing. The Bloomington church is working on dismantling structural racism, and the Fairlawn church is building its congregational vitality. The congregations pray together and have remained connected through their passion for issues of social justice.



Contributed photo

Left top: A Black Lives Matter sign stands outside First Presbyterian Church in Columbus, Ind.

Left bottom: Members and friends of First Presbyterian Church in Columbus, Ind., speak with members of a nearby mosque.



Contributed photo

## GIFTING \$1.2 MILLION

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)’s generosity benefits domestic and international partners each year. In 2022, the Advisory Committee of the Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP) approved more than \$1.2 million in grants to address hunger and its root causes in about two dozen countries. Organizations receiving grants include the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, a Florida organization that fights to improve farm labor standards and wages. The grant projects mesh with the Presbyterian Mission Agency’s Matthew 25 invitation and reflect PHP’s desire to empower communities and families, care for Creation and fight the vestiges of colonialism. The Presbyterian Hunger Program is one of the Compassion, Peace & Justice ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Its work is made possible by gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing.

*Right: The Coalition for Immokalee Workers in Florida fights for the rights and safety of farmworkers.*

## TACKLING FOOD INSECURITY

“Has everyone been fed?” This query, engraved on the Communion Table at Black Mountain Presbyterian Church in western North Carolina, speaks to the congregation’s commitment to address food insecurity and other community needs. The church is among more than 100 that have earned the distinction of being called Hunger Action Congregations of the Presbyterian Hunger Program. To be named, a church must be active in hunger alleviation, development assistance, hunger education, lifestyle integrity, corporate and public policy witness, and worship. Black Mountain gets involved by helping to support Bounty and Soul, an organization providing nutritious food and wellness education, and the Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry, which offers services ranging from a food pantry to utility assistance. Black Mountain is also an Earth Care Congregation.

*Right: Black Mountain Presbyterian Church in North Carolina is involved with multiple projects in the community to help feed the hungry. Those projects include this ecumenical garden across the street at a Baptist church.*



*CW*



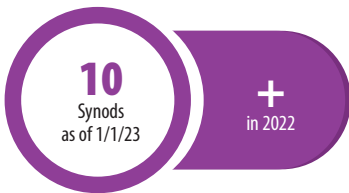
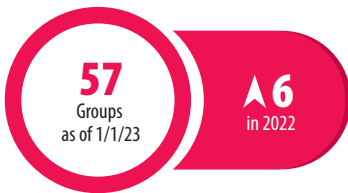
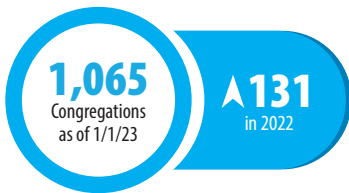
*Black Mountain Presbyterian Church*

Matthew 25

# By the Numbers







Presbyterian

# Disaster Response



Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

## **FIRES DRAW QUICK RESPONSE**

When wildfires destroyed nearly 1,000 homes and forced 35,000 to evacuate in Colorado, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) and its partners were there to help. The last days of 2021 brought unseasonal fires that were driven by hurricane-force winds. “Size-wise, it was not a huge fire. But impact wise, to people, it was,” said the Rev. Jim Kirk, PDA’s associate for National Disaster Response. PDA’s National Response Team worked to provide initial assistance grants, food, shelter, and emotional and spiritual care to those affected. Several Presbyterian churches in the area lent assistance. Contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing enable PDA, one of the Compassion, Peace & Justice ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency, to respond quickly to catastrophic events.

*Left: Wildfires strike Boulder County, Colo., in the last days of 2021.*



Matti Yrjönen/FCA

## **LONG-TERM RESPONSE IN UKRAINE**

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) awarded grants to several ecumenical partners in Eastern and Central Europe that are addressing the humanitarian and refugee housing crises created by Russia’s unprovoked attack on Ukraine. Among the recipients are the Friends of Community of Sant’Egidio and Hungarian Reformed Church Aid. PDA partners with organizations working on the ground in the communities that need aid, many of them desperately. It also works to build organizations’ capacity to assist because of donors’ generosity to PDA, including through the One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering. Partners are telling PDA that they see Ukraine as a long-term response that will require continued support.

