

Mission Grants Committee Report 2019-2020

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) · Laddie Ohl (Lake Erie) · Nancy Gleyze (Pittsburgh) · Diane Wiley (Moderator) · Tom Croner (Assistant Moderator) · David Ackerman and Diane Fox (Staff).

In 2019 the committee awarded over \$40,000 in grants to 26 churches in the Penn West Conference. You can view the churches that won awards on the conference web site at www.pennwest.org

For 2020-2021 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.

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

Application Due October 1, 2020

Committee Reviews Applications October 1-31, 2020

Announcement of Grants Made November 1, 2020

Mission Grants Ceremony November 16, 11 AM, at First Reformed United Church of Christ, 312 S. Maple Ave., Greensburg PA 15601

While we realize that need always far exceeds resources, it is our hope and desire that the funds provided through this process will encourage each of our ministries and related partners to “never grow weary in doing good” (Galatians 6:9) and to remember

that the Penn West Conference stands with you as a ministry partner.

Enclosed you will find a Mission Grants Overview and Application form for your use. You can see that this year's application, in keeping with our Mission Statement, has a new section, which must be completed, emphasizing our covenantal relationship. Please reach out to us to let us know if there are ways that we can be of help in strengthening covenantal ties with your congregation. Please also be in touch with Diane Fox in our office if you have additional questions. You may also go on to our website as described above to download an electronic version of the application or other Mission Grants forms, including an updated Mission Grants Process Checklist.

Please note that if you received an award in 2019 and are applying for a grant in 2020, you must submit your Final Report and/or remit unused funds for the 2019 award by September 11, 2020, in order to be eligible to receive a grant in 2020. Please also note, as mentioned above, that the 2020 Mission Grants Ceremony will be held on Monday, November 16, at 11 AM at First Reformed United Church of Christ, 312 S. Maple Ave., Greensburg PA 15601. We look forward to discovering many expressions of faithfulness among our churches!

Report submitted by,
Doug Satterlee