

## **Penn West Conference Mission Grants Awards, 2020**

This year, we rejoiced as 27 different churches in the Penn West Conference received \$38,106.00 worth of grant monies for various projects in their ministries! 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 final reports for our 2020 grants are due by September 17, 2021. This is the means by which we hold our awardees accountable, and we provide them with reporting forms for this purpose. This year, we provided a revised list of helpful tips for applying for grants on our website, and we hope that as churches become more aware of what is expected of them in the application process that more churches will avail themselves of the opportunities to receive these monies. We encourage all of our churches to apply and also encourage them to reach out to us if help is needed with the application process.

Normally in our reports, we provide photos of our Mission Grants Awards Ceremony. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we did not encourage many in-person participants at it this year. Therefore, we will not be providing photos. If you'd like to watch a video of the ceremony, however, you may do so by visiting <https://youtu.be/pMRB4XoDSWg>.

Here are our Mission Grant Awardees for 2020!

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Denmark Manor United Church of Christ in Export received \$784.00 for box rain gutters and soffit and fascia repair. They also received a \$500.00 award for electronic signage. Finally, they received a grant in the amount of \$1,500.00 for a ministry outreach/cornhole and model railroading project.

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St. Paul's United Church of Christ in James Creek received a \$500.00 award for a new church sign.

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First United Church of Christ in Irwin received a \$784.00 grant for their office relocation project. They also received a \$500.00 award for an ethnic food festival and craft show. Finally, they received a \$1,000.00 grant for a “virtual fire for the church” project (providing tablets to church members to connect online).

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First Reformed United Church of Christ in Greensburg received a \$784.00 grant for their meeting room floor repairs. They also received a \$500.00 award for an activities day booth at their Community Days festival. Finally, they received a \$1,000.00 grant for a “virtual fire for the church” project (providing tablets to church members to connect online).

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First United Church of Christ in Millvale received a \$500.00 award for their “joyful noise” project (use of wireless technology for worship). They also received a “let there be light” project (audio/visual equipment for worship) award in the amount of \$784.00. Finally, they received a “taking it to the street” (outreach project involving outdoor worship/service in city streets) award in the amount of \$1,242.00.

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Grace United Church of Christ in Duquesne received a \$784.00 grant for their “pathway to eternity” sidewalk repair project.

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St. Peter's Evangelical & Reformed United Church of Christ in Pittsburgh received a \$1,200.00 award for their “open gates silent retreats” events.

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Trinity Reformed United Church of Christ in Scottdale received a \$500.00 award for “stewardship and identity” (signs and a debit card dipjar service). They also received a \$784.00 award for their “room for our neighbors” project (repurposing church building space for community use). Finally, they received a grant in the amount of \$1,500.00 for their “joyful noise” project (providing free piano lessons to youth/children in the community).

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Brush Creek Salem United Church of Christ in Irwin received a \$784.00 grant for repairs to their educational building.

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St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Erie received a \$784.00 award for operational improvements "for presence" (technology). They also received a \$500.00 award for "reaching outward" (technology). Finally, they received a \$500.00 grant for their "spread the word, spread the love" project (technology).

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Emanuel United Church of Christ in Warren received a \$1,500.00 grant to start a Cub Scout pack in their community.

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St. Paul's Community Church in Chicora received a \$784.00 grant for the repair of their chairlift.

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St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Hermitage received a \$784.00 award to repair their parking lot.

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Christ United Church of Christ in Latrobe received a \$500.00 grant to upgrade the technology in the secretary's office.

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First United Church of Christ in Ebensburg received a \$784.00 award toward the repair of their roof. They also received a \$500.00 grant for their "live worship/video" (technology) project. Finally, they also received a \$500.00 award for their videoconferencing project.

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Greenfield United Church of Christ in Imler received a \$784.00 award to enhance their outdoor meditation space.

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Trinity United Church of Christ in Troutville (Luthersburg) received a \$784.00 award toward the replacement of their roof.

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Jerusalem United Church of Christ in Rimersburg received a \$1,500.00 grant for their “blessing kids” (“blessings in a backpack”) Project.

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Community United Church in Erie received a \$500.00 award for a laptop for their associate pastor. They also received a \$1,250.00 award for their Trinity-fest/interfaith festival. Finally, they received a \$1,170.00 grant for their church Pride and festivals events.

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Grace United Church of Christ in Claysburg received a \$1,000.00 grant for “shepherding our future” (Sunday School experience).

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The Abbey United Church of Christ in Huntingdon received a \$784.00 grant for their social hall lighting project.

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St. Paul’s United Church of Christ in Imler received a \$900.00 grant for their “renewing vision and repurposing” efforts (working with Church Building & Loan Fund on their repurposing workshop).

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Zion’s Reformed United Church of Christ in Greenville received a \$784.00 grant toward the repair of their steeple. They also received a \$1,500.00 award toward providing blankets for the needy in their area.

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St. John’s Reformed United Church of Christ in Mt. Pleasant received a \$500.00 award toward a new road sign.

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Trinity United Church of Christ in Dorseyville received a \$784.00 grant for the second phase of their accessibility project.

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St. John's United Church of Christ in Evans City received a \$500.00 grant for a color printer and chairs. They also received a \$700.00 award for their “church

growth and community” events. Finally, they received a \$600.00 grant for “reaching out mission projects.

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St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Johnstown received a \$784.00 award for the repair of their outside doors.