*Left: A child plays at an aid station, assisting Ukrainian refugees, at the Ukrainian-Hungarian border.*



### HOST SITE OFFERS HOME TO VOLUNTEERS

Western Kentucky took the brunt of the damage from a tornado, which took lives and destroyed homes and property, including the historic Presbyterian Church in Mayfield. First Presbyterian Church in Calvert City, with the help of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), converted its underutilized church building into a Volunteer Host Site, a place to stay, refresh and revive while volunteering. The Rev. Nell Herring, PDA mission specialist for Volunteer Ministries, says the church’s willingness to serve as a host site is in line with the Matthew 25 vision. “This has given this congregation the spark to think about, ‘what does it mean to have an impact in this community’ beyond the impact that we have on the lives of the people in this congregation.”

*Top: The Squabble Creek area of Buckhorn, Ky., suffered severe damage in catastrophic flooding that hit the Eastern Kentucky community at the end of July. This car belonged to a session member at Buckhorn Lake Area Presbyterian Church who lived a quarter mile down the road from where the car ended up.*

*Bottom: Milton Dickens, commissioned lay pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Calvert City, preaches during the Oct. 23 worship service. The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Host Site at First Presbyterian Church in Calvert City was commissioned during worship on Oct. 23. Volunteers who came to the site assisted recovery from tornadoes that struck Western Kentucky in December 2021.*



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# Advocacy and Social Justice

Rev. Jimmie Hawkins



Rev. Jimmie Hawkins

Top: A memorial honoring victims of gun violence.

Bottom: The Rev. Jimmie Hawkins poses with Sandy Sorenson of the United Church of Christ as they hold "Faith Over Firearms" signs.

## MARCHING AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE

The Rev. Jimmie Hawkins was among thousands of people who attended the March for Our Lives rally in Washington, D.C., in June to persuade elected officials to take meaningful action to stop gun violence. "The epidemic of gun violence is not decreasing and is traumatizing the nation," said Hawkins, who leads the Office of Public Witness and the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations. The rally was held in the wake of gun-related tragedies such as the school shooting in Uvalde, Texas, and the mass shooting at a grocery store in Buffalo, New York. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has a history of speaking out on gun violence, including advocacy following mass shootings and calling on the government to pass strict background checks.

### **PASSION FOR REPARATIVE MINISTRY**

Damage done by structural racism and white supremacy within the church and around the globe inspired the birth of the Presbyterian Mission Agency's Center for the Repair of Historic Harms. The center, part of the 2023–24 Mission Work Plan approved by the 225th General Assembly, was developed after 18 months of strategic planning. The Rev. Anthony Jermaine Ross-Allam, the former associate pastor for Social Justice at Oak Grove Presbyterian Church in Bloomington, Minnesota, and doctoral candidate in Social Ethics at Union Theological Seminary, was selected to lead the center because of his "passion for reparative ministry." "The church has played a distinct role in creating a political, economic, religious and social environment that gives people permission to participate in creating transgenerational harms," he said.

*Right: The Rev. Anthony Jermaine Ross-Allam*

### **ADVOCATING FOR FARMWORKERS**

The Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW), a partner of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), hosted a march in April to get Wendy's, the fast-food giant, to join the Fair Food Program, a worker-led monitoring and enforcement program that was started by CIW to help prevent human rights abuses against farmworkers. The Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP), one of the Compassion, Peace & Justice ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency, rallied support for the event. "Presbyterians care about justice and fairness, and this is such a clear case where workers have been abused, underpaid (and) endangered for decades. This Fair Food Program has a proven track record of improving conditions and providing a more livable wage," said Andrew Kang Bartlett, associate for National Hunger Concerns for PHP.

