



# SEEDS

The Newsletter of Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Los Ranchos

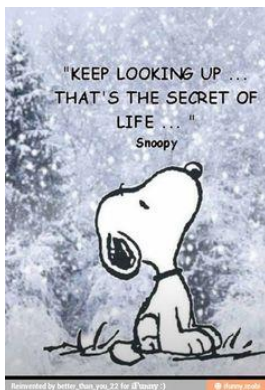
Editor: Janet Triplett [janet-triplett@att.net](mailto:janet-triplett@att.net) 2024-2025 PWPLRCT 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER 2024

July 3, 2024

Dear Sisters in Christ:

Summer is in full bloom, and I hope this time fills you with joy and thanksgiving for all the many blessings and amazing variety of gifts which God has bestowed upon all of us. Are you planning any special trips? Any special events? May this season in time bring you peace and relaxation.

At this time of writing, I am currently in downtown Salt Lake City where I am proud to be representing our Los Ranchos Presbytery at General Assembly (GA) as a Ruling Elder Commissioner, along with Teaching Elder Commissioner Leanne Strommen, who is pastor at Community Presbyterian Church in San Juan Capistrano. Together we have been attending committee meetings, daily worship services, and plenaries where we have been conducting the business of our PC(USA). It has been an amazing and busy week, but exciting to see delegates(400+) and maybe 200 others, all with various positions in the church from all around the country and the world. So wonderful to connect with old friends as well! Janet has written info where you can explore what we have been doing at GA — Check it out. Held every two years, this marks the 226<sup>th</sup> time it has met. Tonight I met a woman who has attended 16 times. Exhausting but oh, so exciting!



In this edition you will also see information inviting you to travel to St. Louis where **PW Churchwide** will meet on August 8-11. If you have never been, it is a perfect time to connect with other women from across the country! There is a possibility PWPLR will be offering several scholarships to help defray some of your expenses — more info out shortly. Email me if you think you might be interested in attending at [annesivley@aol.com](mailto:annesivley@aol.com). If you have received a scholarship from PWS, you do not qualify. Check out the pictures from the PWS event held on June 1 in Redlands. What fun we had connecting with women around our Synod. Lastly, thinking ahead, if you would like to join an online Horizon Bible Study and meet with other wonderful women from across our Presbytery and beyond, two zoom groups will begin meeting in September. Enjoy your summer!

Blessings,

Anne Sivley  
Acting Moderator, PWPLR



“Be the change you wish to see in the world.” – Mahatma Gandhi

<https://www.genesisca.org/single-post/2019/06/17/be-the-change#:~:text=We've%20all%20heard%20the,often%20credited%20with%20saying%20this.>





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“You are who you are meant to be. Dance as if no one’s watching. Love as if it’s all you know. Dream as if you’ll live forever. Live as if you’ll die today.” — James Dean

## Connect With Presbyterian Women

For most women, connecting with Presbyterian Women happens in the congregation. Many women also connect at presbytery, synod or churchwide levels. Whether you want to participate at all of these levels or just a few, whether you want to support all of Presbyterian Women's work or just the ministries that speak to you . . . please do! Your life will be enriched by Presbyterian Women, and Presbyterian Women will be richer for having you!

<https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/connect/>

<https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/category/blog/>

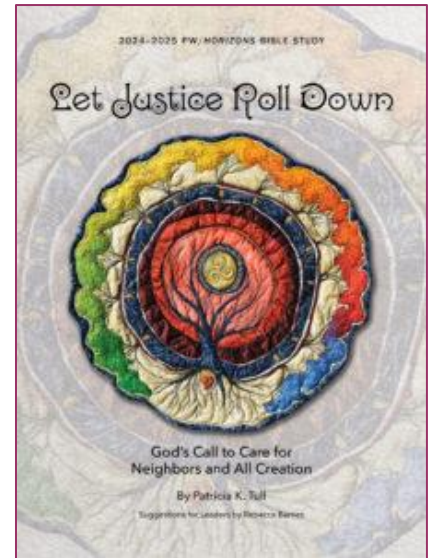
### *Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation*

By Patricia K. Tull

Suggestions for Leaders by Rebecca Barnes

The 2024–2025 PW/*Horizons* Bible study by author Patricia K. Tull

Patricia Tull, author of the 2024–2025 PW/*Horizons* Bible study *Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation*, describes her call for creation justice in this way: "When I first learned of the climate crisis, I wondered how a biblical scholar with few practical skills could help and found my purpose in learning about ecology and teaching people of faith what I could. Such is not everyone's skillset or desire, but each of us has something to do with all our hearts."



