

2018 AMBASSADORS GUIDE



Mother's Day and Beyond

Helping Ambassadors in their role as liaisons
between their congregations and our ministry



**PRESBYTERIAN
COMMUNITIES
OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

Gratitude TO PCSC AMBASSADORS

Traditions are ways to ensure information, practices and significant events are kept alive over many years. Traditions are special to families, friends, cultures – and especially to Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina. Some of our traditions include:

The tradition of relationships with churches - serving their members, and knowing churches support this ministry through prayers, visits and gifts.

The tradition of the Mother's Day Offering - collected through churches for more years than PCSC has been serving residents!

The tradition of Charitable Care - providing financial assistance to qualified residents who, through no fault of their own, have outlived their funds.

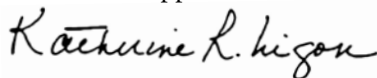
The tradition of the PCSC Ambassadors program – church representatives keep their congregations informed about the ministry of PCSC, assist in arranging visits to the Communities and promote the Mother's Day Offering.

You are indeed the keeper of the traditions of Presbyterian Communities! Words cannot express our gratitude to you for the dedication and commitment you provide on behalf of this ministry. Your helping us to tell this story of compassionate Christian care directly impacts the lives of those we are privileged to serve.

It is my hope that this guide will be beneficial to you, not only in planning for Mother's Day, but also in thinking about other ways Presbyterian Communities can connect with your church and support your church members.

We want to hear from you anytime throughout the year to know how we can best be of service to you and your church congregation.

With warm appreciation,



Katherine R. Ligon
President and CEO

PRESBYTERIAN COMMUNITIES CELEBRATES 60TH ANNIVERSARY

Sixty years ago this January, the Presbyterian Home of South Carolina in Summerville first opened its doors to twenty older adult members of Presbyterian churches in this state.

This haven of caring and fellowship did not just appear out of thin air, but developed over a period of ten years. It began with a perceived need: that our churches had older members for whom living alone at home was either no longer possible or else simply unappealing.

In 1948, The Synod of South Carolina appointed a committee, led by The Rev. Dr. W. McLeod Frampton, to explore the concept of a “home for the aged.” The concept grew and met with increasing approval, and in 1952 The Rev. Dr. C. Robert (Bob) Tapp joined the leadership of the effort to build the home. Land in Summerville was donated by Dr. Jack Rhodes and his wife, Dorothy, in 1953. The first Mother’s Day Offering was collected in 1954. Finally, the Home opened to its first residents in January of 1958. Not long afterwards, the Board of Advisors (now called the Ambassadors) was started by Dr. Frampton in 1960.

It is remarkable what our churches accomplished 60 years ago with the help of God. It is also remarkable to see how this ministry has grown from a single location serving 20 residents to six locations serving more than 900. The original Home did not provide skilled nursing care. Now Presbyterian Communities provides a full spectrum of care, as well as Medicare post-acute care and rehabilitation services.

Even the Mother’s Day Offering has changed. Originally collected to help fund the building of the Home and later to defray debt, the Offering is now collected solely and exclusively to fund charitable care at PCSC’s five historic communities:

- Clinton
- Columbia
- Florence
- Foothills
- Summerville



These “brave souls” were the first residents served by PCSC. They entered the Presbyterian Home in Summerville on January 12, 1958.



IDEAS FOR PROMOTING THE MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING

There are many ways that the Mother's Day Offering has been, and can be, promoted effectively to encourage congregational support. Below are a variety of ideas, some of which have been shared by our Ambassadors from around the state.

But each congregation is different. Our churches are different sizes, they are organized in different ways, and each has its own unique culture. That means that what is helpful in one church may be less so in another. As you read through these ideas and suggestions for promoting the Offering, please reflect on which of these might resonate with your congregation and encourage them to share in this ministry with the Mother's Day Offering.

PLANNING:

- Check with your missions/outreach ministry chair or your pastor and remind them of the Mother's Day Offering on May 13. It helps to get those in leadership thinking ahead about promoting the Offering and making sure that the necessary arrangements have been made. Ensuring that the envelopes and cards will be included in the Sunday bulletin or placed in the pews may seem like a simple thing, but someone has to make sure it happens.
- If you want to involve the children or youth in the promotion efforts, please be in touch with the leadership for your church's children's and youth ministries. They will need advance notice to effectively incorporate the Mother's Day Offering into their programs.

