

MISSION INITIATIVE CONGREGATION GRANTS

President Steve Veazey in his September 2017 address to the church stated that the future church is being formed by a basic concept:

Our chief purpose is to birth, nurture, and multiply communities of disciples and seekers engaged in spiritual formation and compassionate ministry and action. This basic blueprint--spiritual formation, community, compassionate ministry and action--is true to the vision of Christ.

To assist congregations in fulfilling this purpose, funds in the form of grants will be made available to a congregation or group of congregations within the mission center who desire to respond to God's call by starting ministry that aligns with at least one of the church's mission initiatives:

Invite People to Christ

We are poised to share the peace of Jesus Christ with those who are waiting to hear the redeeming words of the gospel. We fulfill God's ultimate vision as we...

- Baptize/Confirm New Members
- Open New Congregations

Abolish Poverty, End Suffering

We are poised to be Christ's hands and feet, reaching out through compassionate ministries that serve the poor and hungry and stop conditions that diminish the worth of persons. We fulfill God's ultimate vision as we...

- Help Those Who Hurt
- Feed the Hungry
- Support Compassionate Ministries
- Respond in Times of Crisis

Pursue Peace on Earth

We are poised to restore Christ's covenant of peace, even the Zion of our hopes. The hope of Zion will become reality when we live Christ's peace and generously share his peace with others. We fulfill God's ultimate vision as we...

- Establish the Temple as a Center to Promote Peacemaking throughout the World
- Engage Children in Peacemaking around the World
- Seek Justice, Create Peacemakers around the World
- Unite with Others to Make Peace around the World

Develop Disciples to Serve

We are poised to equip men, women, and children to be true and living expressions of the life, ministry, and continuing presence of Christ in the world. We fulfill God's ultimate vision as we...

- Help All Ages Deepen Their Discipleship
- Empower Priesthood for Mission
- Grow Pastors and Leaders for Mission
- Train and Send Ministers for Mission throughout the World

Experience Congregations in Mission

We are poised to become congregations that are the true and living expressions of Jesus Christ, woven together by the Spirit, and sent into the world as evangelistic witnesses, compassionate ministers, and justice and peacemakers. We fulfill God's ultimate vision as we...

- Nurture Congregations of Christ's Love and Peace
- Experience God's Presence through Worship
- Become a People of Peace, Reconciliation, and Healing of the Spirit

Although application could be made for funds to expand an existing program or ministry, preference will be given to new ministries. An applicant(s) would be expected to demonstrate commitment to the project by providing financial support.

Application Process: There is not an official application form. Applicants should submit a letter with the following information:

- Application Date
- Name of Project/Ministry
- Project/Ministry Leader
- Supporting Congregation or Group
- A brief statement of the purpose, need, and scope, including the mission initiative(s) targeted
- Goals and objectives; i.e. what the new ministry will accomplish/enable, how success will be measured, plans to sustain the ministry
- Projected Budget including details of expected costs and amount of financial support from other resources
- Amount requested
- Schedule including identification of events as well as beginning and ending dates of the overall project.
- Signature of Leader and Congregational Pastor or supporting group leader

The deadline for letters of application will be March 1 of each calendar year. (In the event that funds remain after the first round of applications, notification will be sent to pastors allowing for a second deadline of June 1.) In most cases all applicants should know the status of the application and the amount being funded within forty-five (45) days of the Application Deadline.

Congregations or groups of congregations may receive only one Mission Initiative Congregation Grant per fiscal year.

Any applications submitted for additional funds after the initial fiscal year of support for a given program must be submitted with documented financial records from the previous year of funding.

All letters of application must be submitted to the Eastern Great Lakes Mission Center office by mail, fax, or email with all supporting documentation. Any requested information not provided will result in an incomplete application that will not be processed.

Review: All letters of application will be reviewed by Eastern Great Lakes Mission Center Leadership (Presidency and Financial Officer) and two disinterested members of the mission center selected by MC Leadership based upon expertise.

Reporting: The following items need to be submitted to the Mission Center Office by January 31st of the year following receipt of the grant:

1. Program Director Evaluation
2. Financial Report
3. A brief written testimony from two program participants/congregation members regarding the ministry.