

Hello Friends in Christ!

I wanted to share an update on our Second Fruits Grants. Our first application season closed on August 15th, and we received over thirty applications across the four granting categories! As I have browsed the applications, I am overjoyed at the creativity in our synod and the desire to love and serve our neighbors. The Spirit is moving, and I'm enormously grateful for the thought, prayer, and discernment that has gone into these applications.

Over the coming weeks, the Second Fruits Discernment Team, comprised of the at-large members of Synod Council, will be evaluating the applications and discerning which ones will be recommended to Synod Council to receive grant funding. Some will receive full funding, some will be offered partial funding, some will be encouraged to reapply in the future, and some will not be funded. Applicants will be notified in early November, and funds will be disbursed mid-November.

Thank you for your prayers during this first cycle. We are learning from this great experience and implementing changes that will hopefully make the next cycle even better. I want to give a special word of appreciation to the Second Fruits Discernment Team. They have wonderfully challenging work ahead of them, and I know they welcome your prayers as they discern these applications.

We look forward to seeing just how the Holy Spirit will work through these grants to impact neighbors, ministries, and leaders in your community, opening new ways for us to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ throughout our synod!

Gratefully,
Pastor Chris
Director for Evangelical Mission – North,
and Synod Minister for Generosity