

**AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING 2022**  
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## **Abigail is answering the call to ministry, thanks to you**

With health and financial challenges, Abigail didn't know whether she'd be able to follow her dream of attending seminary.



“I have asked God,” she says, “how I was going to be able to receive training to do His work.” But now her path is clear. Abigail has been awarded the Daniel E. Weiss Scholarship.

The Weiss Scholarship is given to emerging American Baptist leaders. “I was in shock,” Abigail says, “when I received this wonderful blessing.”

With overflowing gratitude, she says, “I would like to thank those who awarded me with this scholarship, the people who contribute to this scholarship, and my God who has not failed me yet and who has made it possible for me to go to seminary.”

Your gifts help to train and inspire new leaders who are committed to growing the American Baptist denomination. **Please give your America for Christ Offering contribution today.**



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## **How you helped Maggie make a difference in her low-income community**

Maggie lives in an impoverished neighborhood made up of mostly immigrant families. As a junior in high school, she took it upon herself to plan a community project.



She wanted to clean up an abandoned, trash-strewn lot in the area. Maggie led the effort with classmates and removed all the trash. Her positive act inspired others and set the wheels into motion.

A short time later, the city announced that it would transform the lot into a neighborhood park. Instead of trash, needles and abandoned cars, this spot would be a small but peaceful place for neighbors to gather. It's all because one young person decided to change the narrative and make a real difference.

This is the good you do. Your support enables ABHMS to provide scholarships, mentoring, tutoring and more to inspire young people to take charge of their future. **Please give your America for Christ Offering contribution today.**



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## Sergio is succeeding in a youth program with your generous support

A fourth-grader, Sergio carried the unfortunate label of “trouble-maker.” Perhaps not without reason. He was angry. He was defiant with teachers. He fought with classmates. He refused to take part in activities. He was clearly heading down a dangerous path.



But all that changed when Sergio began attending a local youth program. There, instead of being treated as a trouble-maker, he was treated with love. He was listened to with respect. He was guided with compassion. And he began to see how his actions were causing all the problems he was having.

Today, Sergio is a different child. He's an active, engaged, intelligent boy who likes school and has lots of friends. This is your support at work.

With your generosity, ABHMS funds youth programs that can change children's lives and set them on the right path for a bright future. **Please give your America for Christ Offering contribution today.**



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## Magaly's house now has a roof, because of you

Just a few short years ago, hurricanes Irma and Maria slammed into Puerto Rico, and the island is still reeling from the devastation. In addition to destroyed hospitals, schools and other buildings, many homeowners found themselves with roofs that were badly damaged and, in some cases, completely torn off.



Magaly is one of these homeowners. Long after the disaster happened, she could only afford a leaky blue tarp draped over the top of her home, instead of an actual roof.

“Every time it rained,” she says, “the house would get wet—the floors, the walls, everything would get soaked.”

Magaly no longer has to worry about that blue tarp. Thanks to you, she has a new roof for her house that will last for years to come. This is how you're helping. **Please give your America for Christ Offering contribution today.**



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## You're countering Asian hate with God's love

A Filipino-American man is slashed with a knife on a New York subway train. "I put my hand on my face, and when I saw my hand, it was full of blood," he said. This is just one incident of many.

Attackers jeer at Asian Americans, shouting "Go back to China!" They repeat vile things like "China virus," kung flu," and "Wu flu." They scrawl hateful slogans on Asian-American homes and businesses.



"In this season of growing fear and unrest in the Asian-American community, our leaders long to be equipped and find solidarity, as we do ministry together," says the Rev. Michele Turek, former coordinator of the Alliance of Asian-American Baptist Churches.

Your support helps strengthen Asian-American churches to counter the hate, aid Asian-Americans struggling with racism and poverty, welcome Asian-American young people into ministry and much more. **Please give your America for Christ Offering contribution today.**



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## Your support enables Black female pastors like Chris to succeed

Chris was called to pastor a small, greying church with a mostly white congregation. She was their first female, African-American pastor.



With Chris' leadership, the church began to grow. But problems appeared. A number of congregants passed away. And racial tensions heightened. The new people joining the church were mostly minorities. Many long-time parishioners left.

Naturally, finances dwindled. The church could no longer afford to pay Chris, so she agreed to go without a salary, instead receiving a small stipend. Worse, the building needed extensive repairs because of flooding.

But thankfully, your support was there. Chris received a grant for repairs to the church. She received a grant for her salary and retirement. And she received help with additional financial steps. The result? The church is now on solid financial footing. This happened because of you. **Please give your America for Christ Offering contribution today.**



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## This is how you were there for Jimmy after prison

When Jimmy's mom threw him out of the house, he was only 16. He spent the next few years homeless and addicted to drugs and alcohol.



It didn't take long before he was arrested for drug dealing and possession. He was sentenced to 10 years in prison. When he was finally released, Jimmy had nothing to go back to. He had no home, no friends, no family, no job skills. It seemed like his only option was trying to survive on the streets. That's what he did for a full year. Until he found the church.

And because of your support, help was there from a network of chaplains and pastors who helped Jimmy return to society. Today he has a job, a place of his own and a future. This is the good you do. **Please give your America for Christ Offering contribution today.**



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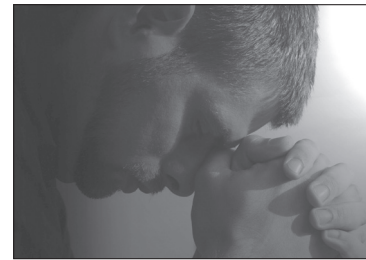
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## Kevin was homeless and alone, but you helped

Kevin grew up in Oklahoma, an all-American kid, and he enlisted right after high school. Joining the Army was the proudest day of his life.



Deployed to Iraq, Kevin did two combat tours without a problem. Then, when he came home after his active duty, he found a job and got an apartment. He seemed to be holding it together. But something inside him had changed.

He started drinking more and more. He started missing work, until he got fired. And when he ran out of money, he was evicted. After that, he was homeless and alone. He was lost. But thankfully, he found the church and your wonderful support.

Today, Kevin is living in the church's men's shelter. He's getting help with addiction—and hope for the future. This is how you minister to people in need. **Please give your America for Christ Offering contribution today.**



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