



# Now you are the body of Christ...

*Presbyterian Partnership Giving for 2020*

You are on the  
border

**Frontera  
de  
Cristo**

is a Presbyterian ministry on  
both sides of the troubled  
international border with  
Mexico.



Meet your mission co-workers  
on the back page

<sup>13</sup> For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body--whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free--and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

<sup>14</sup> Now the body is not made up of one part but of many.

<sup>27</sup> Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

**1 Corinthians 12:13-14;27 (NIV)**



## Share the joy of mission beyond your congregation

**F**or 17 years, partnership has been the way we do mission as members of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Together we develop a cooperative witness to God's love for the world. Partnership means that by joining hands within our congregations, and between our congregations and others who share a common vision, we are better able to accomplish God's work. This is the connectional church.

The partnership policy has five principles. They apply in our congregations and in our connectional church:

1. Giving thanks and praise to God for all gifts of grace and renewal.
2. Interdependence in which mutual aid comes to all.
3. Recognition and respect for all partners.
4. Open dialogue where Scripture is the base for challenge and local initiative is respected.
5. Sharing all types of resources – human, financial and spiritual.

This fall, as your congregation's leadership prepares your 2020 annual operating budget, please ask what God is calling you to share through Presbyterian Partnership Giving. St. Paul tells us that any gift willingly given to build God's Kingdom is acceptable. The goal, he says is "that there might be equality." Your plenty supplies what others need, and other's plenty supplies what you need.

Our partnership giving goal is the Biblical tithe of 10 percent of a congregation's operating budget. For those not now giving to the connectional church, starting at 2 or 3 percent is a significant way to begin being part of Presbyterian Partnership Giving. If your budget is tight, \$5 a month is significant. In addition, please consider being one of the churches which invest a bit in preparing the next generation of pastors by budgeting a gift to the Theological Education Fund which goes to the denomination's seminaries.

Being Presbyterian is linking the local congregation with others in a Presbytery, linking Presbyteries through Synods and General Assembly to wrestle with issues of ministry and

mission. These links are the way we do mission, accomplishing that which none of us or our congregations could imagine doing by ourselves.

## **Cascades Vision 2020**

*The mission of the Presbytery of the Cascades is to serve God by nurturing, supporting and celebrating our common ministries.*

During the past year, we have put the major pieces in place to provide a structure, supportive of our congregations and their leaders, which invites us into a compelling future.

In 2020, we anticipate hiring a permanent communications coordinator and completing the restructuring and staffing of the Presbytery business office, at a savings in total cost and increased transparency in reporting to our member congregations.

Congregations are discovering ministry opportunities in their communities. They are consulting with leadership on the design of a new vision for Cascades Presbytery. This began a year ago as our Presbyter for Vision and Mission, Brian Heron, launched personal visits to every congregation. This year the process of listening continues as we shape what promises to be new ways of collaboration among parts of the body of Christ that is Cascades Presbytery.

This fall, Presbytery will consider a modest \$1-a-member increase to the per capita portion of the 2020 budget to maintain services of our called staff members. In recent years, our program budget has been partly funded from reserves. Leadership is committed to determining long-term financial sustainability. Next year, you will be asked to be part of a study which will determine what we can sustain for mission a couple of years down the road. In the meantime, we ask you to continue prayerfully supporting Presbytery with the recommended per capita increase and increased Presbyterian Partnership Giving while we work our way into healthier financial models.

## **How Cascades supports Your Congregation**

Anticipated giving to General Assembly for ministry in the United States and mission around the world is 25 percent of our Presbyterian Partnership Giving, or \$140,000. A grant of \$28,000 goes to the Synod of the Pacific for regional program

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work. Support for our Warm Springs mission church and Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon totals \$44,200. The remainder of our program fund goes to programs and ministries including about \$500,443 for personnel costs of the elected and appointed staff, who support all our ministries and services.

A significant portion of our program fund activities are paid with grants (including allocations from the PCUSA special offerings taken every year) and user fees. These include:

**Direct assistance** – Barnabas Grants for small capital projects; Bisbee Fund community mission grants; peacemaking grants; itineration of mission co-workers; small church grants for vitality and renewal projects; long-term correction of conditions that keep people bound to poverty; and technology grants for congregations. For more information go to the Presbytery website, click on *Documents* then *Grants*.

**Clergy and staff support** – Christian educator training; Lectionary Seminar; new pastor orientation.

**Ministries** – Presbyterian Disaster Assistance training; Eco Justice education; Older Adult Ministries; Peacemaking and Hunger awareness; Self Development of People projects for economically poor, oppressed and disadvantaged people; Youth Ministry Team; New Ministries team (1001 Worshiping Communities) support of new ministries.

To learn more about this support, and how it might assist your congregation in a local mission project, please call the Presbytery office at (503) 227-5486 or (800) 495-4114 from outside the Portland metropolitan area.

