



Office of Mission Program Grants

nwcgrants@pcusa.org

NEW WORSHIPING COMMUNITIES INVESTMENT GRANT APPLICATION

DATE PREPARED:	
NAME OF NEW WORSHIPING COMMUNITY/NEW CHURCH DEVELOPMENT:	
NWC has Church Change Form (CCF) on File: <input type="checkbox"/> YES NO IF YES, PIN #:	
<i>Note: NWCs must have a CCF or PIN to receive grants</i>	
DATE WORSHIPING COMMUNITY CREATED:	DATE OF SEED GRANT APPROVAL:
NAME OF WORSHIPING COMMUNITY LEADER:	
NWC MAILING ADDRESS:	NWC EMAIL ADDRESS:
NWC CELL #	NWC WEBSITE ADDRESS:

NWC COACH – <i>Note: NWCs must have a coach prior to receiving an Investment Grant</i>	
NAME:	
EMAIL ADDRESS:	CELL #:

PC(USA) PARTNER CONGREGATION	
NAME OF PARTNER CONGREGATION:	
MAILING ADDRESS:	PIN #:
CONTACT PERSON:	TITLE:
EMAIL ADDRESS:	CELL #

PRESBYTERY RESPONSIBLE FOR AND IN WHICH THE NWC IS LOCATED	
NAME OF PRESBYTERY:	
CONTACT PERSON:	TITLE:
EMAIL ADDRESS:	PHONE #

SYNOD	
NAME OF SYNOD:	
CONTACT PERSON:	TITLE:
EMAIL ADDRESS:	PHONE #



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All new congregations begin as new worshiping communities, but not all new worshiping communities will become congregations. Therefore, new church developments and new worshiping communities can utilize this application.

The Investment Grant supports and encourages NCDs and NWCs whose process of faithful discernment has led them to establish a new ministry, responsive to the needs of a new group of people with the ultimate goal of growing a viable, sustainable, Christ-centered, and PC(USA)-related 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 NWCs through congregations and presbyteries rather than to fund the expansion or support of existing congregations or programs.

The resource can assist in discerning whether to apply for additional grants following the Seed Grant.

GRANT FUNDING AMOUNTS: At least one year after receiving a Seed Grant, NWCs may apply for a one-time Investment Grant of up to \$30,000 that will provide for the next eighteen months. Following that period, the NWC becomes eligible for consideration for a Growth Grant. Approval of Investment Grants is conditioned upon real progress being made toward completing the tasks set forth in [Starting New Worshiping Communities](#).

A dollar-for-dollar match provided through the partner congregation, presbytery and/or synod is ordinarily required. In-kind contributions are acceptable, and waivers of the match will be considered on a case-by-case basis, upon request. In-kind contributions for the match are acceptable. Waivers of the match will be considered on a case-by-case basis, upon request.

Please answer the following questions:

1. Give a summary of your NWC (3-5 sentences).
2. Please describe what you have accomplished during the Seed Grant period including our partnerships with other congregations, community organizations and mid councils.
3. How did you use the Seed Grant funds?



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4. 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 NWC, mid councils, the Interim Unified Agency, and other sources. Capital expenses should be displayed separately from the operating budget. Describe how the Investment grant funds will be used.
- b. What additional resources other than financial do you need? (Training, coaching, educational assistance, etc...)

5. 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 NWC 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 that did not.

6. Describe the gifts of your leadership team. How are you developing missionary leaders?



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7. How are you making disciples of Jesus Christ? What goals have you set for participation in worship, study and mission activities?

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8. How does worship happen?

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9. How are you engaged in your community?

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10. What have you learned since this NWC began?

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11. How will you determine if your efforts are effective?

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12. Mid councils participating in 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?**
- **Who is the NWC coach and has the appropriate person or committee of the presbytery approved the relationship?**
- **How effective is the coach’s work with the NWC leader? How is the link between the NWC coach and the sponsoring presbytery being maintained?**
- **Does the NWC’s long term goal include becoming a contributing member of the larger PC (USA) family? If not, in what ways will this NWC contribute to the hopes and energy of the larger church?**

Date of Presbytery representative(s) meeting with NWC:

Please list below any funding that the NWC/NCD is providing and funding that is expected from presbytery and/or synod, if any. Please list under “Investment Grant,” the amount **(up to \$30,000)** that you are requesting the Office of Mission Program Grants to disburse in support of the NWC. Finally, if another entity is providing resources, please list the amount under “Other” and describe in the “Comments” space below.

