

CHRISTMAS JOY
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
LEADERSHIP: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE



The **Christmas Joy Offering** provides assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need, and develops our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.



HEAVEN BROWN



The Christmas Joy Offering is one of four annual special offerings. The church-wide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) play an important role in defining what it means to be a connectional church in the 21st century, bringing together the diversity of the PC (USA) to focus and take faith-based action on shared concerns. The Special Offerings offer opportunities for partnership, learning, and witness and they profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.

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Prepare the Way

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WAYS TO GIVE



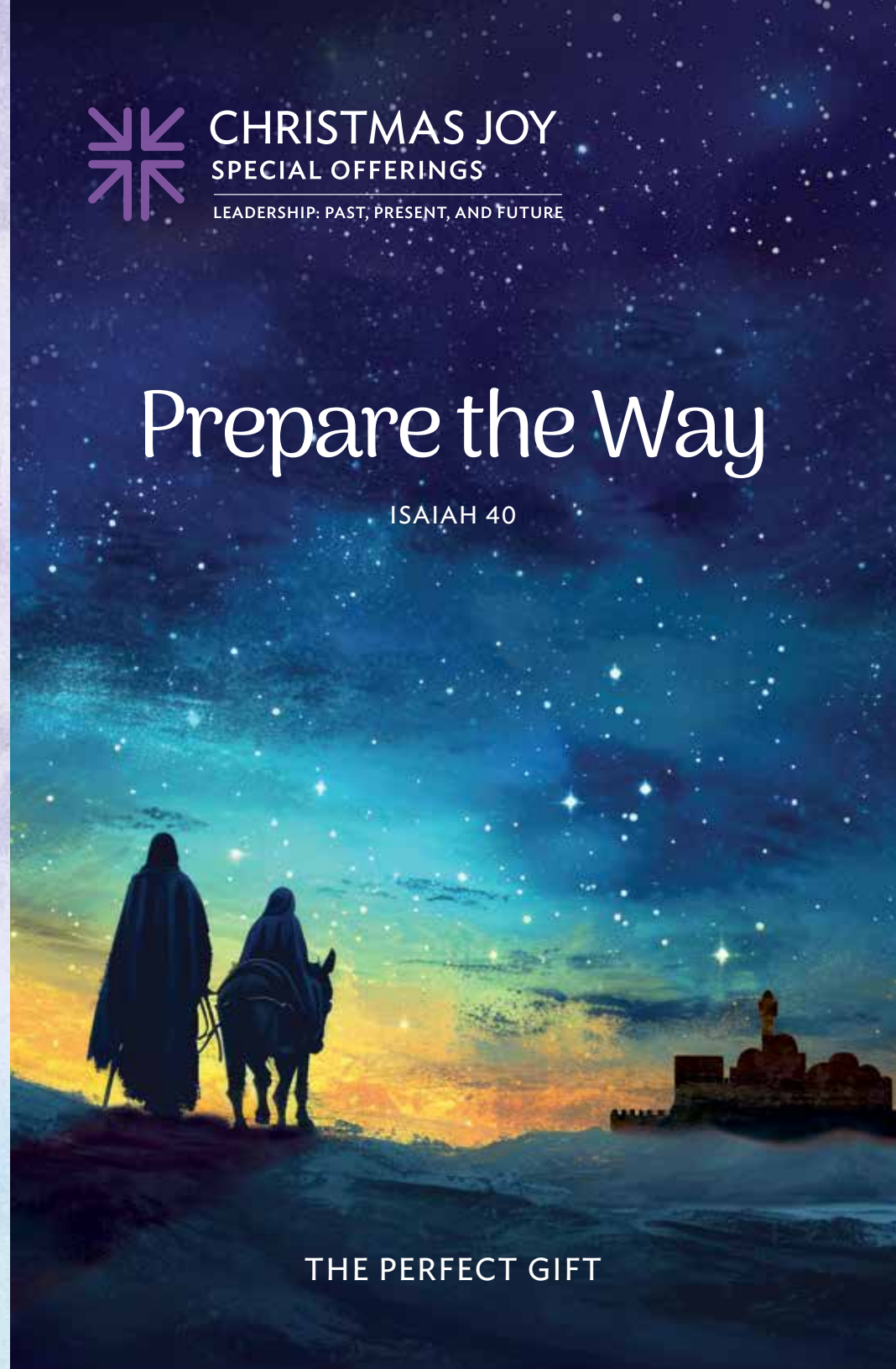
Through your congregation



Donate by credit card online at pcusa.org/christmasjoy



Text
CHRISTMASJOY
to 91999
to give or visit
pcusa.org/christmasjoy



THE PERFECT GIFT

When we give to the Christmas Joy Offering, we prepare the way for the leaders of our Church — past, present and future.

50%

of our gifts smooth the path for current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need.

Jenni Whitford's whole world turned upside down when her husband unexpectedly passed away, leaving her and her young children with many financial challenges. At that time, Jenni was serving as a Christian-educator at the First Presbyterian Church in Jackson, Michigan. Thanks to her pastor's referral, at a time of "chaos, upheaval and huge emotions," Jenni found just the support she needed through the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions. The peace of mind that the Offering provided her meant everything.



Jenni Whitford above, and the Whitford family.

"It's that great cloud of witnesses that I think about. People who I don't know or never will meet who gave generously to the Christmas Joy Offering to help support people like me."

—Jenni Whitford



Isabella Pérez Sanchez at left and center right.

50%

of your gifts prepare students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

Isabella Pérez Sanchez, raised in a Christian household in Bogotá, Colombia, was the first person in her family to attend school in the United States, at the Presbyterian Pan American School in Kingsville, Texas. Once she arrived on campus, she thrived and dreamed of being a doctor. Unexpectedly, she underwent emergency brain surgery and spent nearly two months in the intensive care unit. During this difficult time, she received her calling for life; to help others and to be God's hands in the world. Returning to school prepared her to move ahead and today, more than five years after her huge medical scare, Pérez is completely healed .

Isabella says, *"I am completely thankful to everyone who has donated to the Christmas Joy Offering to keep our school running. I hope more people have the opportunity to grow as I have grown, not only in knowledge but also in faith."*

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY...
FOR WHEN WE ALL DO A LITTLE,
IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!

