

# LAMONI HEARTLAND MISSION CENTER

## Missional Ministries Grant Program

### **Vision and Purpose:**

As Community of Christ, we are called to share our witness of Jesus Christ with those waiting to hear the redeeming words of the gospel. We are growing in our mission to proclaim Jesus Christ and promote communities of joy, hope, love, and peace. Each congregation is to be a living witness of the gospel message of Jesus Christ to the community in which the church resides. As such, a missional church demonstrates a desire and a willingness to respond to God's plan to infuse sacred community in the world. To support and empower congregations in their efforts to be this living witness, this Missional Ministries Grant Program has been established to support congregational initiatives directed toward missional ministries that will lead to growth (spiritual, increased discipleship, numerical) in the congregation. It is the vision of the mission center leadership that these funds will assist congregations in responding to how God is calling them to live out and share the peace of Jesus Christ.

### **Definition of Missional:**

Missional focuses us on extending the ministries of God beyond the walls of the church and/or beyond Sunday morning services into the community. It involves seeking and discerning opportunities in their community and using the people and resources of the congregation to effect change.

### **Mission Initiatives:**

#### **Invite People to Christ** —Christ's mission of evangelism

We are poised to share the peace of Jesus Christ with those who are waiting to hear the redeeming words of the gospel.

#### **Abolish Poverty, End Suffering** —Christ's mission of compassion

We are poised to be Christ's hands and feet, reaching out through compassionate ministries that serve the poor and hungry and stop conditions that diminish the worth of persons.

#### **Pursue Peace on Earth** —Christ's mission of justice and peace

We are poised to restore Christ's covenant of peace, even the Zion of our hopes. The hope of Zion will become reality when we live Christ's peace and generously share his peace with others.

#### **Develop Disciples to Serve** —Equip individuals for Christ's mission

We are poised to equip men, women, and children to be true and living expressions of the life, ministry, and continuing presence of Christ in the world.

**Experience Congregations in Mission** —Equip congregations for Christ’s mission

We are poised to become congregations that are true and living expressions of Jesus Christ, woven together by the Holy Spirit, and sent into the world as evangelistic witnesses, compassionate ministers, and justice and peacemakers. We will be a prophetic people characterized by uncommon devotion to the compassion and peace of God revealed in Jesus Christ!

**Who may apply for a grant?**

Applicants can include:

- ◆ Individual congregations
- ◆ Pairs or groups of congregations
- ◆ Mission center ministry teams
- ◆ Seventy and teams working in new areas or with church plants
- ◆ “New Expressions” authorized by a pastor within a congregation or when comprising multiple congregations’ members as authorized by the mission center president

**Missional grants should support ministries that uphold the five Mission Initiatives of the church in a missional way. The aspect of invitation should be a central part of the proposed program for a grant. Examples include:**

- ◆ Church plants and “New Expressions”
- ◆ New technology grants that support extending the reach of the church and its ministry.
- ◆ Ministries that promote diversity and reach out to the community or to a targeted demographic in the community; such as at-risk youth, single parents, immigrant communities, etc.
- ◆ Joint ministries between the congregation or other applicant and community services or organizations that address the wounded, disenfranchised or disadvantaged
- ◆ Peace and justice focused ministries in the community that reflect community of Christ enduring principles and involve invitation to collaboration
- ◆ Resources (can include special equipment, stipends) for ministries designed for children, youth, young adults, or seniors
- ◆ Advertising, Online advertising, direct mail and other communication support approaches in support of church growth and the mission initiatives
- ◆ Dynamic music ministry and worship resources designed for outreach to the unchurched or underserved in our communities
- ◆ Small groups/Covenant Group ministries
- ◆ Outreach to skilled nursing facilities, assisted living centers and senior centers
- ◆ Training and education directed toward inviting, gathering, and sending/serving ministries

