



*The First Church of Christ in Mansfield, CT
(Congregational), United Church of Christ
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Grant Policy

First Church of Christ in Mansfield may, from time to time, be eligible for grant funding from public (government) and/or foundation funders. In these cases, a ministry or congregation member interested in applying for grant funding must seek board consensus to apply before working on or submitting any grant application.

A congregational member or ministry team applying for a grant is required to request board consensus in a reasonable time prior to when the grant is due, typically no less than three weeks. If the board is not scheduled to meet, a small group of board members and the pastor may approve going forward with the application, provided that the application 1) does not require matching funds and, 2) is not a reimbursement grant. In those cases, the full board should discuss the potential of submitting an application.

The completed application must be reviewed by the pastor, or small group of board members, and must be signed by the treasurer or clerk before being submitted to a funder.

Procedure

Church members seeking grant funds should consider some questions prior to seeking approval to submit an application. Perhaps the most important question is whether the project for which funds are being requested is important to the church's mission and plans. Other questions may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Can the project for which funds are being sought be completed solely with the grant award or would the church need to contribute additional funds?
- Is a funding match required by the funder? If so, what percentage match is required?
- What, if any, restrictions does the funder have about the use of funds? That is, can the funds be used to cover operating (or overhead such as utilities) as well as program costs?
- Is the funding period (time during which the grant must be spent) enough time for the church to complete the project?
- What are the reporting requirements?