

Office of Mission Program Grants

Presbyterian Mission Agency, Presbyterian Church (USA)

100 Witherspoon Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40202-1396

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1001 NEW WORSHIPPING COMMUNITIES “SEED” GRANT APPLICATION

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and prayer.”
(Acts 2:42, NIV)

Date Prepared _____

New Worshiping Community (NWC) Name _____

Date Worshiping Community Began _____

If the Worshiping Community Has Not Begun, Please Share the Anticipated Start Date _____

Worshiping Community Leader _____

City/State/Zip _____

E-mail Address _____ Phone _____

Web Site Address _____

Partner Congregation _____ Phone _____

Contact Person _____ E-mail Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ PIN # _____

Presbytery _____ Phone _____

Contact Person _____ E-mail Address _____

Synod _____ Phone _____

Contact Person _____ E-mail Address _____

New worshiping communities may apply for a one-time Seed Grant of up to \$7,500. Matching funds are not required. Please see attached definition of a New Worshiping Community.

Being the church in the 21st century requires faithful creativity, innovation and entrepreneurial leadership to reach new generations and populations. This grant is designed to encourage the birth of new worshiping communities through congregations and presbyteries rather than to support the expansion of existing programs. Visit the 1001 Worshiping Communities website at <http://www.onethousandone.org/Home.aspx>.

In all cases, applicants for a Seed Grant will have spent time in prayer, discernment and fact-finding regarding the resources needed and the intended short- and long-term results. However, if the seed planters are at the point of feeling the guidance of the Holy Spirit to “do something” to address spiritual and/or physical needs in their communities; they should engage in prayer, discernment and fact-finding regarding various needs and create a plan to address them. Please consider using [Starting New Churches](#), [Starting New Initiatives](#) and/or contact your presbytery for resources to assist you with your discernment.

Please answer the following questions in narrative form.

1. Describe your discernment process.
2. Describe how this ministry fits each part of the definition of a new worshiping community.
3. Describe how you are supported by and accountable to one or more local congregations, to your presbytery and/or synod.
4. Describe how you will know if you are succeeding and how you will adapt if you are not?

Guidelines & Application Instructions for 1001 New Worshiping Communities Grants and Award

These grants are intended to support operating/program purposes such as salary and benefits, insurance, rent, educational materials, etc... These grants are limited to new worshiping communities that are related to the Presbyterian Church (USA), located within the United States and Puerto Rico and were established no earlier than July, 2010.

A project may receive a cumulative grant amount of no more than \$50,000 from any combination of 1001 New Worshiping Community and/or New Church Grants. New Worshiping Community Grant proposals may be submitted for consideration at any time.

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For the purpose of the 1001 New Worshiping Community "Seed" grant, it is not a requirement for the Stated Clerk/Presbyter to have completed the Office of the General Assembly Church Change Form (CCF) on behalf of the project to be supported. However, it is a requirement to complete the CCF prior to applying for the 1001 New Worshiping Community "Investment" grant. The CCF may be found at the OGA Stated Clerk's File Cabinet at <http://ogasys2.pcusa.org/>

Six months after receipt of a Seed Grant, a one-time Investment Grant of up to \$17,500 is possible. Approval of Investment Grants is conditioned upon real progress having been made toward meeting the definition of a new worshiping community. Investment Grants ordinarily require a 50% dollar-for-dollar match provided by the combined contributions of the partner congregation(s) and presbytery and/or synod. In-kind contributions for the match are acceptable. Waivers of the match will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

No sooner than twelve months after receipt of an Investment Grant, a one-time WOW! Award of up-to \$25,000 is possible. Consideration is conditioned upon exceptional progress having been made toward meeting the definition of a new worshiping community. Nomination from a partner congregation and/or presbytery is required. Matching funds are not required.

As an expression of connectional stewardship it is encouraged that grant recipients commit to "paying it forward" to the Extra Commitment Opportunity account found at <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/give/E051547/>. Your support will help provide future funding for the establishment of new congregations, new worshiping communities, such as your own, and presbyteries that wish to encourage continual congregational transformation. Please help to continue this important work for the Kingdom of God.

This application is available from the [Mission Program Grants Office website](#). This application allows the writer to add typing space as needed. Photos and/or videos are welcome. After obtaining appropriate partner congregation(s) and presbytery approval, e-mail as an attachment the completed proposal to the grants office. Disbursements for approved proposals will be made once leadership has started.

ANTICIPATED INCOME FOR SIX-MONTH PERIOD OF THIS SEED GRANT

<u>New Worshiping Community</u>	<u>Partner Congregation(s)</u>	<u>Presbytery</u>	<u>Synod</u>	<u>Presbyterian Mission Agency</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

This proposal was reviewed and approved by the appropriate mission strategy body of the partner congregation(s) and presbytery. Those giving oversight or providing assistance should date and sign below. Letters of support and clarity are welcome. Synod review and approval of this proposal is not required by the Mission Development Resources Committee if the synod is not providing funding.

Date

Partner Congregation(s) Designee

Date

Presbytery Executive or Designee

Date

Synod Executive or Designee

New Worshiping Community Definition

A New Worshiping Community is...

Brief Definition

- **New**
 - Taking on varied forms of church for our changing culture
 - Seeking to make and form new disciples of Jesus Christ
- **Worshipping**
 - Gathered by the Spirit to meet Jesus Christ in Word and Sacrament
 - Sent by the Spirit to join God's mission for the transformation of the world
- **Community**
 - Practicing mutual care and accountability
 - Developing sustainability in leadership and finances

Long Definition

- **New**
 - **Taking on varied forms of church for our changing culture**

Living out the Gospel demands ministry which engages today's cultures (John 1:14). New ways of joining Christians together for contextual ministry will use current and historic ways of "being church" as springboards for creative innovation (Matthew 9:17).
 - **Seeking to make and form new disciples of Jesus Christ**

NWCs witness in word and deed (1 John 3:18), continuing Jesus' own mission of discipling, feeding, teaching, healing, welcoming, crossing boundaries, and proclaiming God's coming realm. Those with new and renewed faith join the Spirit's transforming work in the world.
- **Worshipping**
 - **Gathered by the Spirit to meet Jesus Christ in Word and Sacrament**

We seek to hear, come to believe, and are equipped to live the promises of God revealed in the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. NWCs welcome new members of the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:27) through Baptism and are nourished by Christ's spiritual presence in the Lord's Supper.
 - **Sent by the Spirit to join God's mission for the transformation of the world**

The Spirit impels us outward, so that worshipers participate in the redemption of the world in Christ (Col. 1:20). Therefore, the primary beneficiaries of the NWC are not its own members, but rather its community and world.
- **Community**
 - **Practicing mutual care and accountability**

We commit ourselves to love one another (John 13:34) in relationships of mutual care and accountability, as faithful disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ. Entrusting ourselves and the church to the Holy Spirit, we seek to grow to maturity in faith and life.
 - **Developing sustainability in leadership and finances**

As distinct yet connected expressions of the body of Christ, NWCs have local leadership arising from their own community of faith (Exodus 18:21). Pastoral leadership, facilities, and programs are all appropriately structured in order to demonstrate good and faithful stewardship.

Responding to Christ's gift and call, we do all these things only by God's grace, seeking—above all else—to glorify God through Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.