**Grant Guidelines:**

1. Proposals can be submitted by any congregation or group in the mission center.
2. Grant applications can be made any time during the year. Only one grant per year will be granted to each applicant to allow focus on that ministry. Grant amendments can be considered under special circumstances.
3. Grant proposals must demonstrate a clear connection to missionary/outreach ministries.
4. Proposals should demonstrate a clear connection to group vision and the Mission Initiatives of the Community of Christ:
  - Invite People to Christ
  - Abolish Poverty and End Suffering
  - Pursue Peace on Earth
  - Develop Disciples to Serve
  - Experience Congregations in Mission
5. Grants for congregations will be provided on a matching basis. This means that an applicant can request a grant up to 50% of the total costs of the project. Provisions will be made for applicants that do not have the available funds to share in the matching relationship. It is also expected that “in-kind” (non-monetary) support will be provided by the congregation. Grants for new expressions, church plants and mission center ministry teams do not require congregational matching funds, however, some additional funding is always desirable.
6. Grant applications need approval of the pastor or ministry team leader before being submitted.
7. This grant program is not designed for capital improvement (building projects or to improve existing structures), utilities, or funding of special trips. Other equipment funded must be tied to a direct need of the ministry.
8. A Grant Review Team will be responsible for reviewing grants and making selections.
9. If the grant is to be used in conjunction with a GROW program (which is an excellent approach), the application must be approved before the GROW program is launched to the congregation or group.
10. The results of the review team will be sent to the applicant with comments and/or instructions for receiving the grant.
11. Those who receive grants will be required to submit a progress report to the Mission Center President which may be shared and communicated through various means. Photos, videos and tangible results are appreciated.
12. At the end of the grant, a report summarizing the accomplishments and learned insights will be submitted to the Mission Center President and MCISM.
13. Any funds not used for the purpose described in the grant application will be returned to the Mission Center, including excess funds and funds remaining if the ministry is terminated. When the applicant is not a congregation or established affiliate, funds will be managed by the mission center (for example, if the diversity team were to apply for a grant to purchase training videos or pay for a speaker, the Mission Center would facilitate and pay for the purchase after the grant is approved).

14. Grant resources are not available post hoc as a reimbursement of expenses incurred before the application was approved.

**Application form:**

Submit the application form electronically to Janelle Anders ([janders@cofchrist.org](mailto:janders@cofchrist.org)) and copy the Mission Center Invitational Support Minister (MCISM) Jeannine Ward ([dalejeannineward@gmail.com](mailto:dalejeannineward@gmail.com)) or mail to the Lamoni Heartland Mission Center Office, 531 West Main, Lamoni, IA 50140. Email is preferred.

## MISSIONAL MINISTRIES GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Missionary Ministry Program Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Mission Initiative addressed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dollar Amount Being Requested: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Dollar Amount Provided by Applicant: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

Ministry Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information:

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Overview of the Missional Ministry: (Include a description of the need and the proposed way to address this need.) Attach a supplemental sheet if needed.

How does this ministry support the congregation's vision and the missional aspects of the Mission Initiatives?

How was the idea for this proposed ministry developed? How was the need for this ministry confirmed (due diligence)?

What is the desired outcome from this ministry?

Who will be involved in carrying out this ministry?

How will you evaluate the value and progress of this ministry? What specific measurements will be made? What will be considered a success? *(A report of your progress will be shared with the mission center.)*

What are the next steps to be taken as a follow-up to this ministry? How will you build on this program?

Provide a detailed budget outline for this ministry (use attached budget worksheet)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ministry Leader

\_\_\_\_\_  
CFO

Grant Team Recommendation: \_\_\_Approved \_\_\_Not Approved

Reason:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mission Center President / Financial Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mission Center Invitational Support Minister

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Congregational Grant Program For Missional Ministries

### Budget Worksheet

**APPLICATION DATE:**

<b>PROGRAM EXPENSES (Monetary Costs)</b>	<b>AMOUNTS</b>
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>	

<b>PROGRAM RESOURCES</b>	<b>AMOUNTS</b>
Available Funds and Resources from Applicant:	
Other sources of funds (fees, monetary donations, etc.)	
<b>Total funds from congregation and project</b>	

<b>INCOME from IN-KIND SOURCES (donated food, materials, etc. Do not include volunteer hours.)</b>	<b>AMOUNTS</b>
<b>Total in-kind sources</b>	

<b>TOTAL RESOURCES</b> (Program + In-Kind)	
<b>Requested Missional Grant Funds = (Total Program Expenses – Total Resources)</b>	



