

## Why Choose the PC(USA)?

*Some congregations are wrestling with whether or not to maintain their connection to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The following are just a few of many reasons for them to choose to remain within the denomination.*

- **The national agencies of the PC(USA) are focusing energies on important, faithful work.** For example, the Presbyterian Mission Agency is working to [grow 1001 new worshiping communities](#) designed to foster new disciples by “doing church” in new ways, to develop transformational capabilities in our leaders, and to engage [young adults](#). The agencies are pursuing ministries which join witness in word (evangelism) and witness in deed (justice), illustrated in only one way by World Mission’s focus on three [critical global issues](#) of addressing the root causes of poverty, witnessing in word to God’s love in Christ, and working for reconciliation in cultures of violence.
- **God’s Spirit continues to work** in congregations throughout this denomination. Even as we decline in membership numbers, [there is new life springing up](#) all over, often in surprising places: [UKirk college ministries](#); [Presbyterian Disaster Assistance](#) work teams; smaller churches engaging their communities with the Gospel; downtown [churches addressing sex trafficking](#) on their corners; and in many other shapes and forms.
- **The PC(USA) in its many expressions is engaged in work across the full range of the Gospel’s concerns**, preaching and worship, evangelism, education, care for the poor, work for the well-being of the environment, and more. The PC(USA) is committed to the Great Ends of the Church, a commitment to the whole gospel for all people.
- **The PC(USA) is the heir of a great confessional tradition**, found in [The Book of Confessions](#). These statements of faith remind the church who and what it is, what it believes, and what it resolves to do.
- **Stewardship of inherited resources.** The PC(USA) has incredible resources under the care of its various councils and partners of long-standing all over the world—churches, hospitals, schools, seminaries, financial wills, and bequests. To stay is to be part of the body that stewards these great resources for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- **Scriptural emphasis on unity.** While unity does not require all Christians to be in one denomination, it is important for all of us to consider what Jesus’ prayer for unity among his followers ([John 17:20-24](#)) means for us today.
- **The challenge of retaining missional focus.** Some churches have found that the decision whether or not to leave a denomination focuses their energies inwardly and actually makes it more difficult to return to an outward-focused ministry for some time.