

## **FAITH FORMATION DESIGNATED GRANT GUIDELINES**

### **Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Indiana**

#### **Purpose**

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Indiana has set aside funds from the sale of Camp Barbee to help congregations strengthen their capacity for faith formation. The purpose of these funds is to form a partnership between congregations and the region in significant new expressions of ministry that will enable the development of faith communities that are more effectively involved in faith formation. The purpose of these funds is not to support the maintenance of current ministries.

These grants are intended to encourage congregations to take a fresh look at their current ministry, and then enable them to begin new ministries that will help bring renewed vitality to the congregation and beyond. Each congregation seeking a grant will be asked to adopt and show progress toward goals that will help lead the congregation to spiritual growth.

#### **The Commission on Faith Formation**

It is the hope and purpose of the Commission on Faith Formation to resource congregations as well as regional groups/ministries to explore and nurture the many facets of individual and communal faith. What is faith formation? We believe there are six key themes that are important to informing faith in individuals as well as entire communities:

1. Grow in relationship with God our whole lives: individual faith formation.
2. Live as disciples of Jesus at home, work, in the community and in the world.
3. Develop understanding of the Bible.
4. Participate in the Life and Ministries of the Faith community.
5. Engage in service & mission in the world.
6. Deepen spiritual life and practices.

#### **Procedure for Application of The Faith Formation Designated Grant Fund**

1. Requests for grants must be reviewed under the auspices of a regional staff minister and be submitted to the Commission on Faith Formation.
2. Requests should be accompanied by a completed Faith Formation Designated Fund Grant Application Form. A copy of the budget for the proposed initiative must be attached. Proposals/plans must be first approved by the congregation's board. No grant will be made to a congregation not indicating financial support of Disciples Mission Fund.
3. The amount of the grant will be determined by:
  - a. Availability of funds
  - b. A one-time grant not to exceed \$5000
  - c. Only up to 50% of grant may be used for staffing/salary
4. Each congregation or regional group will provide 10% of the total grant awarded as a match to the Faith Formation Grant. (Expenses for the Initiative/Project must equal or exceed the amount requested from the region + the 10% congregational matching funds.)
5. Grants are made on a two-year period. You may reapply for a Faith Formation

Designated Fund grant two years after receipt of a prior grant.

6. A summary of grant use must be provided to the Commission on Faith Formation one year following receipt of funds.
7. Grant applications will be considered two times a year by the Commission on Faith Formation. Deadlines for accepting grants are May 10 and ~~September 10~~ October 10.
8. Stories about your grant can be posted to Twitter or Instagram with the hashtag #CCIFaith. We hope you will share your initiative to inspire and encourage others.

May not be combined with any other Christian Church in Indiana Grant for the same purpose.