# Revised Missional Ministries Grant Program

## Support Information

1. Ad-hoc Grant review teams
  - a. The review team will consist of the Mission Center Invitational Support Minister (MCISM) and the Mission Center President and one additional person appointed by the Mission Center President.
  - b. The review team is formed on an ad-hoc basis to consider a specific proposal. The appointed member will be from a different congregation than the one applying. There is no term and the appointment lasts for the consideration of a specific grant.
2. Review team responsibilities include:
  - a. Reviewing the Missional Ministries Grant applications and sending questions, suggestions, etc. in a timely manner.
  - b. Providing a fair and impartial review and input on proposals.
3. Process for receiving, reviewing, and approving Missional Ministries Grant applications.
  - a. Grant Application
    - i. The grant application may be submitted at any time during the year. Only one grant per year will be granted to each applicant to allow focus on that ministry. A grant amendment or extension will be considered under special circumstances.
    - ii. It is expected that the application would demonstrate a clear connection to their group vision and/or the Mission Initiatives
    - iii. It is also expected that they have completed “due diligence” on the proposed ministry. This includes discerning, investigating, and confirming the need in the community, and the matching resources, personnel, and desire to address this need.
    - iv. It is expected that a full report and accounting of how the funds were used will be submitted to include a detailed summary report of how the ministry project impacted and effected mission in the life of the congregation and target demographic.
  - b. Application Submission. Application forms will be submitted electronically to Janelle Anders ([janders@cofchrist.org](mailto:janders@cofchrist.org)) and copy the Mission Center Invitational Support Minister (MCISM) Jeannine Ward ([dalejeannineward@gmail.com](mailto:dalejeannineward@gmail.com)) or submitted by mail to the LHMC office, 531 West Main, Lamoni, IA 50140.
  - c. Application review and approval

- i. Upon receiving the application, the MCISM or MCP will review the application to ensure it is properly filled out and clarify any confusion with the applicant.
    - ii. The MCP will then appoint the third review team member and distribute the application to the review team for review and prayerful consideration and discernment.
    - iii. The review team will read to understand and discern the opportunity and feasibility of the ministry and then typically meet by Zoom to discuss. The MCISM will address any questions or concerns with the applicant.
    - iv. Once these concerns, if any, are addressed and understood by the reviewing team, the MCISM will ask for the reviewers' decision on the grant – approved or disapproved. This will typically take place in a Zoom meeting. Comments and reasons, especially for a disapproval, are to be carefully noted. These will be gathered and passed along by the MCISM to the applicant to show support for those approved, and to clarify and address reasons for disapproval.
    - v. It is desired and expected that this review and subsequent approval/disapproval be timely, within 3-4 weeks of the application submission.
  - d. Notification of application review
    - i. The results of the application review will be sent to the applicant and review team from the MCISM by e-mail (if available) or by mail.
    - ii. Included in the communication will be the official notification of the review, appropriate comments and suggestions for the applicant, and directions for receiving these funds (if a congregation) by notifying the MCFO when they are ready to receive those funds.
- 4. Distribution of funds and expectations of use or other arrangements with the MCP/FO for non-congregation applicants.
  - a. After receiving notification of approval it is the responsibility of the applicant to request the funds from the MCFO.
  - b. The MCFO will write a check payable to the congregation or group receiving the grant. Checks will not be written to individuals.
  - c. Once the funds are received it is the responsibility of the applicant or their designee to deposit the funds and track them accordingly.
  - d. It is the expectation that any funds not used for the purpose described in the grant application will be returned to the Mission Center, including excess funds and funds remaining if the ministry for which the funds were requested is terminated.

# Lamoni Heartland Mission Center

## Missional Grant Scoring Guide

Using a five-point scale with (1) reflecting limited information and thoughtful planning and (5) reflecting a clear articulation of purpose with well thought out plans that support a congregational vision and the mission center Discipleship Building Ministries.

Congregation or Cluster Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Missionary Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Grant Review Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Scoring Criteria:

1. Does this grant proposal have a clear articulated outcome that supports a mission initiative?

1 2 3 4 5

Comments:

2. Does this grant support invitational ministry and result in invitation?

1 2 3 4 5

Comments:

3. Does the proposed budget provide for sufficient support to meet the objectives of the grant?

1 2 3 4 5

Comments:

4. Does the grant proposal reflect the involvement of a number of people in the congregation or group?

1 2 3 4 5

Comments:

5. Is there a clearly defined evaluation process that will assist the congregation in learning and growing from this project ministry? Are there measurable goals and criteria for success?

1 2 3 4 5

Comments:

6. Overall, do you feel this program ministry will assist the congregation or group in their missional growth and outreach?

1 2 3 4 5

Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_ We recommend the approval of this grant proposal

\_\_\_\_\_ We do not recommend approving this grant proposal at this time.  
Reason: