



MISSION MATTERS: *September 2023*

We are in what the Presbyterian calendar calls “The Season of Peace”. On October 1st, **World Communion Day**, we will accept the [Peace and Global Witness Offering](#). This offering is used to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own.

This morning NPR reported that 497 children in the United States have died of gun violence so far this year. I expect that, by the time that you read this, that number will have surpassed 500. In several states, including Texas, books are banned, the government has decided what forms of entertainment are inappropriate for children, elementary to college curriculums have been white-washed (literally) to “protect our children”. At the same time, an 18-year-old can purchase an assault weapon and mow down an entire classroom of those “protected children”.

Until hearts and laws change, this senseless violence will continue. The ***Peace and Global Witness Offering*** addresses systems of conflict and injustice here and across the world. Twenty five percent, (25%) of this offering stays with the congregation and we will donate it to [New Life Refuge Ministries](#) to help in their mission to end the trafficking of children.

The Presbyterian Church, USA believes that the peace of Christ belongs to everyone, everywhere. Please help.

Peace and blessings from:

The Island Presbyterian Mission Team

[To view the Mission Ministry page on the web, click here.](#)

A circular illustration of diverse people holding hands, symbolizing unity and peace. The people are shown from a top-down perspective, with their arms raised and hands clasped in a circle. They are wearing various colorful clothing. The background is a light orange color with abstract shapes.

Blessed are the
peacemakers,
for they will be called
the children of God.
MATTHEW 5:9

 PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION
SEPTEMBER 3-OCTOBER 1, 2023