



New Church or Faith Community Exploration Grant Application

The purpose of the exploration grant is to provide seed money for groups to seriously explore opportunities for the development of a New Church or Faith Community within the Mountain Sky Conference. The priority is to create a place for new people to connect that is committed to making disciples of Jesus Christ and:

- *Is theologically Wesleyan*
- *Worships regularly and celebrates the sacraments*
- *Has intentional systems for developing disciples of Jesus*
- *Teaches and practices biblical stewardship*
- *Is missional and works toward community transformation*
- *Receives new members*
- *Will remain connected and accountable to The United Methodist Church (or its successor)*

We are looking for projects which are innovative and missional; reaching people not currently part of a faith community. We value a commitment to Wesleyan theology and our connection. A team approach is essential. We are looking for new churches/faith communities/places that are multi-ethnic, diverse, and strategic. Up to \$5,000 may be made available per project. Applications will be accepted year-round. We will respond to your grant application within 30 days of submission.

Name of Project:

Applicant(s):

Parent/Partner Church:

District/Location:

Contact Person:

Phone:

Email:

Amount of grant request:

Maximum grant is \$5000.

What is the vision for this new church or faith community?

What is the goal and anticipated outcome for the exploration or assessment?

What is the implantation plan and timeline?

What is the budget for how these funds will be spent?

What additional funding sources are you using?

Signature of Applicant(s)

Date

Process:

- Submit application and any supporting documentation to Patti Agnew, Chairperson of the Congregational Vitality Committee, at pattiagnew3@gmail.com. If you have any questions, call Patti at (303)960-5257 or Michael Smith, Superintendent of Congregational and Community Engagement, at msmith@mtnskyumc.org.
- A DS Advisory Form must accompany this request.
- If this request is not submitted by the pastor of the affiliated church, a statement of support must be submitted by the pastor.
- As a condition of receiving an Exploration Grant, the applicant is expected to provide a **written and/or video report** documenting the learning and outcome which resulted from the defined exploration (keeping in mind that failures and unexpected obstacles encountered can be vital steps in achieving eventual successes!). This report should be received **within 45 days of the conclusion** of exploration process. Send to Patti Agnew at pattiagnew3@gmail.com.