



Whitewater Valley Presbytery Church Partnership Grant Opportunities

God calls Whitewater Valley Presbytery in covenant relationship with the Holy Spirit to connect, resource, and empower disciples in Christ's name.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Coordinating Council - Mission and Growth Team (MGT), is grateful to be in ministry partnership with you on behalf of the Presbytery. As you review and contemplate applying for a grant/matching grant, please bear the following criteria in mind:

- Grants are awarded for mission and outreach activities that are approved by the session and that have not yet taken place. Generally speaking, these grants are not intended to be reimbursements for projects that have already been implemented, because that signifies some missed opportunities for how the project could have been more of a partnership with the Presbytery. A request in response to an emergency situation will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Be open to cooperation with neighboring churches and organizations as you plan your ministry project.

Contact Alan Thames or Eric Herzog at the Presbytery office if you have questions relating to the grant funds, application completion or processing.

We look forward to hearing from your church!



Active Grant/Matching Fund Descriptions

The Coordinating Council Mission & Growth Team will review and coordinate the church grant request applicable to one or more of the funds listed below. Once you have determined which fund you are applying for it should be indicated on the application by typing in the heading next to “Type of Grant”.

Types of Funds Offered:

NEW MINISTRY INITIATIVE FUND

The New Ministry Initiative Fund seeks to be a catalyst for partnerships in new ministry by Whitewater Valley congregations.

- Partnering with congregations for resources, leaders, programs and training
- Partnering with congregations for mission
- Initiating and delivering support for professional church workers, clergy and their families
- Encouraging congregations to utilize technology and contemporary means of communication
- Providing a marketplace for the exchange of ideas, solutions and assets between pastors and congregations
- Assisting congregations to understand their environment and find ways to respond to it
- Equipping leaders to recognize and meet emerging challenges
- Translating the fundamentals of Presbyterian reformed traditions into answers for tomorrow’s challenges
- Modeling and encouraging creative worship and fostering spiritual growth

New Ministry Initiative Fund Grants only pertain to initial or start-up funding for new projects. Priority for grant proposals will be given to partnership initiatives (two or more congregations working together). Grants will be submitted to the Mission and Growth Team for review and recommendation to the Coordinating Council for approval. The review and recommendation may determine the appropriate level for congregational matching (i.e. a dollar-for-dollar match may not be appropriate in every situation). Grants may be awarded up to \$10,000.

PROMISE OF TOMORROW FUND

The Promise of Tomorrow Fund is a resource for grants and low-interest loans for WVP churches. Church projects funded with Promise of Tomorrow must be:

- a new church development or;
- a church redevelopment and revitalization project.

Disbursements from the fund may be provided in a single year or multi-year commitment. Promise of Tomorrow funding may be in the form of grants or loans (a loan may be secured or unsecured by other assets). The amount of each grant generally does not exceed \$20,000 in a single year. The amount of each loan generally does not exceed \$30,000 in a single year. For a loan, the terms of repayment will not exceed 10 years and will be made at a 3% simple interest rate.



SMALL CONGREGATIONS FUND

The purpose of the Small Congregations Fund is to provide grants for special needs and/or projects of WVP congregations with an average weekly worship attendance of 80 or less. Funding is provided on a per project basis within a specific year.

HUNGER FUND

These single-year matching grant distributions are made to WVP churches for programs supporting the poor and hungry. Grants for programs offering food, utility, rent and medical assistance through church food pantries and/or other related ministries are encouraged.

PENTECOST FUND

The Pentecost Fund is funded through the Presbytery portion of the Pentecost special offering held each year. Matching grants are distributed on a single year basis to WVP churches for programs directed to supporting children at risk.

PEACEMAKING FUND

The Peacemaking Fund is funded through the WVP portion of the Peacemaking special offering held each year. The fund provides for a single year matching grant of up to \$5,000 distributed to WVP churches to support programs that promote peacemaking in areas such as justice, reconciliation, advocacy and conflict resolution. Applications may cover program expenses as well as expenses related to attending peacemaking conferences and trainings.

