



The Columns Online

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Presbyterian Hunger Program approves more than \$1.2 million in grants U.S. and international partners will benefit from Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) generosity.

By Darla Carter.

LOUISVILLE — The Advisory Committee of the Presbyterian Hunger Program has approved more than \$1.2 million in grants to address hunger and its root causes, from Florida to Madagascar.

Over the course of multiple days, the Advisory Committee met virtually to discuss and settle on the grants, which will benefit organizations and projects in about 22 countries, including the United States.



Hunger Action Advocates (HAAs) serve presbyteries as educators, motivators and facilitators of hunger action. (Courtesy of PHP)

"We are so grateful to our elected committee members who faithfully take 2½ days on Zoom to cover (almost) 100 grant proposals," said the Rev. Rebecca Barnes, coordinator of PHP. *Continued.*

U.S. AIR FORCE Heritage of America Band



works by Schubert & Stravinsky

Lurax 10/8 🛶 Waynesboro 10/9 😽 Chester 10/10

Louisa 10/11/** Augusta 10/12

For more info:





Hunger, continued

"They've all taken the time over the summer to read the grant proposals assigned to them, and they've scored and made comments on them," she continued, "and then in the committee itself, they give a brief overview to the others who haven't read the grant. It takes a lot of dedication, time and energy, and we're thankful for their attentive reading, great questions and passion about the good work of the grantee partners."

U.S. organizations receiving grants include BeLoved Asheville, which works on food equity and access issues in North Carolina; Creation Justice Ministries, which connects people to resources for environmental justice, education and advocacy; and the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW), a human rights organization in Florida that has fought corporate giants and others to improve farm labor standards and establish fairer wages.

Commenting on CIW, Ann Elyse Hicks, Advisory Committee member, said, "I really appreciate the work that they're doing in minority farming communities, and I really love that they have their own radio station," which was helpful in disseminating information during the pandemic.

An ocean away is Action for Rural Women's Empowerment, which works for women's rights in Uganda.

In that country, "women are often cheated out of their inheritance and their land by a variety of different organizations and this organization helps women learn how to stand up and claim their land, so they can continue to farm the land and feed their families," said Eileen Best, Advisory Committee member.



The Rev. Rebecca Barnes coordinates the Presbyterian Hunger Program (Photo by Rich Copley)

Other grant recipients from abroad include the Improvement and Development for Communities Center in Palestine; funding will help provide seedlings and foster greenhouse projects. There's also the Fruits, Vegetables and Environmental Education Program of the Church of Jesus Christ in Madagascar, a country where food insecurity has been impacted by drought and there are concerns about the possibility of climate-induced famine.

"I think this is a wonderful organization," Best said of the Madagascar program. "What I really like about it is that it works through the churches. They plant trees, they feed kids, they work on water problems, and they're expanding into all of their congregations and the seminaries and encouraging everybody to plant trees."

The grant projects mesh with the Presbyterian Mission Agency's Matthew 25 invitation, which seeks to eradicate poverty, dismantle structural racism and build congregational vitality, and reflects PHP's desire to empower communities and families, care for Creation and fight the vestiges of colonialism.

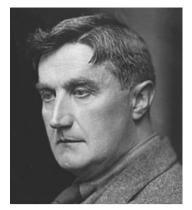
Hunger, continued

"The PHP Advisory Committee has long used principles of decolonizing wealth in the decisionmaking process, inviting and reviewing grant proposals that particularly provide access to food, farming, land, water and sanitation, and training to communities that have experienced structural racism and systemic poverty," Barnes said. "Our grants also go to Hunger Action Advocates in presbyteries and to Congregation-Based Community Organizing, which helps to revitalize congregations across the country."

The Presbyterian Hunger Program is one of the Compassion, Peace & Justice ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Its work is made possible by your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing.



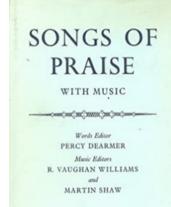
Worship Info for October 9



Vaughan Williams.

The anthem for this Sunday will be *At the Name of Jesus*, with music composed by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). Born into a progressive, well-to-do family with strong moral views, he believed in making music as available as possible to everybody; in addition to operas, ballets, chamber music, and orchestral compositions, he wrote many works for amateur and student performance. Strongly influenced by Tudor music and English folk-song, his output marked a decisive break in British music from its German-dominated style of the 19th century.

Vaughan Williams refused a knighthood at least once, and declined the post of *Master of the King's Music* after the death of Sir Edward Elgar in 1934. Preferring to remain simply "Dr. Vaughan Williams," he accepted only one national honor: the *Order of Merit*, which conferred no title. Vaughan Willaims amassed a collection of over 800 tunes in his sixty year career,, the essence of which wove its way into his original music. *At the Name of Jesus* is one of those pieces, published in 1925 in a collection called <u>Songs of Praise</u>. The music, known as KING'S WESTON, is named after a manor house on the Avon River near Bristol, England.



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This Week in History.



Civil Rights attorney Thurgood Marshall is sworn in as the first African American associate justice of the Supreme Court. October 2, 1967



Shawnee Indian Chief Tecumseh dies. A staunch opponent of white encroachment on native land, he was commissioned a brigadier general by the British in the War of 1812, and killed at the Battle of the Thames, Ontario. October 5, 1813



Tag der Deutschen Einheit

After 45 years of division, East and West reunite as the Federal Republic of Germany. September 3, 1990



The Jazz Singer opens in New York city, marking the beginning of the sound era in film. October 6, 1929



Giovanni Francesco Bernardone born in Assisi, Umbria, Italy. He would renounce his family's wealth and found the Friars Minor (Franciscan Order). October 4, 1181



The Soviet Zone of Occupation in East Germany is organized as the German Democratic Republic. October 7, 1949



The Great Fire of Chicago erupts, destroying 17,450 buildings over 3.5 square miles. More than 300 were killed, and some 90,000 left homeless. October 8, 1881