

# What does the Mission, Outreach & Justice Ministry *do?*



The **Mission, Outreach, and Justice Ministry (MOJ)** promotes congregational participation in local, national, and global mission endeavors, including the special denominational offerings.

MOJ encourages appropriate congregational action and/or study and reflection relative to current moral, ethical, and spiritual issues confronting Lakewood Presbyterian, as well as the national and global church.



## The Haven Home

a mission-driven nonprofit organization that provides stable housing options for pregnant and parenting women experiencing homelessness in Northeast Ohio.



Each November, MOJ sponsors a baby shower at LPC, collecting donations of supplies the Haven Home needs to continue serving mothers and their children experiencing homelessness.

## Colors+

a peer-run, community-based local youth center dedicated to the wellbeing of LGBTQ+ youth and their families.



For the past few years, MOJ has regularly donated funds to Colors+ from the mission portion of the LPC budget.

# 2025 Presbyterian Youth Triennium Presbytery Delegation Scholarships

MOJ used some of its 2025 budget to fund scholarships for Presbytery of the Western Reserve (PWR) youth delegates and adult advisors to attend this conference.

Along with the delegates' own fundraising and a PWR Vision Fund grant, these MOJ scholarships helped make participation in this lifechanging event affordable.



# North Presbyterian Church

a ministry to the inner city of Cleveland, part of the Presbytery of the Western Reserve's commitment to living out the Gospel message of Matthew 25.



MOJ regularly supports North Church's community programs, both financially and through organizing LPC members to help prepare and serve meals every Sunday for one month each year.

# Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)

the emergency and refugee program of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), bearing witness to the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crisis and catastrophic event.

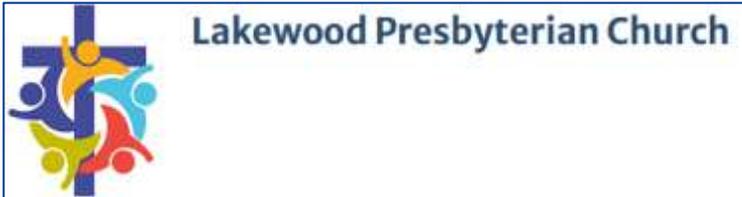


During the past year, MOJ contributed funds to PDA in support of:

- Mid-East Peace
- Texas Flood Relief
- Additional General/Undesignated Needs

# What else would you like to see MOJ do?

Please take a minute to let us know by filling out our **MOJ survey** at this [LINK](#).



Lakewood Presbyterian Church is a **Matthew 25** congregation. The 3 pillars of our denomination's Matthew 25 movement are rooted in Jesus' teachings in Matthew 25: 31-46...



**Eradicating systemic poverty**

**Dismantling structural racism**

**Building congregational vitality**

MOJ endeavors to help the congregation live out these principles of bold and compassionate discipleship.

# Bread for the World

a Christian advocacy organization urging U.S. decision makers to do all they can to pursue a world without hunger – educating and equipping people to advocate for policies and programs that can help end hunger in the U.S. and around the world.



**In conjunction with PWR hunger programs, MOJ has regularly supported Bread for the World's "letters to legislators" initiative by sponsoring congregational letter writing advocating passage of the federal Farm Bill.** In 2025, LPC members Cindy & Terry Dugan and Laura Van Dale & Tedd Roos traveled to Washington, DC with others from PWR to personally deliver LPC's letters.

# Mobility Worldwide

a global faith-based, non-profit organization with a vision of ending immobility in the world. Volunteer-run affiliate workshops help empower people by making life more accessible through mobility aids.



**For the past few years, MOJ has regularly donated funds to Mobility Worldwide from the mission portion of the LPC budget.**

# Dougbe River Presbyterian School of Liberia

opened its doors in November 2012, committed to the vision of a school rooted in faith that contributes to the development of Grand Gedeh County Liberia through the education of children and youth. With the partnership of the Presbytery of the Western Reserve (PWR) and the support of more than 30 worshipping communities and countless individuals, the school has grown into the vision of a place set apart, where students are fed and nourished in mind, body, and spirit.



**MOJ has ensured Lakewood Presbyterian is one of the worshipping communities supporting the Dougbe River Presbyterian School. MOJ purchases the seats for an LPC table at the annual Dougbe River School Gala fundraising event and invites members of the congregation to fill all the seats at that table.**

## Project Noelle

The congregation donates Easter basket materials and contents, and volunteers assemble them. The Project Noelle organization gives them at Eastertime to children in the community who are victims of the opioid addiction and overdose crises.



## Mittens, Scarves, Hats, Socks

The congregation donates warm winter clothing accessories each late autumn. The Lakewood Community Service Center distributes them to community youngsters and others in low-income situations.



## School Supplies

MOJ solicits donations from the congregation of back-to-school needs every August. The Lakewood Community Service Center distributes them to Lakewood students in low-income family situations.