*Right: Andrew Kang Bartlett, associate for National Hunger Concerns for PHP, participates in the march to support the farmworkers.*



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*Presbyterian*

# *Peace and Reconciliation*

peace

## **PEACEMAKERS GET TWO-WAY LEARNING EXPERIENCE**

International Peacemakers for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) gathered at the Presbyterian Center in Louisville in the fall to reflect on their visits. Over the course of a month, seven Peacemakers made 30 stops to churches, presbyteries, universities and other locations to share their stories and lift up issues from civil conflicts and climate change to human trafficking and HIV. The Rev. Carl Horton, coordinator of the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program (PPP), interviewed each of the Peacemakers about their journeys and impressions before they headed back to their home countries. The PPP is one of the Compassion, Peace & Justice ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Work is made possible by generous contributions to the Peace & Global Witness Offering.

*Top: International Peacemakers gather at the Presbyterian Center to reflect on their travels throughout the church.*

*Bottom: The Rev. Julie Kandema is interviewed by the Rev. Carl Horton, who coordinates the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program.*



*Randy Hobson*



*Randy Hobson*





**END RACISM. BUILD PEACE**

The Presbyterian Mission Agency celebrated the International Day of Peace in September with a chapel service led by International Peacemakers and personnel from the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program (PPP). The Peacemakers, from Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) partner churches and ministries around the world, took turns reciting the Lord’s Prayer in their respective languages during the service, which centered on the day’s theme, “End Racism. Build Peace.” The theme coincided with Matthew 25 goals. The service marked the first time that the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) was able to bring Peacemakers into the Presbyterian Center since the pandemic. The PPP is one of the Compassion, Peace & Justice ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Its work is made possible through the Peace & Global Witness Offering.

*Top: The International Peacemakers meet with the Rev. Carl Horton, far left, and the Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett, center.*

*Bottom: Presbyterian Mission Agency President and Executive Director the Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett receives a gift from International Peacemaker the Rev. Julie Kandema of Rwanda.*



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# Climate Change



Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

## **FOSTERING EFFECTIVE ADVOCACY AT ALL AGES**

After a two-year hiatus during the Covid pandemic, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and Columbia Theological Seminary resumed collaboration in 2022. Students traveled to the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations and the Presbyterian Office of Public Witness to learn about effective environmental advocacy. A half-dozen students completed activities related to the theme “Faith in the Time of Climate Action.” The group met with Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) ecumenical partners, such as members of the Bahá’i and Quaker communities, while learning what the faith communities are doing to tackle climate change in the United Nations and global context. The Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations and the Presbyterian Office of Public Witness are among the Compassion, Peace & Justice ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

*Left: Columbia Seminary students lead chapel at an ecumenical service. They are pictured with employees of the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations and others.*



