**NEW WORSHIPING COMMUNITIES**

**GROWTH GRANT APPLICATION**

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| Date Prepared: Click to Enter Date Application Prepared |
| Name of New Worshiping Community/New Church Development: |
| NWC has Church Change Form (CCF) on File: [ ]  YES [ ]  NO IF YES, PIN #: *Note: NWCs must have a CCF or PIN to receive grants* |
| Date Worshiping Community Created: Click to Enter Date NWC was created | DATE OF INVESTMENT GRANT APPROVAL:Click to Enter Date of Investment Grant Approval |
| NAME OF WORSHIPING COMMUNITY LEADER: |
| NWC MAILING ADDRESS: | NWC EMAIL ADDRESS: |
| NWC CELL # | NWC WEBSITE ADDRESS: |

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| NWC COACH – *Note: NWCs must have a coach prior to receiving an Investment Grant or Growth Grant* |
| NAME: |  |
| EMAIL ADDRESS: | CELL #:  |

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| PC(USA) PARTNER CONGREGATION |
| NAME OF PARTNER CONGREGATION: |
| MAILING ADDRESS: | PIN #: |
| CONTACT PERSON: | TITLE: |
| EMAIL ADDRESS: | CELL # |

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| PRESBYTERY RESPONSIBLE FOR AND IN WHICH THE NWC IS LOCATED |
| NAME OF PRESBYTERY: |
| CONTACT PERSON: | TITLE: |
| EMAIL ADDRESS: | PHONE # |

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| SYNOD |
| NAME OF SYNOD: |
| CONTACT PERSON: | TITLE: |
| EMAIL ADDRESS: | PHONE #  |

The Growth Grant supports and encourages NWCs whose process of faithful discernment has led them to establish a new ministry, responsive to the needs of a new group of people with the ultimate goal of growing a viable, sustainable, Christ-centered, and PC(USA)-related community.

**Grant Funding Amounts:** At least eighteen months after receiving an Investment Grant, a one-time Growth Grant of up to $30,000 is possible. Approval of a Growth Grant is conditioned upon significant progress being made toward meeting the goals and objectives as outlined in the Investment Grant proposal. A dollar-for-dollar match provided through presbytery and/or synod is ordinarily required. In-kind contributions are acceptable, and waivers of the match will be considered on a case-by-case basis, upon request.

**Please answer the following questions:**

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| 1. **Give a summary of your NWC (3-5 sentences).**
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| 1. **What joys and celebrations have taken place since receiving the Investment Grant?**
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| 1. **What concerns does the NWC currently have?**
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| 1. **What have you learned since receiving the Investment Grant? How did you use the Investment Grant funds?**
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| 1. **How has the mission plan been implemented? Be specific about goals achieved and those yet to be met**.
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| 1. **Develop your ongoing Mission Plan.The plan should include appropriate and measurable goals and objectives that address, but are not limited to, the following:**
* **Describe the specific outreach and evangelism plans for being Christ’s body in the community.**
* **Describe the current missionary team, ordained or not, their responsibilities and gifts for ministry.**
* **Provide the appropriate plans regarding attendance and participation in worship and non-worship activities, communication, education, hospitality, leader training and development, location, stewardship, other.**
* **Please include realistic membership, worship and non-worship attendance & participation figures for the term of the grant (See “**[**Starting New Worshiping Communities**](https://pcusa.org/resource/starting-new-worshiping-communities-comprehensive-guide-discerning-and-starting-new-worshiping)**” resource);**
* **Develop an itemized and balanced income and expense *operating* budget for the full grant period. Include income from the NWC, mid councils, the Interim Unified Agency, and other sources. Capital expenses should be displayed separately from the operating budget. Describe how the Interim Unified Agency grant funds will be utilized.**
* **As an expression of connectional stewardship, it is a requirement that at least 5% of a NWC’s operating budget be directed to Basic Mission Support (i.e., mid councils and the Interim Unified Agency). A NWC should also exhibit a clear desire to be generous by committing an additional 5% of their operating budget in support of those outside the worshiping community through local, national and global mission work.**
* **How will you evaluate the effectiveness of your efforts on an ongoing basis? Describe the measures and benchmarks you will use and include how you will adapt if your expectations are not being met.**
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| 1. **For Mid-Councils participating in and giving oversight to this NWC:**