We are called to care for neighbors and God's creation with all our hearts, with particular care for society's least powerful members who are disproportionately impacted by unjust systems. In God's first instructions to the nation of Israel we hear "you shall not pervert the justice due to the poor" (Exodus 23:6); in Moses' final speech at the promised land's border, he reiterated, "Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue" (Deuteronomy 16:20); and from Amos, the earliest recorded prophet, "Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an everflowing stream" (Amos 5:24). Scripture reminds us that we are called to speak out to urge our society to act for just transitions in this fast-changing world.

***Two Online Presbytery and beyond monthly ZOOM 9 week Horizons Bible studies are starting up in September from 9-11 AM.*** Choose either the first Wednesday of the month (Blessed Connections) or the third Tuesday (Lights of Los Ranchos). All are Welcome! Contact Anne Sivley by email [annesivley@aol.com](mailto:annesivley@aol.com) or phone 714-501-4399 for information/registration.

*But you remain the same,  
and your years will never end.*

*Hebrews 1:12 NIV*



#### Dear God

I adore how beautiful  
the glimpses I get of You  
through the fragrance of sweet summer  
and by the rainbow of her blooms

~  
I adore how lovely  
the glimpses I get of You  
through the birdsong in my garden  
and by the flouncy flowers too.

<https://wendylmacdonald.com/2020/07/21/a-dear-god-summer-poem-mygarden/>

#### Wendy L. Macdonald

My faith is not shallow because I've  
been rescued from the deep





## 2024 *Birthday Offering*

### OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The Birthday Offering of Presbyterian Women celebrates our history of generous giving. Launched in 1922 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Woman’s Auxiliary in the Presbyterian Church in the United States, the Birthday Offering has become an annual tradition. It has funded over 200 major mission projects that continue to impact people in the United States and around the world. While the projects and donation amounts have changed, Presbyterian Women’s commitment to improving the lives of women and children has not. We ask for your support so that PW can continue funding mission projects like the ones selected for 2023.

Give as you have been blessed, generously and as led by the Holy Spirit:  
<https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/giving-funding/give/>

To learn more, visit [https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/what\\_we\\_do/support-mission/birthday-offering/](https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/what_we_do/support-mission/birthday-offering/).

Since 1922, Presbyterian Women’s Birthday Offering has helped fund mission projects that improve lives. **This year’s Birthday Offering recipients are:**

#### **Advocates for Community Choice dba Bethel Hills**

**Villa 5 Apartments and Recreation Area**  
Marthasville, Missouri  
Bethelhills.org  
\$123,500

Making Miracles Group Home (MMGH) helps young mothers break the cycle of abusive relationships, addiction, incarceration and early motherhood—a repeating pattern that is difficult to break and overcome. Since its inception in 2010, MMGH has served over 100 women and their children by providing a one-year, live-in program designed to support young mothers and help them develop skills to live independently and care for their children.

Current eligibility criteria require residents to be pregnant and/or have a single child up to age three, but mothers who have a single child older than age three or multiple children often seek help. With the Birthday Offering grant, MMGH will purchase a second group home to serve an additional five families who are at risk of experiencing homelessness. With loving support and tools to establish stable, permanent housing, these families can look forward to a hopeful and successful future.