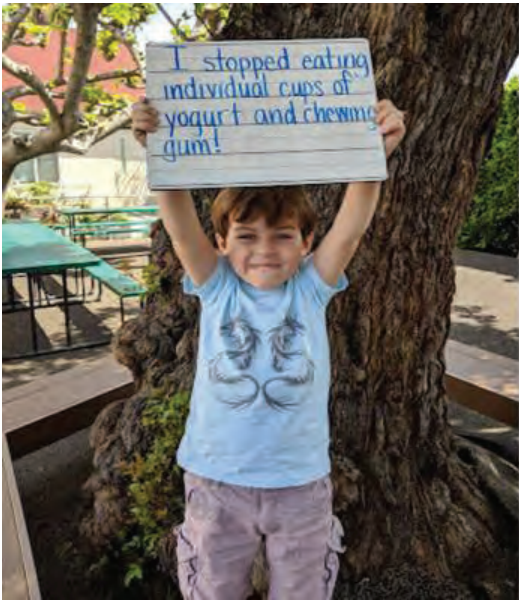
Michael Whitman

## **INVESTING IN THE FUTURE**

The Presbyterian Committee on Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) voted to disendow several companies due to their lack of alignment with Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) policy. Among those on the divestment/proscription list for 2023 were five energy companies — Chevron, ExxonMobil, Marathon Petroleum, Phillips 66 and Valero. The companies failed to meet denominational criteria on environmental, social and governance issues despite engagement efforts by MRTI and staff from the Office of Faith-Based Investing. The committee took action on the list during a meeting in October. The list includes more than 100 companies related to fossil fuels, military and weapons production. MRTI is one of the Compassion, Peace & Justice ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

*Left: Rob Fohr is the director of the Office of Faith-Based Investing and Corporate Engagement.*





### **THE IMPORTANCE OF EARTH CARE**

Since its inception, the number of certified churches in the Earth Care Congregation (ECC) program has grown to nearly 300. The Presbyterian Hunger Program helps congregations of all sizes audit their earth care activities and identifies areas of improvement. Each then takes an Earth Care Pledge, committing to care for God's Creation by revitalizing their communities. Culver City Presbyterian Church, an ECC in California, challenged itself to live plastic-free during Lent. "It was something that everybody could do to some degree, even our kids," Heidi Sperber said of her church's commitment. Learning plastic could not be eliminated entirely from everyday activities, Culver City Presbyterian emerged with the realization that small gestures could still make a big difference in the world.

*The children of Culver City Presbyterian Church participate in the congregation's challenge to live plastic free during Lent.*



# militarism

*Presbyterian*  
**Militarism**

Presbyterian Mission Agency



*Militarism and moral injury are discussed in the November installment of the “Connecting the Dots” webinar.*

## **WEBINAR COVERS MINISTERING AMID TRAUMA**

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)’s “Connecting the Dots” webinar examines militarism from a variety of intersectional perspectives through the lens of the Christian faith. Organized by the Militarism Working Group, the series discusses topics from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder to moral injury. It suggests that congregations can support veterans dealing with combat-related trauma. The November installment brought together several panelists, including active and retired military and health counseling professionals, to discuss moral injury in the context of ministering to military members and how faith communities can support them in dealing with its symptoms. The “Connecting the Dots” webinar series has continued in 2023, covering such topics as the effects of militarism on women and children from a global perspective, militarism in the economy and the military industrial complex.

## ***MISSION WORK PLAN INCLUDES MILITARISM***

The proposed 2023–24 Mission Work Plan was warmly received, with close examination of the term “militarism” by the Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA) Board’s Coordinating Committee. The Board voted to include this sentence in the Mission Work Plan: “Recognizing the unique resource of specialized ministers serving and having served as chaplains in the uniformed services, the PMA will invite their expertise alongside longtime international and domestic partners to engage in education, advocacy and partnership within and beyond the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to address the dangers and impacts of a militaristic mindset from a Christological perspective.” Several General Assemblies weighed in what is meant by militarism as it relates to Matthew 25. The PMA’s work in 2023–24 will “examine and confront militarism through the lens of the Christian faith from a variety of intersectional perspectives, including racism, poverty ... and gender oppression.” The PMA will, as part of the Vision Implementation Plan, engage in education, advocacy and partnership within and beyond the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to address such issues as police brutality, mass incarceration, migration ... and healing historical harms.”



*Filip Andrejevic via Unsplash*

Presbyterian

# Gender Justice and Heteropatriarchy



Office of Public Witness

## COMMITTING TO GENDER JUSTICE

Since 1992, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has made clear its belief that God gives all people the ability to make choices in their lives, including decisions around whether to continue a pregnancy. The Advocacy Committee for Women's Concerns and the Office of Gender & Racial Justice advocated before Congress for the passage of the Women's Health Protection Act, which recognizes the need for access to safe and legal abortion. The legislation was approved by the House of Representatives in 2021 but has failed to pass in the Senate. The 220th General Assembly reiterated some of the commitments the denomination has made, including no law should limit access to abortions or limit or prohibit public funding for necessary abortions for the socially and economically disadvantaged.