**Please describe how you are maintaining regular contact with the NWC and your plan for continued support to help ensure sustainability in the following areas:*** **Provide a brief evaluation of the status of this NWC.**
* **What arrangements have been made for liability / indemnity insurance for the NWC?**
* **How and where will memberships through baptism be recorded?**
* **How will the mid council oversee the administration of the sacraments?**
* **How will the NWC receive charitable donations, and their donors receive acknowledgement for their gifts?**
* **What is the plan for sustaining leadership and resources in the NWC, such as finances and talent?**
* **How effective is the coach’s work with the NWC leader? How is the link between the NWC coach and the sponsoring presbytery being maintained?**
* **Does the NWC’s long term goal include becoming a contributing member of the larger PC(USA) family?**
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| **Date of Presbytery representative(s) meeting with NWC:** Click to enter date. |

Please list below any funding that the NWC/NCD is providing and funding that is expected from presbytery and/or synod, if any. Please list under “Growth Grant,” the amount **(up to $30,000)** that you are requesting the Office of Mission Program Grants to disburse in support of the NWC. Finally, if another entity is providing resources, please list the amount under “Other” and describe in the “Comments” space below.

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| **New Worshiping Community** | **Presbytery** | **Synod** | **Growth Grant** | **Other** | **Total** |
| $ | $ | $ | $ | $ | $ |
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| Comments: |

This proposal was reviewed and approved by the appropriate mission strategy body of the partner congregation and presbytery. Those giving oversight or providing assistance should date and sign below. Synod review and approval of this proposal is required if the synod provides funding*.*

The Office of Mission Program Grants makes grants in support of ministries that are related to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). If a supported ministry separates from the denomination, the full amount of the grant may become due and payable.

**After obtaining appropriate partner congregation and presbytery approval and signature, e-mail as a single attachment the completed proposal to** **nwcgrants@pcusa.org at the Mission Program Grants office. Disbursements for approved proposals will be made once leadership has started.**

**The following two conditions must be satisfied *prior* to submitting an Investment or Growth Grant proposal for consideration.**

1. The leader must be connected with a coach.
2. The leader should have enrolled in, or have completed participation in the Discerning Missional Leadership (DML) Assessment **AND** one of the following:
	* The 1001 Apprenticeship or Residency programs
	* The 1001 Accelerator program (offered in person and online and in Spanish and in English).

(See attached for guidance with satisfying these conditions.)

***Note: If anyone signing below is a current member of the Interim Unified Agency Board, please inform the Office of Mission Program Grants staff at the email address above.***

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| Signature of Partner Congregation Designee(if applicable) |  | Title |  | Date |
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| Signature of Presbytery Executive, Stated Clerk or Designee |  | Title |  | Date |
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| Signature of Synod Executive or Designee |  | Title |  | Date |

(if applicable)

**Guidelines & Application Instructions for New Worshiping Communities Grants (NWCs)**

These grants are intended to support operating/program expenses such as salary and benefits, insurance, other approved health care expenses, rent, educational materials, etc... These grants are limited to NWCs that are related to the Presbyterian Church (USA), located within the United States and Puerto Rico and were ordinarily established no earlier than five years prior to the date the NWC began. All applications are available on the [website](https://pcusa.org/grants-scholarships).

Applicants may apply for a one-time **Seed Grant** of up to $10,000. Matching funds are not required.

One year after receiving a Seed Grant, an NWC may apply for a one-time **Investment Grant** of up to $30,000. Approval of Investment Grants is conditioned upon real progress being made toward completing the discernment process set forth in “[[Starting New Worshiping Communities](https://pcusa.org/resource/starting-new-worshiping-communities-comprehensive-guide-discerning-and-starting-new-worshiping)](https://pcusa.org/resource/starting-new-worshiping-communities-process-discernment).”

Eighteen months after receiving an Investment Grant, an NWC may apply for a one-time **Growth Grant** of up to $30,000.

Investment and Growth Grants ordinarily require a dollar-for-dollar match provided by the combined contributions of the partner congregation and presbytery and/or synod. In-kind contributions for the match are acceptable. Waivers of the match will be considered upon request and on a case-by-case basis.

For Growth Grants, NWC applicants should clearly demonstrate mission giving beyond the local community, with at least 5% of the annual budget being donated to shared mission giving to the presbytery, synod and/or Interim Unified Agency.

