

Desert Southwest Conference Board of Church & Society
Peace with Justice Grant Applications
Revised March 2017

As stated on the UMC website, Faith and Good Works have always been intertwined for those of the Methodist faith. Bishop Ken Carder has noted that "From Wesley's time to the present, Methodism has sought to be both a nurturing community and a servant community. Members of Methodist Societies and class meetings met for personal nurture through giving to the poor, visiting the imprisoned, and working for justice and peace in the community. They sought not only to receive the fullness of God's grace for themselves, but they saw themselves as existing 'to reform the nation...and to spread scriptural holiness over the land'".

Our Book of Discipline presents the Social Principles as "the church's prayerful and thoughtful attempt to speak to contemporary issues through a biblical and theological lens, seeking to apply the Christian vision of righteousness to social, economic and political issues".

The United Methodist Board of Church and Society, headquartered in Washington, DC, is the advocacy arm that is tasked with providing "witness and action on issues of human well-being, justice, peace" through education, training and research.

The United Methodist Church's long history of concern for social justice has led to addressing societal ills such as slavery, inhumane prison conditions, and child labor and abuse. Some of these ills still exist, along with others that exist in our world today. Projects that would work toward systemic change in society as a whole by moving beyond the "safety net" provided by mission workers for victims of oppression by society are ones that would fall in the realm of consideration for a Peace with Justice grant.

Peace with Justice funds come from annual special offerings taken by the local church. Grants seek to fund efforts that facilitate social change, in particular local church, cluster church or conference efforts that target policy and systemic injustice.

Applicant Criteria

1. Applications will only be accepted that promote peace and justice ministries and/or support clergy/lay education addressing justice efforts. Applications for mission work do not qualify for Conference Peace with Justice funding.
2. As Peace with Justice funding comes from United Methodist churches, first priority will be given to applications that are Desert Southwest Conference United Methodist local church ministries. Applications from Desert Southwest Conference affiliated organizations can be given consideration and should illustrate the collaboration between the Desert Southwest Conference entity and said organization.

3. Grant awards will generally be approved up to \$1,000.00.
4. Previous grant recipients may apply annually.

Application

1. Name of Ministry
2. Contact Information
 - a. Name
 - b. Church
 - c. Address
 - d. Telephone
 - e. Email address
3. Share an overview of your effort. Please include:
 - a. Definition of the request
 - b. What is the amount of Peace with Justice grant dollars you are applying for?
 - c. Target demographic
 - d. Time line of implementation & completion
 - e. What measures will be used to evaluate success or needed growth
 - f. What is the expected shift in church and society due to your effort?
 - g. Who is your target demographic?
 - h. Projected budget
 - i. Where else are you expecting to receive funding for your efforts?
 - j. If you are partnering with another organization, please explain both the church and the partner organization's respective roles in the project.
4. Please state how the work of your ministry meets 1 or more of the following justice criteria:
 - a. Social Justice: Social justice is defined as "... promoting a just society by challenging injustice and valuing diversity." It exists when "all people share a common humanity and therefore have a right to equitable treatment, support for their human rights, and a fair allocation of community resources." In conditions of social justice, people are "not be discriminated against, nor their welfare and well-being constrained or prejudiced on the basis of gender, sexuality, religion, political affiliations, age, race, belief, disability, location, social class, socioeconomic circumstances, or other characteristic of background or group membership"
<http://gjs.appstate.edu/social-justice-and-human-rights/what-social-justice>

- b. Political Justice: “Political justice refers to the use of ...process for the purpose of gaining (or upholding or enlarging) or limiting (or destroying) political power or influence. It may accompany or confirm political or military action, or it may be a substitute for such action.”
<http://www.encyclopedia.com/doc/1G2-3045000963.html>

- c. Economic Justice: “Economic justice is a component of social justice. It’s a set of moral principles for building economic institutions, the ultimate goal of which is to create an opportunity for each person to create a sufficient material foundation upon which to have a dignified, productive, and creative life beyond economics.”
<http://www.investopedia.com/terms/e/economic-justice.asp?layout=infini&v=5A&orig=1&adtest=5A>

Application Process

1. Applications will be accepted semi-annually. Grants may be submitted for cycle 1, March 1st through May 1st , and for cycle 2, September 1st through November 1st.
2. Please send in an electronic copy of your application to:
Director of Outreach / