

We recruit and develop transformational leaders to make disciples and grow vital
congregations to transform the world.

**Fall Congregational Development Grant Application**

***Why do we exist?***

GNJ exists to recruit and develop transformational leaders so that people and communities experience healing, renewal and wholeness from God. Transformational leaders grow vital congregations who shape passionate disciples of Jesus Christ and share faith, hope and justice in the community.

***What is our commitment?***

GNJ is committed to resource and support congregations and clergy and lay leadership to assess and improve their pathways for disciples to know, grow in, live and share the life of Jesus every day, so that we increase the number of new disciples and vital congregations

***What is a vital congregation?***

A vital congregation is a Holy Spirit-led community of passionate disciples who are working together to grow new disciples, inspiring worship, active small groups, risk taking community mission, and generous giving to mission. (Acts 2:42-47)

***What happens in vital congregations?***

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| **Life-Changing Ministries**  | *Ministries build up the community of faith and transform lives and social conditions in the community and the world.* |
| **Fruitfulness** | *New disciples are being made, more disciples are participating in small groups for learning and faith formation, more disciples are engaging in worship and mission, and disciples are giving generously, particularly to mission.* |
| **Life-Full Stories** | *Stories are shared about changed lives, new disciples and transforming ministry.* |

***How do vital congregations grow?***

* Inspired and inviting worship
* Engaged disciples in mission and outreach
* Gifted, empowered and equipped lay leadership
* Equipped, effective, and inspired clergy leadership
* Faith-formed small group ministries, and
* Strong children and youth ministries.

***What type of disciple does GNJ seek to make?***

We seek disciples that will sit at the feet of Jesus and become life-long learners and followers of Jesus Christ, leaving behind safety and complacency to serve like Christ to save souls, end poverty, be graceful with those at the margins, connect with people who are different from us, and magnify God’s presence in the world. This type of discipleship is encouraged and supported through vital congregations.

***What type of leaders does GNJ seek to develop?***

GNJ seeks to develop Holy Spirit-led servant-leaders who forge a path forward where others do not see the way. A GNJ leader reaches out beyond the walls of the church into the community to transform lives by spreading God’s love, hope and justice and bearing witness to Jesus Christ. (Matthew 23:11, Philippians 4:13)

GNJ leaders are fruitful by growing new disciples, worship, small groups, mission engagement and giving. GNJ will work with and grow leaders to be:

* Fruitful –grow new passionate disciples, inspiring worship, active small groups, risk taking community mission, and generous giving to mission.
* Transformational –lead congregations through missional, cultural and identity change.
* Apostolic –are on a clear mission to create something more than what is. Paul was an apostolic leader who went to places with few or no believers and his leadership transformed the community by generating congregations of passionate disciples.

Because of GNJ leadership, disciples will be even more passionate, congregations will be even more vibrant and fruitful and people and communities will experience healing, renewal and wholeness from God.

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| **GNJ will provide development grants to leaders and congregations that:** * Encourage innovative ministry that connects with people in the community.
* Develop lay and clergy leadership for making disciples and transforming the world.
* Maximize vital congregations.
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**This is a one-year grant program. Consideration for funding in subsequent years will be dependent on implementation of programs, achieving goals for the grant year, timely reporting, active participation in Vital Signs Dashboard and availability of funds. This grant process does not cover requests for capital.**

Grant Cycles: Equitable & Supplemental Salary: July 2019 – June 2020. All other grants: January 2019 to December 2019.

A church or group of churches should only submit one grant application to cover all their grant requests.

The application is designed to be completed electronically. **The application and supporting documents must be submitted in PDF format.** Only applications submitted in this format will be considered. If you need assistance in creating a pdf go to: <http://www.wikihow.com/Convert-a-Microsoft-Word-Document-to-PDF-Format>.

Applications must be received by **October 5, 2018**. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. Submit the following application and address all questions to grants@gnjumc.org

**GNJUMC
Fall 2018 Grant Application** – **Due October 5, 2018**

To input your information, click on the *dark gray* areas within the highlighted areas and begin typing. Please complete all gray highlighted areas. Responses must fit in the box and space provided.