**The following three conditions should be satisfied prior to submitting proposals for consideration.**

1. For all grants it is a requirement for the presbytery Stated Clerk to have completed and submitted the Office of the General Assembly Church Change Form (CCF) on behalf of the NWC/NCD to be supported. For information about this process, please contact OGA.Records@pcusa.org.
2. It is a condition of funding for Investment and Growth Grants that the leader must be connected with a coach. If the NWC does not already have a coach, the 1001 NWCs Ministry has a network of coaches available. For information about starting the process of being connected with a coach, please contact The Rev. Jeff Eddings. His email is jeff.eddings@pcusa.org.
3. a. NWC leaders applying for Investment and Growth Grants should have successfully completed the “Discerning Missional Leadership: A Potential Church Planters Assessment. For more information about Church Planters Assessments, please contact The Rev. Michael Gehrling to schedule your assessment. His email is michael.gehrling@pcusa.org.

b. In addition, NWC leaders applying for Investment and Growth Grants should have successfully completed one of the following:

* The 1001 NWC Apprenticeship Program / the 1001 NWC Residency Program. Please contact the Rev. Sara Hayden to register for either program. Her email is sara.hayden@pcusa.org.
* The 1001 NWC Accelerator Training, offered either in-person, virtually, or in an online cohort in English or Spanish. Please contact Jeya So to reserve your place in one of the scheduled programs or workshops. Her email is jeya.so@pcusa.org.

We offer a **Health Insurance Grant** that provides supplemental funding to in support of an NWC leader who would not otherwise be able to afford health insurance. This annual grant is for up to $3,000 and is renewable twice.

As an expression of connectional stewardship, it is encouraged that grant recipients commit to “paying it forward” to the Extra Commitment Opportunity account found on the [website](https://pcusa.org/donate/102-shared-mission-support). Your support will help provide future funding for the establishment of new congregations, new worshiping communities like yours, and presbyteries that wish to encourage continual congregational transformation. Please help continue this important work.

*A New Worshiping Community is…*

*Brief Definition*

* **New**
	+ Seeking to make and form new disciples of Jesus Christ
	+ Taking on varied forms of church for our changing culture
* **Worshiping**
	+ Gathered by the Spirit to meet Jesus Christ in Word and Sacrament
	+ Sent by the Spirit to join God’s mission for the transformation of the world
* **Community**
	+ Practicing mutual care and accountability
	+ Developing sustainability in leadership and finances

*Long Definition*

* **New**
	+ **Seeking to make and form new disciples of Jesus Christ**

*NWCs witness in word and deed (1 John 3:18), continuing Jesus’ own mission of discipling, feeding, teaching, healing, welcoming, crossing boundaries, and proclaiming God’s coming realm. Those with new and renewed faith join the Spirit’s transforming work in the world.*

* + **Taking on varied forms of church for our changing culture**

*Living out the Gospel demands ministry which engages today’s cultures (John 1:14). New ways of joining Christians together for contextual ministry will use current and historic ways of “being church” as springboards for creative innovation (Matthew 9:17).*

* **Worshiping**
	+ **Gathered by the Spirit to meet Jesus Christ in Word and Sacrament**

*We seek to hear, come to believe, and are equipped to live the promises of God revealed in the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. NWCs welcome new members of the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:27) through Baptism and are nourished by Christ’s spiritual presence in the Lord’s Supper.*

* + **Sent by the Spirit to join God’s mission for the transformation of the world**

*The Spirit impels us outward, so that worshipers participate in the redemption of the world in Christ (Col. 1:20). Therefore, the primary beneficiaries of the NWC are not its own members, but rather its community and world.*

* **Community**
	+ **Practicing mutual care and accountability**

*We commit ourselves to love one another (John 13:34) in relationships of mutual care and accountability, as faithful disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ. Entrusting ourselves and the church to the Holy Spirit, we seek to grow to maturity in faith and life.*

* + **Developing sustainability in leadership and finances**

*As distinct yet connected expressions of the body of Christ, NWCs have local leadership arising from their own community of faith (Exodus 18:21). Pastoral leadership, facilities, and programs are all appropriately structured in order to demonstrate good and faithful stewardship.*

**Responding to Christ’s gift and call, we do all these things only by God’s grace, seeking—above all else—to glorify God through Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.**