Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

37 presbyteries honored for generosity in 2011

PC(USA) recognizes giving in several categories

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The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s General Assembly Mission Council (GAMC) is honoring presbyteries large and small across the country for their generous support of Presbyterian mission in 2011.

"Presbyterians are passionate about mission on a local, national and global scale," said Linda B. Valentine, GAMC executive director. "The money donated by presbyteries each year means that together we can continue to engage in mission and ministry across the country and around the world."

Donations from presbyteries in 2011 helped support the vital mission and ministries of the church, including programs such as the Presbyterian Council for Chaplains and Military Personnel. More than 200 Presbyterian pastors serve as military chaplains, and their role is becoming ever more important as tens of thousands of soldiers return from wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Deborah's Daughters is also supported by these funds. Deborah's Daughters provides opportunities for women leaders in the PC(USA) — including clergywomen, elders, deacons, commissioned lay pastors and Christian educators — to discuss issues related to women in ministry.

The New Beginnings program and the Company of New Pastors are two more examples of funds at work in the church. New Beginnings works with churches in the latter stages of their life cycle. It assesses a congregation's strengths and challenges as it seeks to engage in ministry that is not just surviving, but thriving.

The Company of New Pastors helps seminary students develop a deep theological core as they enter pastoral ministry. Together with a vocational mentor, they engage in the apostolic practices of daily prayer, disciplined study, mutual encouragement and admonition, and table fellowship.

"Donations from the presbyteries make these and similar programs possible," said Valentine. "We truly appreciate their stewardship and support."

"Top Ten" lists were compiled in four categories: total mission giving, Basic Mission Support (unrestricted gifts), Special Offerings and other specific appeals. The lists are sorted by total giving and by average giving per member.

National Capital Presbytery topped the list for total mission giving, while Hanmi Presbytery capped the list for total giving per member. Cascades, Donegal and National Capital presbyteries were each honored in five of the eight categories. Chicago, Mission, Philadelphia and Southeastern Illinois were each honored in four categories.

The Top Ten for total giving by dollar amount are:

National Capital – $979,065

Grace – $603,823

Philadelphia – $753,775

Chicago – $582,477

Mission – $731,847

Los Ranchos – $522,090

Cascades – $705,152

Detroit – $515,815

Donegal – $701,821

Pittsburgh – $492,330

The Top Ten for total giving by average per member are (by per member amount):

Hanmi – $72.68

Cimarron – $33.69

Southeastern Illinois – $38.47

Cascades – $33.68

Eastern Oregon – $38.37

New Castle – $33.39

Donegal – $35.46

Utah – $32.76

Milwaukee – $34.52

Redwoods – $32.45

The Top Ten for Basic Mission Support by total dollar amount are:

Donegal – $366,554

National Capital – $221,868

Mission – $310,890

Carlisle – $196,626

Cascades – $265,235

Chicago – $179,137

Philadelphia – $261,420

New Harmony – $177,918

Los Ranchos – $228,472

Central Florida – $176,556

The Top Ten for Basic Mission Support by average per member are:

Hanmi – $43.64

Southeastern Illinois – $14.57

Donegal – $18.52

New Harmony – $14.51

Milwaukee – $15.59

Wyoming – $14.33

Kiskiminetas – $15.58

Redwoods – $14.20

Western Reserve – $15.46

West Virginia – $14.08

The Top Ten honored for Special Offerings by total dollar amount are:

National Capital – $435,278

Donegal – $226,456

Cascades – $291,715

Mission – $222,518

Philadelphia – $285,680

Detroit – $201,241

Grace – $273,843

Twin Cities Area – $196,933

Chicago – $243,533

New Covenant – $190,627

The Top Ten honored for Special Offerings by average per member are:

Alaska – $20.04

Southeastern Illinois – $13.45

Western Colorado – $15.58

National Capital – $13.43

Yellowstone – $14.83

Utah – $13.32

Cascades – $13.93

Eastern Oregon – $13.11

Sierra Blanca – $13.65

North Puget Sound – $12.67

The Top Ten honored for donations to other appeals by total dollar amount are:

National Capital – $321,919

Twin Cities Area – $177,014

Pittsburgh – $215,784

Detroit – $167,652

Philadelphia – $206,675

Chicago – $159,806

Mission – $198,439

Greater Atlanta – $155,638

Grace – $182,569

Western North Carolina – $155,071

Finally, the Top Ten for donations to other appeals by average per member are:

Hanmi – $29.05

North Puget Sound – $11.38

Cimarron – $15.03

Sacramento – $10.70

South Alabama – $13.55

Southeastern Illinois – $10.45

Eastern Oregon – $12.16

Utah – $10.11

New Castle – $12.06

San Jose – $10.06

Susan Lindsey is a free-lance communications professional in Louisville. For more information about the "top ten" giving presbyteries, contact David Crittenden, director of stewardship for the General Assembly Mission Council, by email at david.crittenden@pcusa.org or by phone at 502-569-5194.

Tags: giving, mission support, top ten presbyteries

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Top Presbyteries in Giving 2011: Alphabetical list

Presbytery	*Honored for giving in…*
Alaska	Special Offerings per member
Carlisle	BMS
Cascades	BMS, Special Offerings, Special Offerings per member, Total Mission Giving, Total Mission Giving per member
Central Florida	BMS
Chicago	BMS, Special Offerings, Other Appeals, Total Mission Giving
Cimarron	Other Appeals per member, Total Mission Giving per member
Detroit	Special Offerings, Other Appeals, Total Mission Giving
Donegal	BMS, BMS per member, Special Offerings, Total Mission Giving, Total Mission Giving per member
Eastern Oregon	Special Offerings per member, Other Appeals per member, Total Mission Giving per member
Grace	Special Offerings, Other Appeals, Total Mission Giving
Greater Atlanta	Other Appeals
Hanmi	BMS per member, Other Appeals per member, Total Mission Giving per member
Kiskiminetas	BMS per member
Los Ranchos	BMS, Total Mission Giving
Milwaukee	BMS per member, Total Mission Giving per member
Mission	BMS, Special Offerings, Other Appeals, Total Mission Giving
National Capital	BMS, Special Offerings, Special Offerings per member, Other Appeals, Total Mission Giving
New Castle	Other Appeals per member, Total Mission Giving per member
New Covenant	Special Offerings
New Harmony	BMS, BMS per member
North Puget Sound	Special Offerings per member, Other Appeals per member
Philadelphia	BMS, Special Offerings, Other Appeals, Total Mission Giving
Pittsburgh	Other Appeals, Total Mission Giving
Redwoods	BMS per member, Total Mission Giving per member
Sacramento	Other Appeals per member
San Jose	Other Appeals per member
Sierra Blanca	Special Offerings per member
South Alabama	Other Appeals per member
Southeastern Illinois	BMS per member, Special Offerings per member, Other Appeals per member, Total Mission Giving per member
Twin Cities Area	Special Offerings, Other Appeals
Utah	Special Offerings per member, Other Appeals per member, Total Mission Giving per member
West Virginia	BMS per member
Western Colorado	Special Offerings per member
Western North Carolina	Other Appeals
Western Reserve	BMS per member
Wyoming	BMS per member
Yellowstone	Special Offerings per member