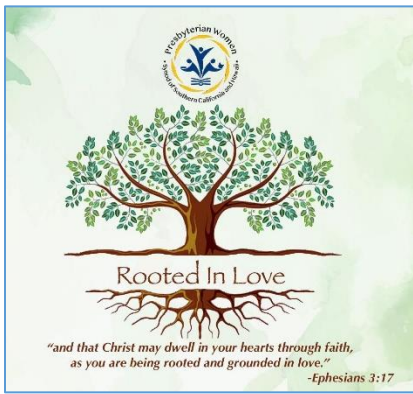
#### **Shawnee Presbyterian Church Café Gingko**

Louisville, Kentucky  
[facebook.com/louisvilleshawneepresbyterian](https://www.facebook.com/louisvilleshawneepresbyterian)  
\$150,000

Shawnee Presbyterian Church serves as a welcoming beacon of light for their community in Louisville. Located in an economically disadvantaged area where single mothers and children face challenges of food insecurity, the church started addressing this need in August 2019. The small yet dedicated congregation began serving free dine-in meals at Café Gingko, named for a ginkgo tree located at the building’s north entrance. On average, 30 meals were served at Café Gingko each Monday. In 2020, the pandemic put a stop to the program.

At present, the need for healthy food and fellowship continues to grow. With the Birthday Offering grant, Café Gingko will be able to reopen with a renovated kitchen and expanded capacity to provide meals. Improvements to the fellowship hall will allow the church to offer enriching activities: tutoring for elementary ages, Gingko Play Zone, financial literacy classes and Mama-to-Mama parenting workshops. The members of Shawnee Presbyterian Church will reach out and serve their beloved community with resilience and strength—just like the ginkgo tree outside their door.

Have a PW leadership change? If so, contact [patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org](mailto:patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org) (or call 844/797-2872, ext. 8015) so she can ensure that PW resources are mailed to the “proper” PW!



## PWS Southern California and Hawaii welcomed at their 2024 Spring Gathering keynote speaker Pam Snyder, Moderator-Elect to Presbyterian Women's 2024 - 2027 Churchwide Board of Directors

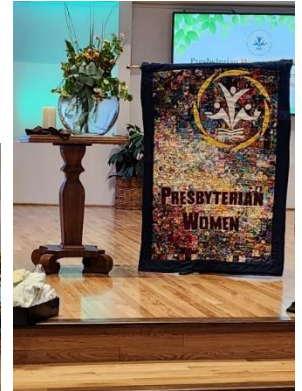
**Saturday, June 1, 2024  
10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.  
First Presbyterian Church, Redlands**



This beautiful quilt made by Cheryl Kavapalu will be donated from our Synod to the Silent Auction at PW Churchwide Gathering.



**Pam Hodges, Moderator,  
Synod of Southern California and Hawaii**



**Los Ranchos  
Pacific  
Riverside  
San Diego  
San Fernando  
San Gabriel  
Santa Barbara**

**Five scholarship recipients to the 2024 Churchwide Gathering, from left to right:**



**Alice Munde (Riverside), Dana Monk (Santa Barbara), Cheryl Kavapalu (Los Ranchos), Leticia Morales (Los Ranchos), and Janee Trotman (Pacific).**

**Not pictured:  
Karyn Allen (Los Ranchos)**



**Voting representatives elected from each Presbytery to attend the Churchwide Gathering business meeting.**

**This large group of ladies was commissioned to represent the Synod of So Calif & Hawaii at this year's PW Churchwide Gathering to be held in Louis, Missouri, August 8–11, 2024**



**Presbyterian Women in the Synod - 2024 Mission Engagement  
Angel Interfaith Network - Maternal Health Equity and Accessibility**

PWS 2024 Mission Engagement supports long-time mission partner Angel Interfaith Network in their community building and support for women and families. PWS's commitment to advocating for safe, accessible and equitable maternal health resources is shared in AIN's vision to meet the urgent physical and spiritual needs of our local communities. Angel Interfaith Network supports projects at LAC+USC Medical Center and accompanies women and families with neighbor to neighbor support. *For more information on Angel Interfaith Network visit: <https://angelinterfaith.net>*



**An offering of baby items was presented to Angel Interfaith Network.**



**Pam Snyder, Moderator-Elect of Presbyterian Women's Churchwide Board of Directors (2024-2027), spoke of the inspiration PW has been throughout her life and shared her anticipation of serving on the Board for the upcoming term.**



**Pam Snyder commissioning representatives.**



**Presbyterian Church (USA)**



The theme of **GA226**, "Live into Hope," is based on the hymn of the same name by Jane Parker Huber. Daily themes have been chosen based on verses of the hymn. The Stated Clerk of the General Assembly chose the theme as an opportunity to charge the denomination after being in a space of lament and hope. We are now being charged to live into that hope.