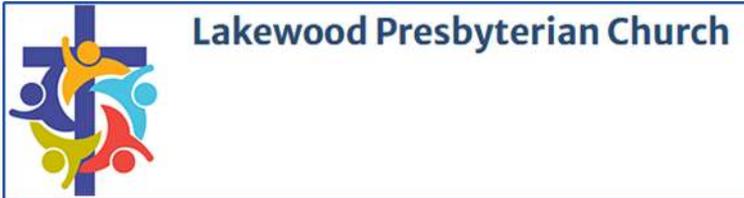
## Little LPC Food Pantry

In conjunction with the LPC Youth Group, the congregation donates non-perishable food items. LPC youth stock these in the outdoor cupboard on Marlowe Ave., free for passersby to take.



# Would you like to be part of MOJ?

Please indicate your interest when you fill out our **MOJ survey** at this [LINK](#).



# Denominational Special Offerings



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING  
SPECIAL OFFERING

## Repairing the breach

March 5-April 20, 2025

Ending hunger, repairing after disasters, and promoting the self-development of all people.



PENTECOST  
SPECIAL OFFERING

## Pentecost Offering

April 21-June 8, 2025

Supporting at-risk children, youth and young adults.



PURSUE  
WHAT  
MAKES  
FOR  
PEACE.

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS  
SPECIAL OFFERING

## Peace & Global Witness

September 7-October 5, 2025

Support peacemaking, reconciliation and global witness.

The Special Offerings are the single largest way Presbyterians join together to make a lasting impact in the world.



PREPARE  
THE WAY  
(ISAIAH 40)

THE PERFECT GIFT

## Christmas Joy Offering

November 30 - December 21, 2025

Supporting our leaders past, present, and future.

## Legal Aid Society

Congregations keep 25% of our **Peace & Global Witness Offerings** to be peacemakers in our own communities, meeting needs and helping every person flourish.

The Rev. Dr. Richard Watts (former LPC pastor and founder of the project here that grew into the national Presbyterian Peacemaking ministry) recommended MOJ donate LPC's 25% share of this year's offering to the **Legal Aid Society of Cleveland.**

Legal Aid's mission is to secure justice, equity, and access to opportunity for and with people who have low incomes, through passionate legal representation and advocacy for systemic change.

Their vision is for Northeast Ohio to be a place where all people experience dignity and justice – **peace** of mind – free from poverty and oppression.

# The Metanoia Project

a seasonal shelter in Cleveland (November to April, plus summertime meals) providing a safe space for rest and relationship building, partnered with resource linkage for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness.



MOJ has regularly sponsored and helped organize members of the congregation to prepare and help serve meals at the Metanoia Project's locations.

## AMIS

### (Americans Making Immigrants Safe)

was founded in 2019 by a group of compassionate volunteers who witnessed the plight of asylum seekers coming to Cleveland to escape torture and death in their home countries. Since its founding, AMIS has assisted immigrants from over 25 countries.



In addition to donating from the mission budget, MOJ publicized AMIS's prayer service and annual fund-raiser. Several LPC members attended each event.

# Exploring Origins based on *Born on the Water*

Three Sundays in August 2025, 50 to 60 LPC members and friends of all ages gathered to learn together about the historical and current African American experience using themes in the children's book *Born on the Water*.

As a Matthew 25 congregation, we learn and work together to dismantle structural racism.



LPC volunteers designed and presented the three Sundays' programs, and MOJ sponsored the events.

# Exploring Origins Follow-Ups

## Lakewood Black Caucus

On behalf of LPC's Faith Formation Ministry as well as MOJ, Cindy Dugan met with the Lakewood Black Caucus (LBC) president Shirley Nelson to discuss ways the Caucus and LPC might partner more closely.

LBC has invited LPC members and friends to two upcoming events:

**Snack & Chat "Introduction to the Allyship Program", led by Melanie Swiat, LBC VP  
Saturday, Nov. 16, 1:00-4:00, Lawther Hall**

**Kwanza Celebration  
Saturday, Dec. 27, 12:00-5:00, Lawther Hall**

In recent years, LBC has held frequent events and meetings in our church building. LPC members have participated in many. LPC also serves as the Caucus's business agent.

## SURJ

### (Showing Up for Racial Justice)

Showing Up for Racial Justice, Northeast Ohio (SURJ NEO) is one of over 200 chapters of a national organization that brings hundreds of thousands of white people into the struggle for racial and economic justice in answer to the call from Black leadership for white people to organize, too.

**In recent months, MOJ has publicized SURJ NEO events and, following the August Exploring Origins gatherings, contacted SURJ NEO. We asked if they have relationships with other northeast Ohio faith communities and what sort of relationship with LPC their leadership might recommend.**

**Thank you for all you do to  
support LPC's ministries of  
Mission, Outreach & Justice.**

Please fill out our **MOJ survey** at this [LINK](#).

