

Here is a short list of just a few projects that have received funding from the Wisconsin Conference Catalyst team to date to spark your thinking:

The [Rock County Composer's Lab](http://rockcountycomposerslab.weebly.com/about.html) is an educational program for high school musicians in Janesville who are interested in composing/creating original music. The program introduces a variety of genres, musical cultures and compositional techniques while also supporting the participants to develop their own creative expression. Led by Los Angeles-based, Janesville-born composer [JP Merz](#), the *Composers Lab* combines lectures, group musical exercises, collaborative projects, individual lessons, and mentorship to foster a new generation of composers. Lawrence University's piano-bass-percussion trio, [Else/If Else](#) has agreed to perform each composition in a special concert to honor the 175th Anniversary of Janesville UCC. This unique project represents multiple partners working together – a school district, a Lawrence University Trio, a congregation and a son of the congregation who is now a composer – to mentor and support creative expression among Janesville High School musicians. For more information go to: <http://rockcountycomposerslab.weebly.com/about.html>

Interfaith Ministries Project (Ripon) Ripon College and First Congregational UCC in Ripon collaborate on this project, which provides “Home Away Families” to students attending Ripon College from all over the world. This effort extends radical hospitality to students from a range of cultures and traditions. With funds from a Catalyst Grant they will create inviting, religiously-neutral space in First Congregational UCC's chapel where students will be invited to practice their own religious traditions and gather to study and socialize. Three cross-cultural celebrations are also being planned.



[Among Friends](#) is a friendly, locally-run respite program for older adults with memory loss or physical frailties and their caregivers. For more information about this partnership between First Congregational River Falls and their community, you can read [this story](#) from their first year in operation.



Art, Science, Literacy Camp (Christ Church): This creative summer camp supports science learning and literacy in Milwaukee. Multiple congregations,

including Christ Church in Milwaukee, work together to support this program and to help children learn to read. Want to find out more? Watch [THIS](#) news story from Milwaukee's TMJ4.

Read [THIS insider description](#) of the program from Jim Wick, member of Christ Church and author of the Catalyst Grant Proposal.

Got an idea for developing or expanding a community-based ministry or partnership? Maybe the Catalyst Team can help! The next deadline to apply for a Catalyst Grant is Monday, October 5, 2020. Contact Tisha Brown (tbrown@wcucc.org) for more information.