*Left: The U.S. Capitol*



Rich Copley

## SETTING THE STAGE FOR GENDER EQUALITY

Members of the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations, one of the Compassion, Peace & Justice ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA), represented the church at a United Nations gathering on gender equality and environmental issues in March. "Climate change is already beginning to affect women and girls and communities of color who often depend upon the environment for food and economic sustainability," said the Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett, president and executive director of the PMA. The group gathered for a hybrid meeting of the 66th session of the Commission on the Status of Women to discuss environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programs. Sue Rheem, of the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations, noted the delegation's members were "intergenerational and intercultural, embracing our diversity but celebrating unity."

*Left: Sue Rheem, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s representative to the United Nations*



### ***A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE, ACCEPTANCE***

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) honored the lives and mourned the deaths of transgender people killed during a Transgender Day of Remembrance in November. Nearly 50 Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) national staff gathered online to remember some 30 transgender youth and adults killed in 2022. “Thousands of folks have experienced violence and harm — not just at the hands of those they are in relationship with, but ... every day by the state,” said Samantha Davis, associate for Gender, Racial & Intercultural Justice. The names of each transgender person were read and remembered with a moment of silence, song and prayer. “May we learn to love more than we hate,” said the Rev. Shanea D. Leonard, director of Racial Equity & Women’s Intercultural Ministries, who led the service.



Presbyterian

# Global Ministries/World Mission

Rev. Dr. Ndayizeye Muryansanga Olivier



Rev. Dr. Ndayizeye Muryansanga Olivier

## **GLOBAL MINISTRY PROMOTES NATURE, NURTURE**

The Presbyterian School of Kabuga (PSK), a Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) global partner in Rwanda, has witnessed the importance of nurturing youth — and their gardens — to spark creativity and innovation. PSK students plant and harvest their own food, as well as prepare meals using their yield, as part of the school's curriculum. “The action of planting also makes a positive contribution to society,” said the Rev. Dr. Ndayizeye Muryansanga Olivier, lecturer at the Protestant Institute of Arts and Social Sciences in Butare, Rwanda, another Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) global partner. “It increases their confidence and their sense of nurturing and following up.” Teaching the crucial skill of gardening helps Rwandan youth to connect with nature and learn responsibility.

*Top: Teachers report a boost in their students' cognitive and practical capabilities.*

*Bottom: Teachers at the Presbyterian School of Kabuga in Rwanda are finding that working gardening into the curriculum helps make their primary students more responsible.*

## GLOBAL PARTNER MARKS 50 YEARS IN NICARAGUA

In 2022, a longtime global partner of the Presbyterian Mission Agency, the Council of Protestant Churches of Nicaragua (CEPAD), celebrated 50 years of service to the people of Nicaragua. CEPAD was started as an emergency response to a major earthquake that hit the country in 1972. The organization, composed of 70 denominations and churches in Nicaragua, helps communities take charge of their development by helping farmers adapt farming techniques to climate change, while offering programs in leadership and economic development to help break the cycle of hunger and poverty. “Working across denominational lines was so enriching that as the emergency response work wrapped up, those involved wanted to keep it going,” said Tracey King-Ortega, mission co-worker.

*Right: Families in Nicaragua benefit from a family gardening program offered by CEPAD, a partner of the Presbyterian Mission Agency that celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2022.*

## PARTNERS ADOPT FLEEING REFUGEES

As more refugees fled the Ukraine following Russian attacks, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) global partners in Germany, the Czech Republic and Poland stepped up, opening their homes, offering up food and more. “I saw ordinary people doing extraordinary things. They were completely overwhelmed, but receiving people with open hearts, compassion and love,” said Ellen Smith, World Mission’s regional liaison for Eastern Europe. The Czech Republic received more than 300,000 refugees. With no conflict resolution in sight, the focus in many surrounding countries switched from providing temporary emergency shelter to exploring long-term shelter solutions. Churches around the country have also opened their doors to refugees. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has donated more than \$4 million to provide aid as well as several rapid response solidarity grants to Ukraine.