**Observer Registration is Now Open for those planning to participate in the 226th General Assembly as an in-person or online observer. <https://ga-pcusa.org/>**

**GA News Daily Digest** Beginning June 29 through July 4, get daily updates on the latest GA226 news in your in-box. **Sign up Today!**

<https://pcusa.us8.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=1721a6b9451a1567ee53b00fc&id=6dc39f777c>



<https://www.pcusa.org/>



**ESSENTIAL RESOURCES**  
*for*  
**MULTITASKING LEADERS**

Leadership in the church is multifaceted, with leaders often assuming various roles. From providing leadership training and pastoral care to managing administrative tasks, the demands are diverse and, at times, overwhelming. These books serve as a compass for navigating the intricate landscape of church life. Moreover, there are invaluable guides ideal for small congregations and for those without full-time pastors that can be used by groups to help their church community thrive during study and worship while also focusing on spirituality.

[https://www.pcusastore.com/?utm\\_source=Updates+from+the+PCUSA+Store&utm\\_campaign=09a22569d3-PS%3A+Leadership%3A+6%2F5%2F24&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_ad05f0504a-09a22569d3-274283350](https://www.pcusastore.com/?utm_source=Updates+from+the+PCUSA+Store&utm_campaign=09a22569d3-PS%3A+Leadership%3A+6%2F5%2F24&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_ad05f0504a-09a22569d3-274283350)

**Prepare for Fall**  
Updated Resource Guides for  
Preaching, Group Study, and More!

Digital resource guides are created to help simplify your resource research!

<https://www.pcusastore.com/Pages/Item/13841/Resource-Guides.aspx>

**Create Your Own Summer Reading Adventure!**  
**BOOKS FOR ALL AGES OPEN UP PATHS THAT POINT A WAY TO**  
UNWINDING FROM THE STRESSES OF THE DAY  
CONNECTING WITH YOURSELF OR YOUR COMMUNITY  
CREATING A HABIT OF PRAYER  
LEARNING SOMETHING NEW

Embark on your very own summer reading adventure! Whether you're lounging on the beach, exploring the mountains, or simply enjoying your backyard oasis, we've curated a selection of books to accompany you on your journey. Dive into these pages and discover pathways to unwind from the stresses of daily life, connect with yourself and others, cultivate moments of prayer, and expand your knowledge.

[https://www.pcusastore.com/AdvancedSearch/DefaultWFilter.aspx?SearchTerm=SMRD&utm\\_source=Updates+from+the+PCUSA+Store&utm\\_campaign=1251153a6a-PS%3A+Summer+Reading%3A+5%2F15%2F24&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_ad05f0504a-1251153a6a-274283350](https://www.pcusastore.com/AdvancedSearch/DefaultWFilter.aspx?SearchTerm=SMRD&utm_source=Updates+from+the+PCUSA+Store&utm_campaign=1251153a6a-PS%3A+Summer+Reading%3A+5%2F15%2F24&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_ad05f0504a-1251153a6a-274283350)

**Books to Develop Spiritual Gifts**

[https://www.pcusastore.com/Products/CategoryCenter/PCSSP/Spiritual-Practices.aspx?utm\\_source=Updates+from+the+PCUSA+Store&utm\\_campaign=7a9099f0cd-PS%3A+Spiritual+Practices%3A+5%2F29%2F24&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_ad05f0504a-7a9099f0cd-274283350](https://www.pcusastore.com/Products/CategoryCenter/PCSSP/Spiritual-Practices.aspx?utm_source=Updates+from+the+PCUSA+Store&utm_campaign=7a9099f0cd-PS%3A+Spiritual+Practices%3A+5%2F29%2F24&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_ad05f0504a-7a9099f0cd-274283350)

