

NEW WORSHIPPING COMMUNITIES INVESTMENT GRANT APPLICATION (NOVEMBER 2014)

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 _____

Date When Seed Grant Was Approved _____

Worshiping Community Leader _____

Address/City/State/Zip _____

E-mail Address _____ Phone _____

Web Site Address _____

Partner Congregation _____ Phone _____
(If Applicable)

Address/City/State/Zip _____ PIN # _____

Contact Person _____ E-mail Address _____

Presbytery in Which NWC is Located _____ Phone _____

Contact Person _____ E-mail Address _____

Synod _____ Phone _____

Contact Person _____ E-mail Address _____

All new congregations begin as new worshiping communities but not all new worshiping communities will become congregations.

At least one year after receipt of a Seed Grant, a one-time Investment Grant of up to \$25,000 is possible and will provide for the next eighteen months. Approval of Investment Grants is conditioned upon real progress toward completing the tasks set forth in [Starting New Worshiping Communities](#). Investment Grants ordinarily require a dollar-for-dollar match provided by the combined contributions of the partner congregation, 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, upon request.

This application is available from the [Mission Program Grants Office website](#) and allows the writer to add typing space as needed.

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 fund the expansion or support of existing congregations or programs.

Additionally, we offer a **Health Insurance Grant** that provides supplemental funding to the partner congregation and/or presbytery in support of new church organizing pastors or new worshiping community leaders who would

not otherwise be able to afford health insurance. This annual grant is for up to \$1,500 and is twice renewable. The application is available at the [Mission Program Grants Office website](#).

Please answer the following questions in narrative form.

1. Please describe what you've accomplished during the Seed Grant including your partnerships with other congregations, community organizations and mid councils.
2. What are your current resources?
 - a. Develop an itemized and balanced income and expense *operating* budget for the full grant period. Include income from the new worshipping community, partner congregations, mid councils, the Presbyterian Mission Agency, and other sources. Capital expenses should be displayed separately from the operating budget.
 - b. What additional resources other than financial do you need? (Training, coaching, educational assistance, etc...)
3. Tell us about your ongoing discernment process as you have utilized the resource "Starting New Worshipping Communities." In addition:
 - a. Describe the theological identity upon which your new worshipping community is based.
 - b. Describe your vision for reaching those whom you feel called to reach.
 - c. Describe some of your experiments in outreach that succeeded as well as some which failed.
4. Describe the gifts of your leadership team. How are you developing missionary leaders?
5. How are you making disciples of Jesus Christ? What goals have you set for participation in worship, study and mission activities?
6. How does worship happen? How have you arranged for the sacraments to be celebrated?
7. How are you engaged in your community?
8. What have you learned since this new worshipping community began?
9. How will you determine if your efforts are effective?
10. Mid councils participating and giving oversight and assistance must provide on a single separate page, a concise and independent evaluation of the current status of this NWC. Also, describe how you are maintaining regular contact with the NWC and your plan for continued support to help ensure sustainability in the following areas.
 - What arrangements have been made for liability / indemnity insurance for the NWC?
 - How and where will memberships through baptism be recorded?
 - How will the mid council oversee the administration of the sacraments?
 - How will the NWC receive charitable donations and their donors receive acknowledgement for their gifts?
 - What is the plan for sustaining leadership and resources in the NWC, such as finances and talent?
 - How is the link between the NWC coach and the sponsoring session being maintained?

Date of Presbytery representative(s) meeting with NWC: _____

Note: Photos and/or videos are encouraged.

Please list below any funding that the New Worshipping Community is providing and funding that is expected from presbytery and/or synod, if any. Please list under "Investment Grant," the amount that you ask the Presbyterian Mission Agency to disburse in support of the NWC. Finally, if another entity is providing resources, please list the amount under Other.