*Right: Following worship, the Evangelical Reformed Church of Poland holds a fundraising concert to aid refugees.*



Presbyterian Mission Agency



Ellen Smith

## Communications

# For the Digital Age

### **'BEING MATTHEW 25' CHRONICLES WIDESPREAD MINISTRY**

Throughout the year, the “Being Matthew 25” livestream checked in with worshipping communities, congregations and mid councils on innovative work being done around homelessness, natural disasters and systemic poverty, as well as the Matthew 25 movement’s intersectional priorities. Included were visits with the Presbytery of Denver, where churches continue their work on affordable housing for their neighbors; Western Kentucky, where churches did the difficult job of caring for siblings affected by tornadoes that killed 77 people; the Presbyterian Center, where the Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett, the Presbyterian Mission Agency’s president and executive director, and the Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, shared their prophetic gifts during an interview; and Knoxville, Tennessee, where the Justice Knox Matthew 25 ministry of First Presbyterian Church and other Knoxville congregations use research and experience to diagnose the complexities around systemic poverty and work to eradicate it.

Rich Copley

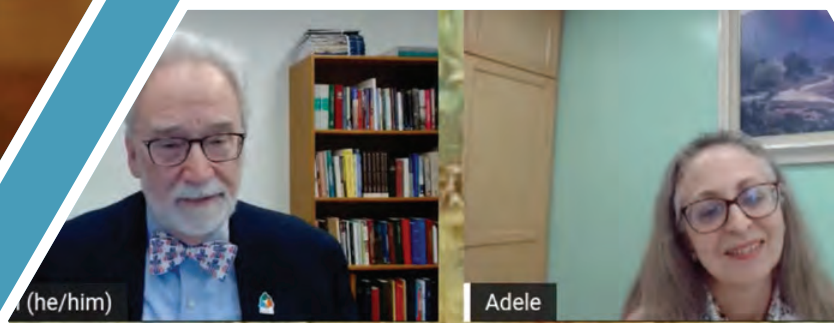


*The Rev. DeEtte Decker, right, communications director for the Presbyterian Mission Agency, interviews the Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett and the Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II, during a “Being Matthew 25” livestream.*





Adele Langworthy



(he/him)

Adele

Top: The Rev. Adele Langworthy

Middle: The Revs. Adele and Rob Langworthy are the guests of Dr. William McConnell, top left, on "Between Two Pulpits."

Bottom: Covenant Presbyterian Church in Long Beach, Calif., has a deep and abiding relationship with its after-school program, Rising TIDE.



Rob Langworthy

### CAUGHT IN THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Special Offerings are being put to work to help ease the digital divide that has grown since the start of the Covid pandemic. Gifts support programs like Rising TIDE, an after-school ministry at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Long Beach, California. The free program supports youth emotionally and spiritually, while training them to excel in academics, wellness and other life skills. During the pandemic, the program ensured participants had digital devices and good internet access to attend online classes. Youths are invited to contribute to the Pentecost Offering, "so they're not just receiving," said the Rev. Adele Langworthy, associate pastor and executive director of Rising TIDE. "Between Two Pulpits," Special Offerings' weekly online conversation, featured Rising TIDE in its May discussion.