**MUST-HAVE WORSHIP RESOURCES**

<https://mailchi.mp/pcusastore/2rap4ldyit-1147561>

**Browse All Children's Books**

[https://www.pcusastore.com/AdvancedSearch/DefaultWFilter.aspx?SearchTerm=KDBK&utm\\_source=Updates+from+the+PCUSA+Store&utm\\_campaign=9bfc766672-PS%3A+S24+Kids%3A+4%2F17%2F24&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_ad05f0504a-9bfc766672-274283350](https://www.pcusastore.com/AdvancedSearch/DefaultWFilter.aspx?SearchTerm=KDBK&utm_source=Updates+from+the+PCUSA+Store&utm_campaign=9bfc766672-PS%3A+S24+Kids%3A+4%2F17%2F24&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_ad05f0504a-9bfc766672-274283350)



Learn more: <https://wiseplace.org>

<https://wiseplace.org/events>

**3 Ways to Support WISEPlace Summer Events!**

- 1** Shop for essentials on our Amazon Summer Bash Wish List
- 2** Provide in-kind donations for summer event auctions
- 3** Buy tickets to CREW Summer Soirée and Miller Foundation Gala

**WISEPlace** hosts several fundraising events throughout the year that support our mission to lead the effort of ending homelessness for unaccompanied women through housing solutions and empowering wrap-around services that provide a path toward personal self-reliance. By joining WISEPlace at an event, you are helping continue our efforts to provide women with safe shelter, counseling and mental health services, case management and addiction recovery, and employment assistance to help rebuild their lives.



**GTi HOPE**

bringing hope to the hopeless

### Water is Life

Borewells (water wells) provide villages with a source for clean water and prevent water borne diseases from polluted water sources. They also save time for women who have to walk several kms to an open pond or stream. In many cases they give pastors the opportunity to pray for people of all faiths. As they come to the well for water, they may also learn about the living water.

### The Gift of Clean Water Shows the Love of God in a Practical Way

#### 2 Ways to Provide Clean Water

- Donate: <https://gtihope.churchcenter.com/giving/to/water-wells>
- Mail a check or bank draft, memo: borewell to:

GTi HOPE  
981 W. Arrow Highway #348  
San Dimas, CA 91773

Contact us for more information at [info@gtihope.org](mailto:info@gtihope.org) or (909) 957-9352.



### Garden Grove's Shower Plus Ministry Changes Lives

The goal of Shower Plus is twofold: to provide practical care for those in need and to help those who are ready transition into stable housing..

If you or your congregation would like to get involved with Shower Plus, their greatest needs are financial gifts, particular supplies, and volunteer commitments. Food prices have gone up significantly, putting a strain on their

already tight budget.

<https://losranchos.org/2024/05/garden-groves-shower-plus-ministry-changes-lives/>





*“Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves. ~ James Matthew Barrie, creator of Peter Pan*

*We thank you for your compassion & warm hearts throughout the year.*

**NETWORK PARTNERS:**

Thank you, Presbyterian Women in the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii. The PWS's dedication to advocating for safe, accessible, and equitable maternal health resources aligns with AIN's mission to address the immediate physical and spiritual needs of our local communities, as evidenced by their 2024 Spring Gathering. The donations of gift cards and baby items will greatly benefit mothers and infants. These contributions are especially appreciated as numerous families face ongoing challenges and hardships



**THOSE WE SERVE:**

Alfred, a patient who has lived with his spouse for 15 years, suffered a fall that injured several vertebrae in his back. This injury left him bedridden and immobile. As his condition worsened, his spouse took on the role of his caregiver, dedicating more time to his care and consequently being unable to maintain employment. The family has faced severe financial difficulties while awaiting the approval of his disability benefits. In response to a chaplain's request for aid, AIN was able to provide support through food gift cards and assistance with utilities and rent.

**URGENT NEEDS: Men's Gently Used Clothing**

We need your help, there is an urgent need for gently used men's clothing, such as t-shirts and pants. These items are in short supply and are essential for our unhoused patients upon their discharge. Donating these basic items of clothing can make a significant difference in the lives of our neighbors who are in need



In sharing stories of patients' struggles and hardships, we humbly ask you to consider supporting Angel Interfaith Network. Your generosity is crucial; without it, our efforts would not be possible

For donations, please visit: <http://angelinterfaith.net/wp/donatenow/>

Donations can also be mailed to:

AIN c/o St. Camillus Center 1911  
Zonal Ave. L A, CA 90033

Please make checks payable to St. Camillus, with AIN on the memo line.