PROMOTION:

- ***Minute for Mission:*** This is a popular approach to getting the word out about the Offering. Some churches will have a minute for mission or time during the announcements on Mother's Day to share with the congregation the importance of the Offering and how it helps. Other churches will have their main announcement the week before the Offering, and then follow up with a brief reminder from the pulpit on Mother's Day.
 - **Who should present it?** There is no fixed rule. In some churches, the Ambassador will give the Minute for Mission or announcement. However, some Ambassadors are not comfortable speaking in public. In this case, there are a number of good candidates. These include:
 - A church member who lives at Presbyterian Communities
 - A church member who has family at one of the communities
 - The chair of the missions/outreach ministry
 - The pastor
 - A PCSC employee
 - **What to say?** See page 7 for ideas and a sample Minute for Mission.
 - **Variety can be helpful.** If the same person has done the minute for mission for the last few years, consider having someone else present it.
- ***Pastoral Support:*** The public support of the pastor is one of the best ways to emphasize to the congregation the importance of the Mother's Day Offering. This can be done during the announcements, just prior to the collection of the Offering during worship or in a letter or other written communication to the congregation. Please talk to your pastor to encourage his or her public support of the Offering.
- ***Written and Electronic Communications:*** You can promote the Offering by whatever means your church uses to communicate and promote its programs. Please consider using your church's
 - Worship Bulletin
 - Newsletter
 - E-mails
 - Website

Different people like to get their information in different ways. The newsletter might be the best way of reaching one person, while an email might be the best way of reaching another. Using multiple approaches helps ensure as many people as possible are aware of the Offering.

- ***The Mother's Day Offering Poster:*** Placing one or more of these posters in a strategic location is a good way to remind people of the Offering.
- ***Other ideas:*** At prior meetings, a number of excellent ideas for promoting the Mother's Day Offering were shared by our Ambassadors. Many, if not all of these, have been put into service in various churches.
 - **Set up a display table.** This can be done anywhere people congregate or pass by at your church. Consider having a table in the Narthex before and after worship or the Fellowship Hall during a church meal or coffee hour. A floral arrangement can be a great way of attracting attention. If you would like PCSC brochures or copies of the *Community Connections* to place on the table, please contact the PCSC Foundation at our management office (803-772-5885 or email Cathy Jackson at Cathy.Jackson@PresComm.org).
 - **During the minute for mission,** ask members of the congregation to stand if they have a connection to PCSC (for example, if they live with us, if they have a family member who has been served by us, if they work for us, if they have volunteered with us or if they have ever been on one of our campuses).
 - **Host a coffee time.** This can be done prior to Sunday school, between Sunday school and worship, or after worship.
 - **Make a bulletin board.** This is a good place to put a poster. You might want to cut out some pictures from past *Community Connections*. You can also enlist the children of your church to help with the bulletin board and/or provide Mother's Day-themed artwork for it.
 - **Distribute a small packet of promotional materials for each family.** One Ambassador reported that this was done in a local church and it led to a great Offering. Again, we can provide brochures, etc. if needed.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

In the 5th Commandment, God declares to us: “Honor your father and your mother.” Sixty years ago, the Presbyterian Churches in South Carolina gave concrete obedience to this commandment by opening the first Presbyterian Community in Summerville.

In 1958, twenty older “mothers and fathers” of our churches entered their new home, built by Presbyterians who desired to honor and care for them. There they found fellowship, opportunities to remain mentally and physically active, and a helping touch when needed.

The ministry of Presbyterian Communities has proved to be one of the most successful undertakings of our churches in South Carolina. Today, over 900 older adults reside at multiple communities across the state. But while much has changed over the last sixty years, the purpose of Presbyterian Communities has not. PCSC continues to be an expression of the care South Carolina Presbyterians have for older adults who are no longer able or willing to live at home alone.

This Mother’s Day, Presbyterians will have another opportunity to keep the 5th Commandment by giving generously to the Mother’s Day Offering. Your gift will be used exclusively to provide charitable care for those residents at Presbyterian Communities who have outlived their life savings. By honoring our “fathers and mothers” in this way, you help ensure that they can continue to live with Presbyterian Communities.

Thank you for your generosity!



HOW AMBASSADORS CAN HELP PCSC AND THEIR CHURCHES

Ambassadors serve as important liaisons between their home church and our ministry. Some ideas for how Ambassadors can help our organization and their churches bless each other are given below:

VISIT

- Schedule a trip for a church group to come see one of our communities. We can give tours, treat your group to a meal, and discuss our ministry.

EDUCATION

Invite PCSC to come make a presentation at your church. Suggested topics include (but are not limited to):

- How to select a retirement community
- The spirituality of aging
- Healthy lifestyles for seniors
- How adult children can support aging parents
- Dealing with dementia

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- Encourage your missions or outreach ministry to include PCSC in your church's annual budget.
- Promote the Mother's Day Offering.

