



Laity Leadership Academy Seed Grant – Sample Form

OVERVIEW

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 a vital congregation?

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?

Life-Changing Ministries	<i>Ministries build up the community of faith and transform lives and social conditions in the community and the world.</i>
Fruitfulness	<i>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.</i>
Life-Full Stories	<i>Stories are shared about changed lives, new disciples and transforming ministry.</i>

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
- Strong children and youth ministries

What type of disciple does GNJ seek to make?

A Holy Spirit-led servant-leader that forges 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



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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.

This seed grant program is offered to teams of lay leaders who have attended the Laity Leadership Academy and completed an action plan to develop a project/initiative in their local church around the areas of worship, small groups, making new disciples and social media communication ministries. Grants amounts will not exceed \$500 and will be allocated based on demonstrated willingness and readiness to grow vital congregations and develop lay leadership. This is a one-year/ one-time grant program.

A church team should only submit one grant application. 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 **December 6, 2019**. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. Submit the following application and address all questions to Beverly Karlovich at bkarlovich@gnjumc.org.

Laity Leadership Academy Grant Application – Due December 6, 2019

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.

Church Name:		Church 4 Digit Number:	
Church Address:		District:	
Pastor:		Email:	
Church Council Chair:		Email:	
Project Contact:		Email:	

Name of Project:		Laity Academy Track (Only check one box)	<input type="checkbox"/> Innovation in Youth Ministry <input type="checkbox"/> Storytelling through Small Groups <input type="checkbox"/> Generosity: Moving from Scarcity to Celebration <input type="checkbox"/> A Closer Walk: A Path to Spiritual Transformation
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Start date for project:		Planned Evaluation Dates:	
<p>List the names of the members of the project’s Planning Team. <i>(Example: Pastor Smith, John Carl (Communications Coordinator), Nancy Caterson (Young Adult volunteer))</i></p>			
<p>Please describe your Project (what, why, who, when, where) <i>Example: Create a webpage and Facebook for your church. With more and more people connecting on Facebook, this will be an effective way for our church to offer connection points and stay in touch with our congregation and the community, promote church events, etc. Our goal is for the page to be fully functional by Easter 2020.</i></p>			
<p>List up to three <u>measurable</u> goals for the project. <i>(Example: Goal 1: Reach 250 “likes” by Easter 2020 Goal 2: Engage 50 people a week through different connection points (inspirational messages, questionnaires, photos, event promotions, etc. by 6/1/2020</i></p>			
Goal 1:			
Goal 2:			
Goal 3:			



List the action steps your team will take to implement the project. Please specify who will be responsible for each step and by when each step is expected to be completed.

Action Steps (Example)	Responsibility	Due Date
1. Recruit Social Media team. 2. Research social media usage using	1) Pastor Smith, John Carl 2) John Carl, Nancy Caterson	1. 12/10/19 2. 1/5/20

How will you evaluate the progress/success of the program?

Example: 1) Number of members and non-members engaged using Facebook Page Analytics; 2) Testimonies from church members and page users.

How will you share your results and learnings with your congregation, and other groups involved in this ministry?

(Example: Evaluation reports, testimonies posted in Facebook, web page and church newsletter).

Use the space below to outline a budget for your project. Income and expenses amounts should be balanced.



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INCOME	Amount	EXPENSES	Amount
GNJ Seed Grant 2019 (Amount Requested)			
Local Church Contribution			
Other Grants			
Donations			
Fund Raising			
Scholarships			
TOTAL INCOME		TOTAL EXPENSES	

By checking the boxes below, you confirm the following:

- This application was reviewed and approved by the pastor and church council.
- Grants will be awarded based on demonstrated willingness and readiness to grow laity leadership and the vitality of your congregation.

Date of Submission:	
Name of person submitting application:	

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 **December 6, 2019**. **Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.** Submit the following application and address all questions to Beverly Karlovich at bkarlovich@gnjumc.org.