Covenant Presbyterian Church

Funding

# Presbyterian Mission



Office of Public Witness

## **SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL MISSION**

While half of the contributions to the Peace & Global Witness Offering are retained by local and regional congregations for peace and reconciliation work, the remaining gifts support international mission efforts. The Pacific Conference of Churches (PCC), a ministry supported by the Special Offering, assists displaced families, influences government policies, fosters agency collaboration and raises awareness of ecological crises. Vunidogoloa was the first Fijian community that was forced to relocate due to the impact of climate change. With the PCC's help, the village relocated away from the coast's rising sea levels. "We are learning firsthand from partners like ... the PCC about the intersectional nature of climate change with militarism and migration," said the Rev. Carl Horton, coordinator of the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program.

*Left: Climate relocation is a process that can unfold over many years.*



Rich Copley

## **#GIVINGTUESDAY RAISES NEARLY \$140K**

#GivingTuesday 2021 was a success. Despite speculation, Presbyterians showed remarkable generosity, with charitable giving returning to pre-Covid levels and trends. More than 5,000 Presbyterians from coast to coast tuned in to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s livestreamed celebration on Nov. 30, 2021, giving an inspiring \$139,564. "In times of great need, Presbyterians have always been there," said the Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett, president and executive director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency, echoed: "Together, we can accomplish far more than any one of us can do alone. We are the church ... and together we can make a difference."

*Left: The Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).*



### **SUPPORTING VULNERABLE POPULATIONS**

Addressing the needs of vulnerable populations like new immigrants and youth is what the Pentecost Offering — one of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)’s four Special Offerings — is all about. Gifts benefit at-risk children through the “Educate a Child, Transform the World” national initiative, the Young Adult Volunteer program and the Presbyterian Youth Triennium. Forty percent of the offering is retained by individual congregations for local ministries, while the remaining 60% is used to support at-risk youth and young adults through Presbyterian Mission Agency ministries. The funds helped Beechmont Presbyterian Church in Louisville start a Learning Hub where students could gather safely during the Covid pandemic. Despite challenges, Beechmont saw the Learning Hub as an essential service. Post-pandemic, the Learning Hub operates as an after-school program serving immigrant children.



*Contributed photo*

*Top: The Learning Hub at Beechmont Presbyterian Church in Louisville ministers to the educational and social needs of young Honduran asylees.*

*Bottom: Post-Covid pandemic, the Learning Hub operates as an after-school program serving 21 immigrant children.*





*The south side of the Presbyterian Center in Louisville.*

# Presbyterian Mission Agency

## Board Members

### *PRESBYTERIAN MISSION AGENCY BOARD MEMBERS (AS OF DEC. 31, 2022)*

Shannan Vance-Ocampo (co-chair)

Michelle Hwang (co-chair)

Rola Al Ashkar

SanDawna Ashley

Gregory Bentley

Matthew Bussell

Dee Cooper

Diane Curtis

Felecia Hardy

Jeromey Howard

Kevin Johnson

Ximena Leroux

Linda Lloyd

Madison McKinney

Elizabeth Meador

Charese Jordan Moore

Robin Pugh

Kathy Reeves

Carmen Rosario

Ken Whitehurst

### *WE GIVE THANKS FOR THESE MEMBERS WHOSE SERVICE ENDED IN JUNE 2022*

Floretta Barbee-Watkins

Bong Bringas

Kenneth H. Godshall

Sinthia Hernandez-Diaz

Warren Lesane

Kathy Maurer

Eliana Maxim

Kate Murphy

James Parks

Patsy Smith

Brenton Thompson

Tamara Williams

K. Nicholas Yoda

Judith Wellington



*Rich Copley*

*Warren Lesane, former Presbyterian Mission Agency Board Chair*

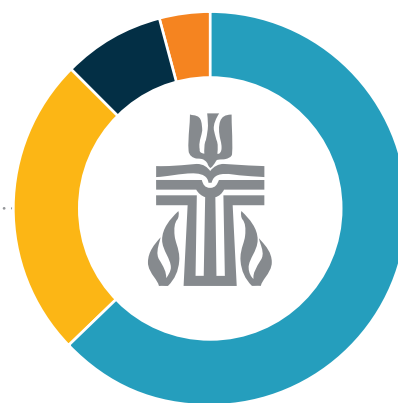


*Conference participants use chalk to write encouraging messages to fellow participants at the 2022 Presbyterian Association of Musicians Worship and Music Conference.*

