



July 2021

First Presbyterian Church
116 College St
Summerville GA 30747-1736

Dear Friend in Jesus:

I am one of the most privileged people. I say this not in arrogance but in gratitude to Jesus for letting me be part of the leadership with Mission to North America who awards monetary grants for both ministry training and mercy funds to churches. The money that we give away comes from you, through the Thanksgiving Offering.

We believe that Jesus founded the Church, He is its foundation, her Head, her Husband. Every single local church is part of His overall Church, and we are grateful to be in a denomination full of Gospel-preaching, Bible-believing congregations. All the ministry that we do gets done through the local church. Our job is to help equip our churches so they can fulfill their part in the Great Commission and equip the saints to do the work of the ministry.

Part of our equipping of churches is to give them training in various kinds of ministry. One of the great things that local churches do is to hire young people as interns and give them hands-on training and mentoring. During these internships young people get a glimpse of what the Lord can do through them. They begin to pray about whether they are called to full-time vocational ministry in the local church, in church planting, or in missions. We especially want to help local churches that minister in poor communities because they don't always have the resources to hire anyone. It is wonderful to see people who are saved and disciplined in and through these congregations rise up to take positions of leadership.

Will you pray about helping us extend our help to more congregations this next year? Will you open your heart to let God's generosity flow through you to provide the money to award grants to all who ask for help? Will you help us raise the funds to answer a church when they tell us they need resources to feed and shelter the poor?

It is a privilege to show the mercy of Christ. I grew up poor, in a single parent family. It was God's people from the local church who brought groceries to our door, disciplined us out of poverty and equipped us for ministry. May the Lord make this part of the wonderful heritage and reputation of the Presbyterian Church in America, a denomination of mercy.

(over please)

Strengthening the church to serve, grow, and multiply.

1700 N. Brown Road | Suite 101 | Lawrenceville, GA 30043 | pcamna.org

We outline some possible action steps below that you might want to consider. Please pray that the Lord will move on hearts across the nation to be generous in giving to the offering this year. Here are some things you can do....

First, order a quantity of the enclosed brochure to distribute to your congregation (a postage-paid order card is enclosed).

Next, stress the importance of the Offering to your Session and your congregation. Ask them to make special prayer for the Lord to bless the people of our nation, and your own city, economically (Jeremiah 29:7). You may want to use the steps below to talk about the ministries supported by the Offering and to encourage them to give:

- **Choose a Sunday service in November to feature the Thanksgiving Offering by passing out the brochures and asking for support.**
- **A few weeks prior to that Sunday, introduce the Offering to your congregation, stressing the importance of giving. You might want to mention a story or two from the brochure or tell a personal story of how you know the Offering has helped further the gospel of Christ among different people groups. Post reminders in your church bulletin, newsletters and Web site.**
- **On your chosen Sunday, make a specific announcement and urge members to give generously.**
- **Hand a brochure to those individuals who have been gifted with wealth and mention that this might be something they might want to support.**

Included in the Thanksgiving Offering brochures are envelopes addressed to MNA.

We ask you to prayerfully consider a donation to the Thanksgiving Offering. Pray that your congregation will be mobilized to take up a special collection. Talk with others about the Offering, so that they may be inspired to give. Post about the offering on social media. We have been given much and the Thanksgiving Offering provides an opportunity to share these blessings. We encourage you to be part of the answer to the prayer Jesus told us to pray, "Pray the Lord of the harvest that he would send forth laborers into his harvest" (Matthew 9:38).



Randy Nabors,
MNA Urban & Mercy Ministries Coordinator

P.S. MNA is ready to help any PCA congregation with training for Deacons, mercy ministry, and benevolence policies. Contact me at.... rnabors@pcanet.org.