

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. All requests must be in line with the purposes of the District Board of Missions:

- To give aid in the organization of new congregations; to aid in the location of new churches; to help select and secure future church sites; to aid in building new churches.
- To give aid in financing capital improvements and major maintenance projects.
- To develop and receive recommendations for and give approval to new ministries both within the local church and through other forms of mission that are not functions of traditional congregations.
- To give approval to and funding for programs in the areas of congregational development that enables Church Extension and Mission work.

2. All requests for loans or grants must be within the guidelines of *The Discipline* and in sympathy with the social principles of the United Methodist Church.

3. United Methodist Churches or associated ministries may apply for grants.

4. All applicants will complete a written application and will make a personal presentation to the Board before funds may be granted or loaned.

5. All applications for grants or loans are available online or may be requested from the District Office. They are to be returned to the District Office.

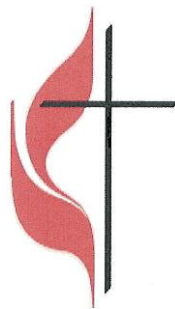
6. The budgeted balance remaining at the time of the presentation determines the maximum amount that can be granted in any single category.

PORT HURON DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Port Huron District of the United Methodist Church is to share Jesus Christ with the people of the Thumb of Michigan through:

- Developing Christian and church leadership skills in the local churches;
- Communicating the policies, projects, concerns and programs of the local congregations of the district and the denomination;
- Linking the leadership and the resource persons in the general church, annual conference, district, and the local churches with congregations and groups in need of those talents and skills;
- Providing celebration and fellowship times for the people of the churches of the district to witness to their victories and challenges in the service of our Lord.

The purpose of the Port Huron District Council on Ministries is to carry out this mission of leadership, communication, linking, and celebration. In so doing, the DCOM will undergird, emphasize, and promote our Wesleyan heritage and tradition by word and deed.



Board Meets Quarterly

Grants and Loans

www.gbmgm-umc.org/port-huron

GRANTS AVAILABLE AND THEIR REQUIREMENTS

Building & Grounds Project Grants

3:1 Challenge Grant

- The Board will grant \$1⁰⁰ for every \$3⁰⁰ of new money raised by the applicant within an agreed amount of time, following grant approval.
- The funds are to be used for physical building projects, excluding debt reduction.
- For this grant a separate account shall be established.
- The funds will be released upon request and verification of matching funds and are to be used within 12 months of approval.
- There will only be a limited number of grants because of budget restrictions.
- Personal presentations shall be made to the Board at any regular meeting.
- Competitive bids are recommended.

Small Projects Grant

- The funds are to be used for building and grounds projects, excluding debt reduction.
- There will only be a limited number of grants because of budget restrictions.
- Personal presentations shall be made to the Board at any regular meeting.
- Competitive bids are recommended.

Technology Grant

- Funds are to be used toward equipment, but are not limited to: sound boards, video, projection equipment, digital cameras, key boards etc.
- Personal presentations shall be made to the Board at any regular meeting.
- Competitive bids are recommended.

New Ministry Grant

- Funds are to be used as seed money for starting new programs.
- Personal presentations shall be made to the Board at any regular meeting.

Special Program Grant

- Funds to provide special assistance for a seminar, workshop or guest speaker.
- The event must provide an open invitation to all churches, clergy and laity in the District.
- Personal presentations shall be made to the Board at any regular meeting.

Continuing Program Grant

- Funds to be used to support ongoing ministry programs.
- Applicants are encouraged to seek additional support from other denominations for ecumenical programs.
- **The deadline for applications for funding the next calendar year is July 1 of the current year.**
- Personal presentations shall be made at the Board's regular April meeting and will include information on how the money was used last year and plans for the current year.

District Youth Service Grant

- The purpose of the grant is to provide financial assistance for groups or individuals participating in a youth service project.
- Personal presentations shall be made to the Board at any regular meeting.

Barrier Free Grant

- Funds are to be used for any project that will make a United Methodist Church facility more accessible to the physically challenged.
- Maximum amount of the grant is \$500⁰⁰.
- Personal presentations are not required.

Exploration Grant

- Funds are to be used for the purpose of gathering information to help a church explore or develop potential areas of ministry.
- Personal presentations shall be made to the Board at any regular meeting.

Extraordinary/Special Needs Grant

- The District Superintendent and the President of the Board of Missions, together, have the authority to approve the use of this discretionary money.
- This is money to be used for severe unexpected emergencies.

Church Development Grant

- Funds to be used to assist churches with development. Examples for the use of these funds include but are not limited to: Resources/Leadership for a Church Visionary Process, Stewardship Campaign Financing, Architectural Fees for building expansion, Redevelopment Workshop/Training costs.
- Local funding must at least match request of grant.
- Personal presentations shall be made to the Board at any regular meeting.

LOAN INFORMATION

The District Board of Missions has money that is available to be loaned to United Methodist Churches. Our funds are limited and are intended to help churches with capital improvements or to be a bridge to a bank loan. No loans are for longer than 5 years, so that we can recycle that money. We set our interest rate at our final meeting of the year for all loans granted in the next year. **2009 Rate: 6½ %**

CONSIDERATIONS

In general, when considering applications for grants or loans, these questions are asked:

- Will our help make a difference in a proposal going ahead?
- Is this a new ministry?
- Does the Board have the resources to make a difference?