## Sources of Financial Support

There are four main sources of funds, totaling \$59.9 million, supporting the work of the Presbyterian Mission Agency: contributions; endowments, interest and dividends; sales of resources and special events; and per capita. Net assets as of Dec. 31, 2022, were \$642.6 million.

| SOURCE OF FUNDS (IN MILLIONS)              | Without Donor Restrictions | With Donor Restrictions | Total         |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| Contributions                              | \$5.1                      | \$41.3                  | \$46.4        |
| Investment Return                          | 9.6                        | 8.6                     | 18.2          |
| Sales of Resources and Special Events      | 6.1                        | 0                       | 6.1           |
| Per Capita                                 | 2.9                        | 0                       | 2.9           |
| Planned Use of (Addition to) Reserve Funds | (1.7)                      | (12.0)                  | (13.6)        |
| <b>Total Sources of Funds</b>              | <b>\$22.0</b>              | <b>\$38.0</b>           | <b>\$60.0</b> |



| USES OF FUNDS (IN MILLIONS)                      | Without Donor Restrictions | With Donor Restrictions | Total         |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| Compassion, Peace & Justice                      | \$0.4                      | 9.8                     | 10.2          |
| Racial Equity & Women's Intercultural Ministries | 2.5                        | 2.0                     | 4.5           |
| Theology, Formation & Evangelism                 | 4.5                        | 3.7                     | 8.2           |
| World Mission                                    | 0.2                        | 11.1                    | 11.3          |
| Communications                                   | 2.5                        | 1.0                     | 3.5           |
| Mission Engagement & Support                     | 1.3                        | 3.0                     | 4.3           |
| Administrative Services Group                    | 7.6                        | 5.5                     | 13.1          |
| General & Administrative                         | 2.2                        | 0.1                     | 2.3           |
| Other  | 0.8                        | 1.8                     | 2.6           |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>                            | <b>\$22.0</b>              | <b>\$38.0</b>           | <b>\$60.0</b> |



Notes:

- Total receipts were over budget by \$15.7 million or 29% and total expenditures were under budget by \$15.8 million or 22%.
- Due to rounding, numbers above may not add up precisely to the totals shown.
- The Presbyterian Mission Agency classifies the expenses of Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), A Corporation, as: Program: 82% | Management and General: 12% | Fundraising: 6%
- In response to a 2008 directive from the General Assembly that restricted gifts should cover the indirect as well as direct costs of associated projects, Presbyterian Mission Agency assesses a 17% cost recovery fee on all donor-restricted gifts for the indirect costs. This percentage is within the range recommended by Charity Navigator.
- The complete audited, consolidated financial statements of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), A Corporation, for the year 2022 may be obtained at [presbyterianmission.org/financials](http://presbyterianmission.org/financials) or by contacting the Presbyterian Mission Agency at 100 Witherspoon St., Louisville, KY 40202, 800-728-7228.



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
**Presbyterian Mission**

100 Witherspoon Street | Louisville, KY 40202  
[presbyterianmission.org](http://presbyterianmission.org)

# Thank you!

On behalf of the 225-plus staff members, including approximately 78 mission co-workers in 80 countries, I thank each of you for your support of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

In 2022 your generosity was extraordinary. *Total receipts exceeded expectations by 29%* and *total expenses came in under budget by 22%*. We give God the glory. Your generous gifts made it possible to be in mission all around the world, as well as here at home, representing Jesus, in the name of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Because we can do far more together than any of us could do individually, I invite you to continue praying, engaging and supporting Christ's mission.

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Diane Moffett".

The Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett  
President and Executive Director  
Presbyterian Mission Agency



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