

# One Great HOUR OF SHARING

February 11, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of Wider Church Ministries, I wish you blessings for this calendar year. We are grateful for your ongoing support and prayers with us as we minister with you and our partners around the world.

As many of you are aware, the One Great Hour of Sharing experienced significant decrease in 2020 due to the pandemic. The date for the collection of the offering was March 22, the first day that many of our churches were out of their building due to lockdowns across the country. We are extremely grateful for the gifts we received and for the opportunity to journey with our partners in the US and around the world as they found ways to provide for the emerging needs and health concerns they faced.

We begin 2021 with the hope that the One Great hour of Sharing offering will regain the momentum lost due to the pandemic, and we are noticing a few good signs of a potential rebound. Our promotional efforts for the offering have shifted to accommodate the virtual worship environment, and also includes options for churches with in-person worship. Here's a brief update:

1. OGHS packets with sample printed materials were mailed to all congregations, and links to online OGHS resources were also sent via email: [http://new.uccfiles.com/pdf/OGHS\\_email\\_update.pdf](http://new.uccfiles.com/pdf/OGHS_email_update.pdf)
2. Since most of our congregations continue to worship virtually, additional videos were created for use in virtual settings. This video depicts the local and global reality of the pandemic and the need for "masks": <https://youtu.be/7zukT3gNoRg>
3. The other OGHS videos will be available here: [www.ucc.org/oghs\\_resource](http://www.ucc.org/oghs_resource)
4. Recently, we heard from one congregation that plans to receive their OGHS offering over a 6-week period (expanding the opportunity to give beyond the Sunday, March 14 recommended offering date). We are thankful for new insights and ways to take the offering.

Thank you for your generosity and ongoing support of the One Great Hour of Sharing offering.

*Peace and Blessings,*

Karen Georgia A. Thompson  
Associate General Minister, Wider Church Ministries  
Co-Executive for Global Ministries