<u>New Worshipping Community</u>	<u>Presbytery</u>	<u>Synod</u>	<u>Investment Grant</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

This proposal was reviewed and approved by the appropriate mission strategy body of the partner congregation and presbytery. Those giving oversight or providing assistance should date and sign below. Synod review and approval of this proposal is required if the synod is providing funding.

The Office of Mission Program Grants makes grants in support of ministries that are related to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). If a supported ministry separates from the denomination, the full amount of the grant may become due and payable.

After obtaining appropriate partner congregation and presbytery approval and signature, e-mail as a single attachment the completed proposal to [Tim McCallister](#) and [Bill Moore](#) at the Mission Program Grants office. Disbursements for approved proposals will be made once leadership has started.

Date

Partner Congregation Designee (If Applicable)

Date

Presbytery Executive, Stated Clerk or Designee

Date

Synod Executive or Designee (If Applicable)

Guidelines & Application Instructions for New Worshiping Communities Grants

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 ordinarily established no earlier than July, 2010.

A New worshiping community may receive a cumulative grant amount of no more than \$57,500 from any combination of NWC grants.

Applicants may apply for a one-time Seed Grant of up to \$7,500 and may do so at any time. Matching funds are not required.

One year after receipt of a Seed Grant, a NWC may apply for an Investment Grant of up to \$25,000. Approval of Investment Grants is conditioned upon real progress toward completing the discernment process set forth in "[Starting New Worshiping Communities](#)." Investment Grants ordinarily require a dollar-for-dollar match provided by the combined contributions of the partner congregation 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, upon request.

For the Investment and Growth Grants, it is a requirement for the Stated Clerk to have completed the Office of the General Assembly Church Change Form (CCF) on behalf of the project to be supported and prior to making application.

Eighteen months after receipt of an Investment Grant, a NWC may apply for a Growth Grant of up to \$25,000. Growth Grants ordinarily require a dollar-for-dollar match provided by the combined contributions of the partner congregation 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, upon request.

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.

New Worshiping Community Coaches

It is a condition of funding for the Investment and Growth Grants that the leader be assigned a coach. For information contact The Rev. Shannon Kiser, 1001 Associate, by calling (502) 631-0216 or by e-mail at shannon.kiser@pcusa.org.

Value-Added Services for New Worshiping Community Leaders

1. The grant receiving worshiping community leader is eligible to receive a \$100 discount to one Evangelism & Church Growth Conference. For information, please contact Ms. Sherry Britton, Program Assistant, by calling (888) 728-7228, X5247 or by e-mail at sherry.britton@pcusa.org.
2. The grant receiving worshiping community leader is invited to receive a free one-hour consultation with a 1001 Associate or coach. For information contact The Rev. Shannon Kiser, 1001 Associate, by calling (502) 631-0216 or by e-mail at shannon.kiser@pcusa.org.
3. It is strongly recommended that the worshiping community leader (and spouse, when applicable) complete the "Discerning Missional Leadership: A Potential Church Planters Assessment" early on in the life of the ministry. *In any event, the worshiping community leader must complete that assessment prior to the project being considered for a Growth Grant.* This free offer is valued at \$775 and includes room, board, materials and the actual assessment. Travel expenses are not included. For information, please contact The Rev. Caz Minter, 1001 Associate, South Central Region, by calling (502) 797-1428 or by e-mail at caz.minter@pcusa.org.

New Worshiping Community Definition

A New Worshiping Community is...

Brief Definition

- **New**
 - Seeking to make and form new disciples of Jesus Christ
 - Taking on varied forms of church for our changing culture
- **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**
 - **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.
 - **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).
- **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.

To add your community to the 1001 New Worshiping Communities home page, <http://www.onethousandone.org>, click on the "Add a New Worshiping Community" box found above the map. On the first page to open, enter your user information. After saving your user information, you can create your community by clicking on "worship community settings" on the next page to open. First, make your community visible on the map by choosing "Yes" to the "Make my community visible to the public" option. After entering the Community & Leader information and clicking the "OK" box at the bottom of the page, your community will appear on the map.