The Presbytery of Northern Waters

**Congregational Vitality Fund**

**History**

The Congregational Vitality Fund sets aside net income from the sale of closed church buildings to be made available, by application, to other churches in the presbytery.

**Purpose**

The purpose of this fund is to provide grants for the development or expansion of ministries and mission in local congregations.

**Who may apply**

Church sessions, a consortium of sessions, or session(s) in conjunction with a committee/commission/task force of presbytery.

**Expectations**

It is intended that a grant would be used for expenses beyond regular/general maintenance of a building or program. As with all functions and ministries of a local church, a grant will be under the supervision and authority of the session. A report on the use of the grant will be sent to the presbytery when the funds have been expended.

**How to apply**

Send the session-approved proposal to the Program Strategy Committee of the presbytery, indicating who will be leading the effort and monitoring the intended outcome. Describe the use of the grant in terms of the Marks of Congregational Vitality outlined by the PCUSA General Assembly (attached). Grants may be requested in any amount:

Approval by Program Strategy Committee – up to $5,000

Approval by Presbytery Council – up to $30,000

Approval by Presbytery – greater than $30,000

PCUSA General Assembly

**Marks of Congregational Vitality**

Marks of Congregational Vitality

1. **A commitment to forming disciples over every member’s lifetime.** This leads first to personal transformation, as people put on the heart of Christ, and then to social transformation, as people joyfully go forth into the community and tackle the issues facing today’s culture.
2. **Embracing the call to evangelism.** We show forth the love of Christ by our actions and our lives even more than by our words. Our relationships are genuine and caring. People know we are Christians by our love.
3. **An outward focus.** Our church is not a place to escape from the world, but rather our gateway to our community where we may be the hands, feet, heart, and mouth of Jesus Christ for people who are suffering or marginalized.
4. **Empowering every member** to discover their individual calling and the gifts God has given them so they can go forth and serve.
5. **Spirit-inspired worship** that challenges, teaches, transforms, convicts, and energizes us so when we are sent out, we have experienced the wonder of God and are changed for the better from when we arrived.
6. **Caring relationships** modeled on God’s love. We open our doors and hearts to all people, and we build relationships modeled on God’s love, which leads to genuine reconciliation and peace.
7. **Congregations with healthy systems**. Our mission focuses are clear. There is fiscal responsibility and accountability. We have thoughtful decision-making structures. Our leaders and staff enjoy a sustainable balance of work/rest time.

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Grant Application

Date: Click or tap to enter a date.

Church: Click or tap here to enter text.

Project Leader: Click or tap here to enter text.

Email address: Click or tap here to enter text.

Phone number: Click or tap here to enter text.

Amount requested: $Click or tap here to enter text.

Description: Click or tap here to enter text.

Signatures

Project Leader: Date:

Clerk of Session: Date:

Send this application to: Presbytery of Northern Waters

5203 E 2nd Street

Superior, WI 54880-4363