TECHNOLOGY GRANTS

Technology grants are funded by the churches of the Presbytery through our collective gifts to Shared Mission & Ministry. The fund provides for a single year matching grant for WVP churches that can be directed for the purchase of equipment, software and/or services focused on enhancing communications, outreach and the administrative ministry of the church. The amount of each matching grant generally does not exceed the amount allotted in the approved Presbytery Mission Focus Units Budget in a single year.

SABBATICALS GRANTS

Sabbaticals grants are funded by the churches of the Presbytery through our collective gifts to Shared Mission & Ministry. The fund provides for a single year matching grant to assist WVP churches in providing Sabbatical Leave for pastors and church educators. (Please see the WVP's Sabbatical Leave Guidelines from the Committee on Ministry). Sabbaticals are a planned time of intensive study to enhance the church's ministry and mission. Sabbaticals are a short-term opportunity for our pastors and church educators, after a five to seven-year tenure, to disengage strategically from regular tasks for study and reflection to gain a renewed perspective on the church's ministry and mission. The amount of each matching grant generally does not exceed the amount allotted in the approved Presbytery Mission Focus Units Budget in a single year.



PRESBYTERY GRANTS GENERAL CRITERIA

- Council's Mission and Growth Team will review all grant applications. In general, grant applications must be submitted to the team a minimum of 90-days prior to the anticipated funding need / project start date
- Unless otherwise specified in the fund description, the amount available for each grant will vary based on available funding
- Grant recipients must provide a yearly progress report (if awarded a multi-year grant or loan) and/or a final report upon completion of the grant timeline (if awarded a single year grant or loan).
- Participating congregations in a partnership would each need to display willingness to share in matching a portion of the grant. Percentages invested by each partner congregation may be determined by those congregations in consultation with the Council Mission & Growth Team. "In-kind" and/or other related types of matching may also be considered.
- Partner congregations may be of any denomination
- All projects seeking funding must be congregationally based
- Priority will be extended to projects that can be replicated in other churches
- Program creation, ownership, oversight, and reporting responsibility rest solely with the partner congregations, even when programming might have non-congregational partners involved
- Grant proposals may be for any ministry initiative (local outreach, program development, training)
- The proposed project must be consistent with the mission statements of the partner congregations and at least one element of the Presbytery's mission statement.
- A proposed project must have been approved by the session/governing body of the partner churches within a reasonable time of the grant application date or no later than 90-days subsequent to application date. All application must include minutes from the session / governing body meeting approving this request by each partner congregation (signed by Moderator and Clerk of the Session)



GRANT APPLICATION

Please submit the following information to the Council Mission & Growth Team (separate document):

- 1) Date: 2) Contact: 3) Phone: 4) Email:
- 5) Name and address of Whitewater Valley Presbytery churches applying for funds:
- 6) Non-Whitewater Valley partner congregations or organizations:
- 7) Total Amount requested: 8) Church Matching Amount: 9) Presbytery Grant Amount:
- 10) Date funding is needed; 11) Project Timeline (beginning and end dates):
- 12) If this project receives / seeks to receive Synod of Lincoln Trails or General Assembly funding, please attach the applications submitted for those funds:
- 13) Briefly describe the project (highlight how your church members are involved):
- 14) How does the project help the partner church share the Good News of God's Reign, address the needs of all God's children, and show the love of Jesus in mission in your community?
- 15) List clearly stated goals for the project, along with measurable, realistic, and time- sensitive objectives:
- 16) List measurable outcomes that will enhance the mission of the applicant congregations and of the Presbytery:
- 17) Describe how the partner congregations will exercise primary responsibility for implementation of the proposed project (receiving and administering and reporting, supervision of program/project, budget control and development):
- 18) Describe how the project will be sustainable. Include clear plans for future project viability and consistent project support beyond start-up funding:
- 19) Please attach copies of any research your church has done which led to the creation of this project (needs assessment, demographic study, map of the community's assets, or similar research):
- 20) Attach a detailed project budget.