

How You Can Help

Grants for new and small churches have been made possible through generous gifts by Presbyterians. In that same spirit, contributions are needed to continue this grant funding which has supported the growth and life of these congregations. From 1989 to 2007, the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic awarded 248 grants to churches totaling \$889,810.

The most immediate way to contribute to the Grant Fund is through an individual, group, or congregational donation to the Synod for this purpose. Individuals can also promote the Grant Fund through bequests from their estates, by making it a beneficiary of their life insurance, or with gifts of securities, real estate, or annuities.

For More Information

For an application form or for more information, contact:

Synod of the Mid-Atlantic
3218 Chamberlayne Avenue
Richmond, VA 23227
(804) 342-0016
(800) 743-7670
FAX (804) 355-8535



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3218 Chamberlayne Avenue
Richmond, VA 23227

New and Small Church Grant Fund

Synod of the Mid-Atlantic
Presbyterian Church
(U.S.A.)



The New and Small Church Grant Fund of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic provides one-time grants of up to \$2,500* to new and existing congregations of fewer than 250 members.

*Maximum amount is dependent upon funding availability. Please check with the Synod Office for current maximum.

History

The "New and Small Church Grant Fund," hereafter called "Grant Fund" was established on April 7, 1983, by the Coordinating Council of the former Synod of North Carolina as a more effective method of receiving and disbursing the net earnings due the Synod from funds, designated for the support of home missions. Such funds included the McCallum Trust Fund and the Hutchison Fund. In the late 1990's and in response to increased requests, the Finance Committee and the Council for the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic began adding other Synod Controlled funds such as loan funds to the Grant fund to allow for more awards. Today, funding for the Grant Fund comes from donations, transfers from Synod Controlled funds such as the loan fund, and income from the McCallum Trust Fund designated for home missions in North Carolina.

Purpose

The Grant Fund is money received or directed by the Synod Assembly for the support of home missions in the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic. From these funds, grants are disbursed to new and small churches of the Synod with fewer than 250 members. The purpose of the grants is to further the mission of the church in partnership with presbyteries and sessions. The intent of any grant is to facilitate the home mission strategy of the church to which the grant is made.

Guidelines

- Grants are available to new and small churches of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic with fewer than 250 members.
- The maximum dollar amount of each grant will be determined by the availability of funds at the time of the request and will be considered on an individual basis. Normally, a grant will not exceed \$5,000. **In February 2003, the Synod lowered the maximum award to \$2,500 due to declining investment markets.**
- Grants are ordinarily made on a one-time basis.
- Grants for the purchase of furniture or equipment or for building repairs or renovations require the submission of two written documented bids.
- Requests must be submitted on a "New and Small Church Grant Application Form" which is available from the Synod Office.
- Any special terms deemed appropriate for a grant may be considered on an individual basis.
- Grant requests for special ministries will receive priority funding.
- Applications are accepted twice yearly on February 15 and September 15 to be considered by the Grants/Awards Committee at their next Assembly Meeting in March or October.

Approval of Grants

- Presbytery must review the adequacy of the planning and the mission goals and strategy of the church and must approve the grant request.
- The Grants/Awards Committee of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic reviews applications twice annually and makes recommendations for or against approval to the Synod Assembly.
- Occasionally, the Grants/Awards Committee will hold applications pending the receipt of additional information.

Administration

The Awards/Grants Committee of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic administers and oversees the Grant Fund. The Finance Manager coordinates this effort on behalf of the Committee. The Board of Trustees of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic manages the investment of any residual cash in the Grant Fund. The Grants/Awards Committee makes reports to the Synod Assembly on all grant requests received and acted upon. Reports of approved grants include the church, presbytery, purpose, and amount. The financial status of the Grant Fund is reported annually through the Synod's audited financial statements.