New Worshiping Community	Presbytery	Synod	Investment Grant	Other	Total
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

Comments:



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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 provides 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 nwcgrants@pcusa.org at the Mission Program Grants office. Disbursements for approved proposals will be made once leadership has started.

The following two conditions must be satisfied *prior* to submitting an Investment or Growth Grant proposal for consideration.

1. The leader must be connected with a coach.
2. The leader should have enrolled in, or have completed participation in the Discerning Missional Leadership (DML) Assessment **AND** one of the following:
 - o The 1001 Apprenticeship or Residency programs
 - o The 1001 Accelerator program (offered in person and online and in Spanish and in English).

(See attached for guidance with satisfying these conditions.)

Note: If anyone signing below is a current member of the Interim Unified Agency Board, please inform the Office of Mission Program Grants staff at the email address above.

Signature of Partner Congregation Designee (if applicable)	Title	Date
Signature of Presbytery Executive, Stated Clerk or Designee	Title	Date
Signature of Synod Executive or Designee (if applicable)	Title	Date



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Guidelines & Application Instructions for New Worshiping Communities Grants (NWCs)

These grants are intended to support operating/program expenses such as salary and benefits, insurance, other approved health care expenses, rent, educational materials, etc... These grants are limited to NWCs that are related to the Presbyterian Church (USA), located within the United States and Puerto Rico and were ordinarily established no earlier than five years prior to the date the NWC began. All applications are available on the [website](#).

Applicants may apply for a one-time **Seed Grant** of up to \$10,000. Matching funds are not required.

One year after receiving a Seed Grant, an NWC may apply for a one-time **Investment Grant** of up to \$30,000. Approval of Investment Grants is conditioned upon real progress being made toward completing the discernment process set forth in "[Starting New Worshiping Communities](#)."

Eighteen months after receiving an Investment Grant, an NWC may apply for a one-time **Growth Grant** of up to \$30,000.

Investment and 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 upon request and on a case-by-case basis.

For Growth Grants, NWC applicants should clearly demonstrate mission giving beyond the local community, with at least 5% of the annual budget being donated to shared mission giving to the presbytery, synod and/or Interim Unified Agency.

The following three conditions should be satisfied prior to submitting proposals for consideration.

1. For all grants it is a requirement for the presbytery Stated Clerk to have completed and submitted the Office of the General Assembly Church Change Form (CCF) on behalf of the NWC/NCD to be supported. For information about this process, please contact OGA.Records@pcusa.org.
2. It is a condition of funding for Investment and Growth Grants that the leader must be connected with a coach. If the NWC does not already have a coach, the 1001 NWCs Ministry has a network of coaches available. For information about starting the process of being connected with a coach, please contact The Rev. Jeff Eddings. His email is jeff.eddings@pcusa.org.
3.
 - a. NWC leaders applying for Investment and Growth Grants should have successfully completed the "Discerning Missional Leadership: A Potential Church Planters Assessment. For more information about Church Planters Assessments, please contact The Rev. Michael Gehrling to schedule your assessment. His email is michael.gehrling@pcusa.org.
 - b. In addition, NWC leaders applying for Investment and Growth Grants should have successfully completed one of the following:
 - The 1001 NWC Apprenticeship Program / the 1001 NWC Residency Program. Please contact the Rev. Sara Hayden to register for either program. Her email is sara.hayden@pcusa.org.
 - The 1001 NWC Accelerator Training, offered either in-person, virtually, or in an online cohort in English or Spanish. Please contact Jeya So to reserve your place in one of the scheduled programs or workshops. Her email is jeya.so@pcusa.org.

We offer a **Health Insurance Grant** that provides supplemental funding to in support of an NWC leader who would not otherwise be able to afford health insurance. This annual grant is for up to \$3,000 and is renewable twice.

As an expression of connectional stewardship, it is encouraged that grant recipients commit to "paying it forward" to the Extra Commitment Opportunity account found on the [website](#). Your support will help provide future funding for the establishment of new congregations, new worshiping communities like yours, and presbyteries that wish to encourage continual congregational transformation. Please help continue this important work.



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.