

God's Mission--Our Witness

When you think of Mission, do you think of people who go overseas to take the message of Jesus Christ to others in other lands? Or do you think of people who go to other parts of the world, our country or state to be the hands and feet of Christ helping to 'clean up' after a disaster like a flood, tornado, or derecho? Or do you think of people who show the love and grace of Christ by working at your local food bank or clothes closet helping people in your community in need? The truth is Mission is played out in all of these places and ways!

One of the ways we share the love of Christ with others is through generous giving – of our time and talents, and financially. These are all precious gifts we have been given by God. It may seem like what we, individually, can give will not be enough. But when we work as a team – united by our love of Christ and our concern for the well-being of others, led by the Holy Spirit, sharing our various resources – we can be miracle workers!

The Presbytery of Des Moines has 'adopted' several entities to support through the years. See the other side of this insert for a sampling! Individual churches have adopted local missions, supporting food pantries, clothes closets, Head Start programs, and day care centers!

We are able to help in all these areas when we give generously to the PCUSA General Mission Fund and to Special Offerings. Each of our individual church's missions is also a mission of our presbytery. Some of our mission dollars come back to our communities in the form of DM Presbytery grants!

I encourage all churches to unite with other churches through generous gifts to the PCUSA General Mission Fund to make a difference in our communities, our presbyteries, and our world!

Your servant in Christ,
Rev. Lynne Hanna
Moderator, Presbytery of Des Moines
Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Perry



Did You Know?

Here are just a few of the mission partnerships you support through your congregation's general mission pledge!

Des Moines Presbytery:

- **Our Sister Parish** supports community and economic development through loving partnership with sister communities surrounding Berlín, Usulután, El Salvador
- Children and youth enjoy a week of fun, friends, and faith at Camp Wesley Woods, supported by our **Committee on Camping and Youth Ministries**

Synod of Lakes and Prairies

- **Synod School** gathers 600-plus Presbyterians of all generations for six days of classes, worship, fellowship, and refreshment

General Assembly

- Thousands of high school age youth will gather in 2022 for **Presbyterian Youth Triennium** for life-changing, life-giving and faith-growing experiences packed into a very active five days
- Grants and direct support from **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance** help congregations and communities rebuild after disasters, including the devastating 2020 derecho in Iowa

General mission giving is typically divided:

- 41% to Des Moines Presbytery
- 19% to the Synod of Lakes and Prairies
- 40% to the General Assembly (Presbyterian Mission Agency)

Questions about your church's mission giving? Ask your pastor, clerk, or any member of your session.

Keep up with the Presbytery of Des Moines by subscribing to our biweekly newsletter at <https://dmpresbytery.org/presbytery-connection-newsletter/>

Rev. Nathan Williams
Moderator, Stewardship & Mission Education Committee
Pastor, Covenant Presbyterian Church, West Des Moines

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