

Christian Church in the Upper Midwest Grant Fund Descriptions and Purpose

All grants are understood to be Partnership gifts with congregations. The intention of the grants is to inspire new ministries while encouraging congregational ownership of those ministries. Grants should promote/encourage the “Wholeness in a Fragmented World” that Jesus modeled in his ministry.

Disciples Together Grant

This grant is funded with money allocated in the Regional Budget directly connected to and dependent upon the Disciples Mission Fund offering given by congregations each year. This grant fund is to be used to encourage and support ministries that take place between two or more Disciples congregations.

Valley View New Ministry Grant

This grant is funded from the interest income produced upon money given by Valley View Christian Church at their closing. This grant is to be used to encourage NEW ministries started by a particular congregation.

New Church Grant

This grant is funded through New Church Pentecost special offering and funds collected over the years. This grant is to be used to support work related to starting new churches. This grant is not to exceed three annual grants.

Anti-Racism/Pro-reconciliation Grant

This grant is funded solely through the Anti-Racism/Pro-reconciliation special offering. 50% of the offering is used to support these grants in Region and 50% is sent to support wider ministry in this area. This grant is to be used to support ministries or projects that directly address Pro-reconciliation in the areas of race and/or poverty in local communities. This grant is not to be used for ongoing annual funding.

NBA/UMW Older Adult Ministry Grant: This grant is funded from the interest income produced on gift money originally given by several donors from the UMW to NBA to support ministry to older adults. This grant is to be used support and encourage new ministry efforts with older adults. This grant is not to be used for ongoing annual funding.

Christian Church in the Upper Midwest Guidelines & Rules Regarding Application for Grants

1. It is understood that all grant requests must originate from at least one Disciple congregation.
2. A congregation/ministry can receive only one grant from any particular fund every 12 months.
3. A congregation/Ministry can receive a grant from no more than two separate funds in a 12 month period of time.
4. Although grants can vary with the need, the standard grant offered is between \$250 - \$1000 in order to spread the support around.
5. Grants Applications are submitted via the online application form on the Regional Website.
6. Grant Applications are due the 15th of each month and will be considered at Operations Council meetings. Operations Council does not meet in December.
7. A representative of the Congregation or Ministry requesting the Grant may be asked to attend an Operations Council meeting (online) for clarification and questions.
8. Applicants will be contacted as to the status of their grant application following the Operations Council meeting in which their grant is reviewed. Grant monies will be mailed out based on the timing need of the congregation/ministry, i.e., most checks will be sent within a month of approval, however some recipients may request to wait to see if there is an actual financial need (changes in tentative plans, or changes in income for the grant ministry.)
9. All grant recipients are requested to report back on the outcomes of their ministry that was funded, reporting will be as follows:
 - i. A short written explanation, plus photograph(s) to the Operations Council (See contact info below) letting them know about how God was working in your new ministry experience. Photo(s) that can be published, i.e., if there are pictures of children, be sure to have permission to share.
 - ii. If requested, please give a quick presentation at the annual Congregational Gathering to highlight the new ministry for the benefit of all congregations in the Region.