

**PRESBYTERY OF THE PEAKS
DIVISION OF CHURCH DEVELOPMENT
GUIDELINES FOR PARTNERSHIP GRANTS**

IDENTIFICATION OF OVERSIGHT

The Division of Church Development serves a liaison between the Presbytery and individual churches that are requesting Partnership Funds.

Applications for funds are due no later than November 1. They will be reviewed at the January meeting of the Division. A liaison from the Division will meet with the session and/or church representatives prior to any decision about funding. Churches in the process of calling a new pastor can make requests at any time prior to actually calling a pastor.

Partnership Fund Grants are awarded on an annual basis in accordance with the following guidelines:

- a. Proposed uses of requested grant funds.**
- b. Financial need of the individual church**
- c. Number of requests received**
- d. Amount of money requested**
- e. Availability of funds in the Presbytery budget.**

RATIONALE AND LIMITATIONS FOR PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

Presbytery has a responsibility to:

- 1. Help churches secure pastoral leadership.**
- 2. Provide a full range of ministries in their churches and communities**
- 3. Encourage good stewardship of resources**

In planning their annual budgets, churches are encouraged to consider various options in funding their ministry plans. Partnership Grants should be looked at only as one such option, not as a sole source to meet shortfalls in church budgets. Partnership Grants are awarded on an individual basis based on each church's individual needs and the availability of funds.

The maximum annual grant awarded to any individual church is \$4,000.00. **This is a maximum grant award. Actual amounts awarded will be based on the guidelines listed above.**

CHURCH RESPONSIBILITIES

In order to receive a **Partnership Grant**, a church or parish must accept the following responsibilities:

1. Complete a grant application annually
2. Provide a detailed church budget with application.
3. Submit a Covenant of Intent annually to Presbytery. It is expected that total benevolent giving for churches and parishes receiving partnership grants will equal at least 10% of the total annual budget within 5 years of receipt of the first grant received under these revised guidelines.
4. Session and/or church representatives shall meet with Representatives of the Division of Church Development annually.
5. Submit evidence of serious consideration of ways of reducing the amount of grant funds needed each year during the five-year period following an initial grant award.
6. Provide a **complete** disclosure of all the church's financial assets, including checking accounts, savings accounts, stocks bonds, special funds etc., along with any restrictions that might be in place on the use of such funds.
7. Hold an annual audit or financial review and submit a final report to Division of Church Development. *Book of Order-G-3.0205 and G-3.0113 provide guidance for this.*
8. An elder and pastor representative from each church receiving Partnership Grant funds shall attend at least two Presbytery meetings a year.

9. Pastor and at least two elders or other church representatives shall participate in any training or gatherings hosted by the Division of Church Development.

USES OF FUNDS

Partnership Grant funds are to be used either to insure pastoral compensation at the level of Presbytery's minimum salary guidelines or to support specific ministry programs and projects. They are not to be used for capital improvements, repairs, or other non-program-related purposes.

FORMS OF PASTORAL LEADERSHIP

In determining eligibility for Partnership Grants, the following types of pastoral leadership are considered desirable:

1. Solo Pastorate: Full, part-time and tentmaker
2. Clergy couple- shared or separate fields
3. Cooperative and Ecumenical Parishes
4. Seminary Student Pastor
5. Commissioned Ruling Elder for Particular Service (formerly Commissioned Lay Pastors)
6. Stated Supply Pastor

Revised 9/6/2011