



***Community Engagement Prophetic Ministry Team Grants
Making Faith Matter through Congregational Empowerment***

In the midst of the ever-changing landscape of ministry in the local setting, the churches that have remained most vital and growing are the congregations most fully embedded in the needs of the community. That makes sense, not because engaged churches make a difference in local communities, but because those are the churches most faithfully living out the call of the gospel. The gospel gives an unequivocal call for churches to be partners with those in need of justice and mercy.

The primary function of our association is to resource, support and strengthen the ministries of our local churches. We do so through providing both professional staff and gifted leaders to assist as needed. We also provide financial support for future and present pastors in their professional development, grant financial gifts to congregations who are involved in mission work, as well as for new and revitalizing congregations. We are blessed, and we are grateful.

Through the work of the Community Engagement Prophetic Ministry Team we partner with, support and strengthen congregations who see a clear call to engage in the community around them. This ministry could come in a variety of forms as identified by the congregation, such as filling an unaddressed need in the larger community, helping community to engage in opioid crisis, in voter registration, in nurturing race relations, in developing a community garden, bringing the arts to those who have no access to it, etc. Such ministries can be carried out even in partnership with other congregations.

Fellowship UCC, Wickliffe ended its faithful ministry in its community and gifted the Western Reserve Association with its church building, property and other assets. We were able to realize a profit from the sale of those assets of \$358,584.36. Today, Western Reserve and Eastern Ohio Associations' Council designates these funds for community engagement grants. Disbursement will be made in the same manner as our other designated funds; a percentage to be withdrawn each year as recommended by the Budget and Finance Committee. Oversight of these funds are the responsibility of the Community Engagement Prophetic Ministry Team. Grants will be offered for one year term renewable up to 3 years.

Applications are to be forwarded to machelle@eoawraucc.org by November 1, 2018. Grants will be disbursed in January 2019.

Application for community engagement grant
Western Reserve Association
Ohio Conference United Church of Christ

Name of organization _____

Address _____

Name and title of Contact person _____

Telephone number _____

Email Address _____

Amount of Funding requested _____

Please share a brief overview of your organization

Describe the community engagement project for which you are requesting funding (include an itemized spending plan for the project)

Please share the identified special need in your larger community to be addressed by the project for which you are requesting funds

Describe the program that will address the special need identified by outlining the project plan. Include staff and material resources needed.

Indicate the number of people you expect to help with this plan in the year for which you are requesting funds.

Share a timeline of the community engagement project

What other ministry projects address these needs in your community?

Signatures _____

Completed application forms should be forwarded to machelle@eoawraucc.org