## Ways Your Congregation Can Give

Cascades Presbytery provides the convenience of sending a single check, using a remittance form that lets your church financial secretary indicate designations. Here's the full list of opportunities to share God's abundance:

### 1. Presbyterian Partnership Giving (Basic Mission Support)

These gifts support adopted budgets of Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly, from overseas missions to programs in our own communities. This undesignated giving is the main

support for Presbyterian programs and personnel from our own Presbytery to world-wide mission work.

## **2. Per Capita Apportionment**

This per-member apportionment is the way we share costs of administrative, legislative and judicial functions. Services benefit congregations equally. Per Capita expenses are separate from the Presbytery program and staff expenses supported through Presbyterian Partnership Giving. The proposed 2020 Presbytery administrative per capita budget totals \$512,120. The proposed Presbytery administration budget is balanced by a \$1 increase in per capita to \$22.33. General Assembly per capita remains \$8.95. Synod per capita remains at \$5.22. The total recommended per capita, going to the Presbytery meeting in November for approval, is \$36.50.

Per capita is billed to churches based on the membership reported to General Assembly in the preceding year. The formula for determining the amount due is: Members reported times current rate equals total due. The goal of Cascades Presbytery is full per capita pay-up by January 31. However, allowance is made for Sessions to request permission to pay over an 8½ month period with the understanding that payment must be made in full by September 15. The Presbytery is obliged to collect Synod and General Assembly per capita and pay the amounts requested whether or not it receives per capita from congregations.

## **3. Directed Mission Support and Extra Commitment**

Directed mission support lets you designate gifts within adopted budgets of Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly. Funds can be designated to specific line items (such as a particular missionary) up to the total approved budget.

Individuals and congregations may also give beyond the budget, a gift known as "extra commitment" that expands the ministry.

## **4. Theological Education Fund [TEF]**

Support for our Presbyterian seminaries comes from local churches contributing to the Theological Education Fund. The goal is 1 percent of your congregation's operating budget. TEF

## **Share the joy of mission beyond your congregation**

is the only denomination-dedicated source for our 11 seminaries that educate the next generation of ministers and Christian educators.

### **5. Special Offerings**

We have four church-wide offerings each year. *One Great Hour of Sharing* (during Lent) goes to emergency relief, hunger work and Self-Development of People. The *Pentecost Offering* aids youth ministries and children at risk, with 40 percent of the offering dedicated to youth and children's missions in your local community. The *Peace & Global Witness Offering* (World Communion Sunday in October) is dedicated to peace and justice ministries with 25 percent allocated at the local congregation, 25 percent to the Presbytery (in support of our ministries of peace and reconciliation) and the balance to peacemaking work around the world. The *Christmas Joy Offering* in December supports minority colleges and schools and supplements pensions of retired pastors.

### **Provide for the Long-Term Through Cascades Endowment Fund**

Created in 2003, the Cascades Endowment Fund is a way to support future Presbytery expenditures. The Fund welcomes gifts from individuals and congregations who believe in Presbytery's long-term goals and visions. For information on how to donate to the Fund, or to get assistance in setting up an endowment for your congregation, call the office at (503) 227-5486 or (800) 495-4114.

### **One Stop Giving Made Easy**

Each year your Session adopts a budget, including consideration of what God is calling you to give to Presbyterian Partnership Giving. We'll mail a pledge form to your Clerk of Session in November and post a copy on the Cascades website. The goal is a tithe of your total operating budget.

To sharpen actual spending for the upcoming year from the giving estimates which the Presbytery budgets each November, we ask all congregations to mail in the pledge form so it arrives by January 31, 2020.

The mailing address is:

Presbytery of the Cascades  
0245 SW Bancroft Street, Suite D  
Portland, OR 97239

**W**hat percentage of your congregation's operating budget is God calling you to share for Presbyterian Partnership Giving? Our challenge is the Biblical tithe, 10 percent of your operating budget. Many congregations give more.

We give in celebration of gratitude for the abundance God shares with us. We also wrestle with competing demands. Presbyterian Partnership Giving is your link to sister congregations in Cascades Presbytery which covers 65,000 square miles. It is your link to ministry in the Synod of the Pacific. It is your link to the national work of Presbyterian Church (USA) and mission work carried out around the world.

Our request for 2020 is that you and your Session prayerfully consider what is the right percentage for this day and this time in the life of your church.

Thank you for being Presbyterian!



## Share the joy of mission beyond your congregation



**Your  
Partnership  
giving puts  
these  
mission  
coworkers  
on the  
border**

Marc Adams is U.S. coordinator of *Frontera de Cristo* in Douglas, AZ, where he met his wife and fellow co-worker Miriam Maldonado Escobar. She works with the community of *Douglaprieta Trabaja*, helping them grow food. Mark and Miriam have three children.

**Share the joy of mission!**



**PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH (USA)**