

FOTC Grant Guidelines & Application 2022

Purpose of the Future of the Church committee. The Future of the Church (FOTC) committee of the Presbytery of Arkansas serves as a catalyst to engage congregations and Presbytery Ministry Areas in creative thinking and planning beyond current models of ministry and programming. The Future of the Church committee assists with visioning, branding, technology, and development of new ministries and supports new church developments of the Presbytery.

Eligibility and Timeframe. The FOTC is accepting one year proposals from Presbyterian churches within the Presbytery of Arkansas. Completed Application Forms will be received from **February 15-April 15**. The funding year is from August 1 to July 30. Funding may be applied for again, for a total of three years.

Purpose of the Grants. There are two aims of the FOTC grants: (1) supporting congregations in extending their ministries to reach new communities or populations, as well as; (2) encouraging congregational growth, vitality and mission.

Application Guidelines. The following factors are considered although not exclusively in reviewing proposals:

- Potential benefit to the congregation
- Potential benefit to new populations or communities
- Capacity of your organization to achieve the result outlined
- Evidence of a plan for evaluating the project or program
- Potential for sustainability beyond the grant period
- Evidence of cooperation or collaboration with other organizations
- Innovation and creativity of the approach
- Evidence of support for at least one of the 3 prongs of the Matthew 25 Initiative: Building Congregational Vitality; Dismantling Structural Racism; Eradicating Systematic Poverty.

Each request is considered on its own merits. The following requests would generally be denied:

- Support for routine facility improvements, maintenance or upkeep.
- Multi-year proposals
- Projects that are partisan (i.e. favor one political party over another). For example, a project aimed at expanding the child income tax credit which reduces poverty without favoring one party or another, would be considered. A project that sends money to a political party (i.e. GOP, Green Party, Libertarian Party, etc.) to support the issue would not be considered. We will support projects aimed at dismantling structural racism and/or ending systematic poverty that rise above partisan interests.

Selection Process. FOTC reviews proposals based on the guidelines stated above. Generally grants will be in the \$2000-\$5000 range. Notification of grant approval will be made in June with funds distributed in July.

Documentation. The FOTC expects a year end project report so that the grants news can be shared with the Presbytery.

To submit a grant application online, please click [here](#).

Submit to: Carol Clark, Presbytery “Builder”
12706 Meadows Edge Lane
Little Rock AR 72211
or email to: cbclark05@aol.com

Questions? Email: Carol Clark at cbclark05@aol.com or Steven Kurtz, chair of the Future of the Church Committee stevendkurtz@gmail.com. Or call Carol Clark at 501-563-6279.

Section 1: ABOUT YOUR CHURCH

Name of church: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Website: _____

Name of Pastor: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name of Clerk of Session: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name of contact for grant application: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Would you like to receive periodic emails about other grant opportunities? Yes___ No___

Section 2: PROPOSAL INFORMATION

1. Please give a 3-5 sentence summary of the project for which you are requesting funding:
2. Number of people who will be served: _____ Geographic area served: _____
3. List other congregations or organizations with which you will be collaborating or cooperating (briefly, how?):
4. Project start date: _____ Project end date: _____
5. Total budget for the project for which you're requesting funding: _____
6. Dollar amount requested for this grant including an itemized budget: _____

Section 3: PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

1. What specific community and/or church needs does this ministry project address? Or, what potential benefit is this project intended to foster?
2. Where do you see God's call in this project? Tell the story of how your congregation developed this project.
3. Who is this project designed to reach—your own church or a new community or population? If a new population, describe the new group you hope to engage or the new community you hope will grow out of this project.
4. What resources—people, spirit, money, talents-- do you currently have for this ministry project and what further resources do you need?
5. How will you evaluate and share the results of this project and your learnings with the Future of the Church Committee and the Presbytery of Arkansas?

Revised: October 4, 2021