VOLUNTEERING

Encourage youth groups, women's groups, men's groups, or other groups in your church, as well as individuals, to volunteer at one of our communities. Information about volunteer opportunities can be found at www.PresCommunities.org/volunteer-opportunities.

PROMOTE

- Remind friends and church members who may be looking for a retirement community (whether an older adult or children of aging parents) that PCSC is “our” retirement community.
- Include periodic announcements in your church bulletin or newsletter sharing information about PCSC. You can share information from the *Community Connections* or this guide.
- Invite the Rev. Dr. Franklin Fant or one of our chaplains to preach at your church and/or give a minute for mission.
- Encourage your church to display PCSC materials in a visible location.
- Have your church provide a link on its website to PCSC's website, www.PresCommunities.org.



FACT SHEET

Number of Residents: At the end of 2017, PCSC was serving 819 residents at its five historic communities. PCSC added over 100 residents to this figure when it acquired the Laurel Crest Retirement Community on January 5, 2018.

CHARITABLE CARE

- Total cost for 2017: Approximately \$1.2 million
- Residents served in 2017: 37
- Average age of residents on charitable care: 91

CONSTRUCTION/RENOVATIONS

Clinton

- De-licensing of 15 assisted living apartments and conversion to independent living apartments is complete. The new hallway is called Heritage Court and several of the apartments are occupied.

Foothills

- Twelve new independent living apartments are complete. The new wing is called Great Oak Way. All apartments have been claimed.
- A deceased donor left a generous planned gift that will ensure the full installation of stained glass windows in The Chapel at Foothills, as originally envisioned.

Summerville

- The new, 88-unit healthcare center to replace the current center will be completed this spring, with transfer of skilled care residents soon following.
- The new independent living building (Grand Oak Way) is almost finished, and we expect new residents to move in beginning in March.

Other Developments

- PCSC acquired the Laurel Crest Retirement Community in West Columbia from FPCRC, Inc. This community was started by First Presbyterian Church of Columbia after it left the denomination. The acquisition of this strong community will advance PCSC's mission and preserve a ministry of a church that was historically one of PCSC's key supporters.

MEDICARE POST-ACUTE CARE AND REHABILITATION

All communities except Laurel Crest offer in-patient (Medicare Part A) and out-patient (Medicare Part B) services. Since one does not have to be a resident to use these services, this is a great way for us to serve non-residents as well.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions about church contributions and how they are used, to arrange programs at your church, or to answer general questions, always feel free to contact your Director of Church Relations at PCSC, Franklin Fant, at (803) 772-5885 or Franklin.Fant@PresComm.org.

For questions about admissions, contact the appropriate Marketing Director:

The Clinton Presbyterian Community

Dina Hair at (864) 833-5190 or Dina.Hair@PresComm.org

The Columbia Presbyterian Community

Cindy Johnson at (803) 796-8700 or Cindy.Johnson@PresComm.org

The Florence Presbyterian Community

Melody Adams at (843) 665-2222 or Melody.Adams@PresComm.org

The Foothills Retirement Community

Cathy Stuckey at (864) 859-3367 or Cathy.Stuckey@PresComm.org

Laurel Crest Retirement Community

Amanda Mahan at (803) 796-0370 or A.Mahan@Laurel-Crest.com

The Village at Summerville

Elizabeth King at (843) 873-2550 or Elizabeth.King@PresComm.org

For questions about volunteering at one of our communities, contact the appropriate Life Enrichment Director:

The Clinton Presbyterian Community

Louise Parr at (864) 939-0592 or lparr@PresComm.org

The Columbia Presbyterian Community

Rebecca Richardson at (803) 227-8931 or rrichardson@PresComm.org

The Florence Presbyterian Community

Amanda Strickland Allen at (843) 656-2905
or Amanda.Allen@PresComm.org

The Foothills Retirement Community

LeighAnn Owen at (864) 859-3367 or LeighAnn.Owen@PresComm.org

The Village at Summerville

Karmen Wood at (843) 300-0481 or Karmen.Wood@PresComm.org



The Clinton Presbyterian Community
(866) 833-5190

The Columbia Presbyterian Community
(803) 796-8700

The Florence Presbyterian Community
(843) 665-2222

The Foothills Retirement Community
(864) 859-3367

Laurel Crest Retirement Community
(803) 796-0370

The Village at Summerville
(843) 873-2550

Management Services Office
(803) 772-5885

WWW.PRESCOMMUNITIES.ORG

An electronic version of this Guide may be downloaded
from our website at *www.PresCommunities.org/ambassadors*.

*We are a compassionate Christian ministry
dedicated to enriching the quality of life for seniors of all faiths.*