No amount is too small and all amounts are tax deductible. Without your generosity, our work would simply not be possible.

For donations, please visit: <http://angelinterfaith.net/wp/donate-now/>

Donations can also be mailed to:

AIN c/o St. Camillus Center: 1911 Zonal Ave. L A, CA 90033

Please make checks payable to St. Camillus, with AIN on the memo line.

Your ongoing support is the foundation of our work.

We are grateful to you.



Angel Interfaith Network is a project of **St Camillus Center for Spiritual Care** <https://stcamilluscenter.org/>

*For further information about Angel Interfaith Network, please contact:*

[office@angelinterfaith.net](mailto:office@angelinterfaith.net)

**Ecclesiastes 3 Challenge**

This winter and spring our group has been studying Ecclesiastes. During the lesson on chapter 3, I spontaneously came up with another verse. My dear sister Anita Coleman was inspired and suggested I write few more to share, so here they are. Can you think of any “new” verses yourself?

1. a time for fear,  
and a time for bravery;
2. a time to benefit from generosity,  
and a time to pay it forward;
3. a time for learning,  
and a time for teaching;
4. a time to do the heavy lifting,  
and a time to be the encourager.

Sharon Fagan  
Women of Faith  
Placentia Presbyterian Church

**A Time for Everything**

- 3 For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:
  - 2 a time to be born, and a time to die;  
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
  - 3 a time to kill, and a time to heal;  
a time to break down, and a time to build up;
  - 4 a time to weep, and a time to laugh;  
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
  - 5 a time to a throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;  
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
  - 6 a time to seek, and a time to lose;  
a time to keep, and a time to throw away;
  - 7 a time to tear, and a time to sew;  
a time to keep silent, and a time to speak;
  - 8 a time to love, and a time to hate;  
a time for war, and a time for peace.

Ecclesiastes 3

New International Version (NIV)

**FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION**

**SIGHT**, starring Greg Kinnear and Terry Chen, follows the inspiring true story of Ming Wang, an impoverished Chinese prodigy who flees Communist China to become a pioneering world-renowned eye surgeon in America. When tasked with restoring the sight of an orphan who was blinded by her stepmother, he must confront the trauma of living through the violent uprising in his youth, the Cultural Revolution prodigy who flees Communist China to become a pioneering eye surgeon in America. When tasked with restoring the sight of an orphan who was blinded by her stepmother, he must confront the trauma of living through the violent uprising in his youth, the Cultural Revolution.

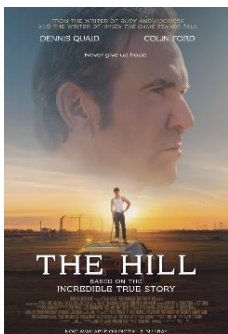


<https://www.angel.com/movies/sight>

Though not overtly Christian, “Sight” is the true story of a Christ-filled doctor overcoming a horrific past and doing his part to help others with grace, humility, forgiveness, and inspiration.

<https://www.standingforfreedom.com/2024/slight>

**THE HILL**, based on the true story of Rickey Hill, son of a travelling pastor who overcomes physical obstacles to pursue his dream of playing baseball in the major leagues.. Growing up impoverished in small-town Texas, young Rickey Hill shows an extraordinary ability for hitting a baseball, despite being burdened by leg braces from a degenerative spinal disease. His stern, pastor father (DENNIS QUAID) discourages Rickey from playing baseball to protect him from injury, and to have him follow in his footsteps and become a preacher. As a young man, Rickey (COLIN FORD) becomes a baseball phenomenon. His desire to participate in a try-out for a legendary major league scout divides the family and threatens Rickey’s dream of playing professional baseball. It is directed by Jeff Celentano and also stars JOELLE CARTER, country music singer and songwriter RANDY HOUSER, Golden Globe nominee BONNIE BEDELIA, and SCOTT GLENN.



<https://www.thehillmov.com/synopsis/> Available on NETFLIX