

Mission Grants Committee Report 2016-2017

The Mission Grants Committee is made up of representatives from each of the Associations that make up the Penn West Conference of the United Church of Christ. Douglas Satterlee (Juniata) · Bruce Ashlock (Somerset) · Peggy Mortimer (Clarion) · Bob McKie (Westmoreland) · Open (Lake Erie) · Open (Pittsburgh) · James Neatrou (Moderator) · Diane Wiley (Assistant Moderator) · David Ackerman and Diane Fox (Staff).

In 2016 the committee awarded over \$30,000 in grants to 20 churches in the Penn West Conference. You can view the churches that won awards on the conference web site at www.pennwest.org

For 2017-2018 the conference will again offer grants to the churches in our conference. They will be in the following categories:

Reaching Out – Funds are available for new or ongoing ministries that support a congregation's efforts to strengthen its relationships and visibility through service to its larger community. Maximum award \$1,500.

Strengthening the Church – Funds are available to support church growth and development within the Penn West Conference. Maximum award \$1,500.

Operational Support – Operational awards support local churches in purchasing, updating, maintaining, replacing or repairing facility and equipment, or any worthwhile ministry project or program that helps the congregation provide continuity of mission to its community. Maximum award \$1,000.

It would be the pleasure of the committee to award everyone who applies a grant but, as we all know, the demand out stretches the supply. In many of those cases last year, where no grant was awarded, the reason wasn't because the cause wasn't worthwhile but because the applications were not filled out properly. We can not stress enough the importance of giving as much information as possible when applying. Please fill out the application as fully and accurately as you possibly can.

The timeline for this year's awards is as follows:

Application Due October 1, 2017

Committee Reviews Applications October 1-31, 2017

Announcement of Grants Made November 1, 2017

Mission Grants Ceremony November 20, 11 AM, at First Reformed United Church
of Christ, 312 S. Maple Ave., Greensburg PA 15601

Report submitted by,

Doug Satterlee