



THE MINNESOTA CONFERENCE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
**New Initiatives Fund Grant Application**

Created in 2012, the New Initiatives Fund encourages experimentation and innovation throughout the Conference, in keeping with our core values of 'innovation' and 'empowerment.'

### **Application Guidelines**

1. Applicant must be a recognized ministry of the Conference, which includes Conference committees, work groups, teams, and churches.
2. Project/ministry must fall in line with the Conference's Bold Inspirational Goals: leadership development for clergy and laity; healthy, vital congregations; faith formation for all; and increased capacity for compassionate service and prophetic witness.
3. Project/ministry must be innovative and/or experimental.
4. Multi-church collaboration is given special consideration.

### **Grant Details**

1. Applicants are limited to one grant per calendar year. Grants may not be used in conjunction with other MN Conference grants. Applicants who have been awarded a New Initiatives Fund grant in the previous year may be given lower priority than applicants who have not been funded in the previous year.
2. Grants are for the calendar year.
3. You may apply for a grant of up to \$1,000. Grants may be awarded in amounts lower than the amount requested.
4. Application deadline is rolling. Grants are available until the annual allocated funds are depleted.
5. In most cases, applicants will be notified whether they will receive a grant within two weeks of receipt of application. Grant checks will be sent within one month of grant being awarded.

### **Reporting Requirements**

If you are awarded a grant, you must send a 1-2 page report to the Conference within six months of receiving the grant. The report should describe your ministry or project and explain how you used the grant and what impact the grant had on your ministry and/or congregation. We ask that you electronically submit at least two related photos with your grant report. We would also like to receive some direct quotes from members of your congregation or participants of the project/program funded that illustrate the benefits of the project or program for them individually or for the congregation or community as a whole. Such quotes and photographs may be used in communications of the Conference.

Finally, we ask that you publicize in your church newsletter or bulletin that you received a New Initiatives grant from the Conference.



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**Application**

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Recognized Ministry affiliated with project \_\_\_\_\_

*(Examples of recognized ministries are workgroups, committees, teams, and churches.)*

1. Please describe your project or program for which funds are requested.
2. How is your project or ministry innovative or experimental?
3. How does your project or ministry align with the Bold Inspirational Goals of the Conference, as outlined above? (More information on the BIGs can be found at [www.uccmn.org](http://www.uccmn.org).)
4. What grant amount are you asking for? (You may request a maximum of \$1000.) Please provide also a summary budget for the project or program involved.
5. How will the grant impact your congregation, ministry, or community?

**Please return grant application to:**

Minnesota Conference UCC  
Attn: Rev. Shari Prestemon  
122 W Franklin Ave, Suite 323  
Minneapolis, MN 55404