

Church Partnership/Shared Ministry Grants

Church Partnership Commission of the Presbytery of the Peaks

“Blessed are the dead who from now on die in the Lord. Yes, says the Spirit, ‘they will rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them.’” -Revelation 14:13

A third of the proceeds from the “Pastoral Leadership, Partnership, and Justice and Mercy Fund, maintained by the Presbytery of the Peaks, is available each year for grants made to congregations that strive to build partnerships to help foster discipleship within the presbytery. These grants will be awarded by the **Church Partnership Commission** and offer a significant amount of money to help support shared ministry projects.

Project examples include:

- Churches within a community joining together for a VBS program
- Congregations hosting a joint youth retreat
- Two or more congregations joining together to hold evangelism training
- Several congregations hosting a discipleship training program
Community of churches hosting a joint ad campaign promoting Presbyterian worship, education, and mission opportunities in an area.

Guidelines

- Applications will be considered for projects endorsed by sessions of congregations the Presbytery of the Peaks. The Church Partnership Commission is responsible for reviewing requests and awarding grants.
- No more than one project per year will be funded from a congregation.
- For 2023, each church partnership/shared ministry grant will be **awarded** for a maximum of \$5000.
- While projects involving shared ministry with churches in other denominations will be considered, these funds are for strengthening discipleship within the Presbyterian Church (USA). Any project involving churches from other denominations should include financial buy-in of those churches and/or denominations.
- Church partnership/shared ministry grants may not be used for building projects, debt retirement, or securing of general on-going staff needs of a congregation. Grants must be for new projects designed to make or grow disciples.

Application Process

- Application for grants will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Deadlines for submission of grant applications are February 1, April 1, June 1, August 1, October 1.
- Please fill out the Application form on the next page and return it with other requested documentation to the Presbytery Office
- The grant will be disbursed in one lump sum (per year) to the congregation(s) who have made the request, following the approval of the grant and submission of requested documentation
- The Church Partnership Commission will assign a liaison for each grant approved. The liaison should work with the congregation(s) to assure the grant monies are used appropriately according to the grant proposal. If not used in the manner agreed to, the grant monies are to be returned to the Presbytery.

Evaluation and Review

- A written report describing how the funds were utilized in accordance with the application along with describing what was learned from the project and next steps that may be taken. The report is due within 90 days of completion of the project.
- Depending on the project, the Church Partnership Commission may require additional reports. Failure to submit requested reports will be considered in the application process of future grant request from the Church Partnership Commission and Peaks Presbytery.

**Discipleship Partnership Grants Application Form
Presbytery of the Peaks
For Budget Year 2023**

Date of Application _____

Project Title _____

Total Amount Requested _____

Project Contact Person _____

Project Contact Person Email _____

Project Contact Phone _____

Project Mailing Address _____

Congregations Involved - including addresses, emails, and phone number for each congregation. If any are not PC(USA) congregations, please also include denomination or tradition.

1.

2.

3.

4.

Summary of Project (attach a concise description of the project including the following):

- Description and Scope of the Project
- Hopeful Outcome of Project
- Method of Determining Outcome of Project
- Budget for the Project Including all Revenue Sources
- Timeline for the Project

All funds approved and disbursed must be used for the purposes described in this application unless otherwise approved by the Church Partnership Commission.

Send to: Church Partnership Commission Co-Chairs
Presbytery of the Peaks
PO Box 2519
Forest, VA 24551
Office@peaks-presbytery.org