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| Church Name: |       | **Church ID number:** |       |
| Church Address: |       | District:  |       |
| Pastor: |       | Email:  |       |
| Church Council Chair: |       | Email: |       |
| Staff Parish Chair: |       | Email: |       |
| Name of project:  |       | Website:  |       |
| Start date for program:  |       | $ Total Amount being requested |       |

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| 1. Please indicate the type of congregational ministry this request will support. Check all that apply.  | Amount RequestedBreakdown the amounts if applying for more than one area.  |
| [ ]  Starting a new worship service  |       |
| [ ]  Starting or strengthening a children or youth ministry |       |
| [ ]  Starting or strengthening a small group ministry |       |
| [ ]  Starting or strengthening a mission ministry in the community  |       |
| [ ]  Expanding or strengthening another present ministry |       |
| [ ]  Starting, strengthening or expanding a cooperative parish. |       |
| [ ]  Leadership Development |       |
| [ ]  Appointment of an additional clergy person  |       |
| [ ]  Equitable or [ ]  Supplemental Salary |       |
| **Total $ Amount Requested**  |  |

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| **2. Describe the ministry for which you are seeking funding (what, why, who, when, where)**  |
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| **3. How will this project/grant encourage innovative ministry that connects with people in the community?** |
|       |
| **4. How will this project/grant develop lay and clergy leadership for making disciples and transforming the world?** |
|       |
| **5. How will this project/grant help you grow the vitality of your congregation?** |
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| **6. Please list your S.M.A.R.T. goals for the grant year for the ministry program for which you are seeking funding. Make sure to specify how you will measure your success for each goal and evaluate your strategies.** |
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| **7. If you have received grants for this program before, please list the goals of the ministry program you proposed before and share a brief evaluation of the outcomes.** |
|       |
| 8. How will you share your results and learnings with your congregation, and other congregations or groups involved in this ministry? |
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| 9. How is this ministry expected to be sustained in future years? |
|       |
| 10. Use the space below to outline a budget for how you will allocate the requested funds. Include the sources of income that will support the ministry and the expense lines that will be associated with the program. Use only those lines applicable to your program (Income and Expenses amounts should be balanced). |
| INCOME | Amount | EXPENSES | Amount |
| GNJ Fall 2018 Grant (Amount Requested) |  | Clergy Support |
| Local Church Contribution |            | Clergy Salary |       |
| Other Grants |            | Clergy Pension |            |
| Donations |            | Clergy Health |            |
| Fund Raising |            | Clergy Reimbursable Accounts |            |
| Scholarships |            | Ministry Program Expenses |
|       |            |       |            |
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| TOTAL INCOME |  | TOTAL EXPENSES |  |
| Income and Expenses amounts should be balanced. |
| If applicable, please enter the funds you will be requesting to support this initiative in the subsequent years.  |
| Fall 2019 |       |
| Fall 2020 |       |

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| **11. Please provide the following information. If this request is for several churches, add the totals for the congregations and list the combined total for each area.** |
| Please list all the churches included in these totals:  |       |
| VITALITY GOALS |
|  | 2019 | **2020** | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| **Average weekly worship attendance** |       |       |       |       |       |
| **Professions of Faith** |       |       |       |       |       |
| **Number of disciples in small groups** |       |       |       |       |       |
| **Number of disciples engaged in mission** |       |       |       |       |       |
| **Total money spent each year on mission**  |       |       |       |       |       |
| **Total church operational expenses (including staff)** |       |       |       |       |       |
| **12. In addition to your vitality goals, are there additional goals you have for your ministry? If so, please list the top 3.**  |
| **Goal 1:**       |
| **Goal 2:**       |
| **Goal 3:**       |

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| By checking the boxes below, you confirm the following:By checking the boxes below, you confirm the following: DatesDetailsAmount |
| [ ]  Church current YTD Financial Report (Income/Expenses) is attached.  |
| [ ]  Most recent Fund Balance Report is attached. |
| [ ]  We understand that this is a one (1) year grant and that consideration for funding in subsequent years is dependent on:- Implementing our program,- Achieving our goals, - Submitting requested reports on time,- Participating in the \**Vital Signs Dashboard* web reporting, - Submitting an updated application in the next grant cycle,- and availability of funds. \*For more information on the *Vital Signs Dashboard*, visit online: <https://www.gnjumc.org/team-vital/19554-2>  |

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| Date of Submission:  |       |
| Name of person submitting application:  |       |