



2019 UMFF Rev. Dr. Keith Muhleman Ministry Grants

Information for Applicants

Who is the United Methodist Frontier Foundation?

The United Methodist Frontier Foundation has been serving United Methodist Churches since 2005. The Foundation manages and distributes funds, guides churches in raising funds, and provides financially-oriented support and stewardship services for churches in the New York and Upper New York annual conferences as well as for district and conference United Methodist entities. Our core competencies are Fund Management, Stewardship Training, and Planned Giving for Congregations and Individuals. Our investment vehicles follow the United Methodist social principles and provide reasonable returns for reasonable fees.

What does this mean for you?

We assist churches with:

- Financial education & investment management services
- Developing investment policies
- Setting up Endowment Programs
- Stewardship programs that create a culture of generosity
- Feasibility Studies, Capital Campaigns, & Miracle Sundays
- Ministry funding through annual grant process

Please review the information in this document before submitting an application for a Ministry Grant.

If you have questions, please contact, Ellen Knudsen at eknudsen@umff.org

This information is being provided to assist churches considering submitting an application for financial support through the United Methodist Frontier Foundation Ministry Grants Program.

Before beginning the application:

- Talk to the people who are required to sign the application to get their approval for your request. Their signatures are required when the grant is submitted.
- Be sure your grant request fits the purpose of the grant.
- Note the timeline.
- Read the entire application. It must be complete. There are four components to the application. A checklist is provided on the application.

History

- The United Methodist Frontier Foundation Ministry Grants program was created by the Board of Directors in October 2013. Two grants were funded in 2014 at \$5,000 each. It was renamed the UMF FF Rev. Dr. Keith Muhleman Ministry Grants program in 2016 to recognize the commitment and passion of our former President & Executive Director.
- Funding for the Ministry Grants program comes from the Shirley Backus Estate Bequest and the Foundation Board of Directors. The Foundation Board determines the amount of funds available each year.

Purpose

- Grants are awarded through an annual application process.
- Grants are intended to encourage and support creative and vital ministry in the local church.
- Funds may be used to:
 - Promote and/or develop funding for new ministry or existing ministry
 - Start a new ministry
 - Expand an existing ministry
 - Encourage stewardship development
 - Expand resources
 - Reach out to the community to make disciples
- Ministry grants are NOT to be used as:
 - An additional revenue source for the church's operating budget
 - Funding for capital improvements or deferred maintenance.

Goals

- Fund creative and vital ministries in local churches.
- Develop partnerships with churches that strengthen financial viability of the church and its ministries.

UMFF Rev. Dr. Keith Muhleman Ministry Grants

To encourage and support creative and vital ministry in the local church

Grant Process:

- Applications can be found on the Foundation's website umff.org. Choose **Resources** on the **How We Serve** menu item. Or contact contactus@umff.org to request that a copy be emailed to you.
- ***Or go directly to the application by clicking [here](#).***
- Requests must follow the purpose and goals for the Ministry Grants program.
- Applications are received once a year.
- Completed applications must be submitted by 5pm on **Thursday, March 14, 2019**.
 - Applications must be submitted electronically to contactus@umff.org
 - All required information must be included. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
- The total amount available for Grants is \$20,000.
 - \$10,000 for the New York Annual Conference and \$10,000 for the Upper New York Annual Conference.
 - One or more grants will be awarded in each annual conference. The total amount available for each annual conference is \$10,000.
 - Final decisions will be made by the Board of Directors during their spring board meeting.
 - All applicants will be contacted in early May with the result of their application.
- Funding will be considered for a maximum of two consecutive years.
- Applicants may apply again one year after the completion of the second consecutive year of funding.
- A report for the project will be required for those who receive a grant. The due date for the report will be determined by the grants committee. No sooner than one month and no later than one year following receipt of check.
- Applicants are encouraged to secure additional funding from other sources.
- Questions should be directed to contactus@umff.org