

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. Mary Hendricks (Juniata) · Joe Beer(Somerset) · Peggy Mortimer (Clarion) · Bob Krueel (Westmoreland) · Laddie Ohl (Lake Erie) · Nancy Gleyze (Pittsburgh) · Tom Croner (Moderator) · June Boutwell (Assistant Moderator) · David Ackerman and DianeFox (Staff).

In 2020 the committee awarded 27 different churches in the Penn West Conference, grant monies in the amount of \$38,106.00. For 2021-2022 the Penn West Conference will again offer grants to the churches in our Conference. You can view the churches that won awards on the conference website at [www.pennwest.org](http://www.pennwest.org)

Grants for "Reaching Out" were distributed from our Corman Fund and our Neighbors in Need Fund. Grants for "Strengthening the Church" were distributed from our Strengthen the Church Fund. And grants for "Operational Support" were distributed from our Kermit Thomas Bequest Fund. We are deeply grateful to our donors who have made these grants possible! We also hope that new donors will come forward who wish to be a blessing to many of our Penn West Conference churches.

The Grants will be available in the following categories:

**Reaching Out** – Funds are available for new or ongoing ministries that help alleviate human need and suffering and support a congregation's efforts to strengthen its relationships and visibility through service to its larger community. The maximum award available is \$1,500.

**Strengthening the Church** – Funds are available to support church growth and development within the Penn West Conference. The maximum award available is \$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. The Maximum award available is \$1,000.

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

Reports from 2000-2021 Applications - Due September 17, 2021

Grant Application 2021-2022 - Due October 1, 2021

Committee Reviews Applications October 1-31, 2021

Announcement of Grants Made November 1, 2021

Mission Grants Ceremony November 15, 2021, at 11 AM, at First Reformed United Church of Christ, 312 S. Maple Ave., Greensburg PA 15601

On our website at [www.pennwest.org](http://www.pennwest.org) you will find a Mission Grants Overview and Application form for your use. Please also be in touch with Diane Fox in our office if you have any 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 2020 and are applying for a grant in 2021, you must submit your Final Report and/or remit unused funds for the 2020 award by September 17, 2021, in order to be eligible to receive a grant in 2022. Please also note, as mentioned above, that the 2021 Mission Grants Ceremony will be held on Monday, November 15, 2021 at 11 AM at First Reformed United Church of Christ, 312 S. Maple Ave., Greensburg PA 15601. We look forward to seeing the amazing work that is being accomplished in our churches in the Penn West Conference. God's blessings be on your efforts and to God be all the Glory.

Respectfully Submitted

Peggy Mortimer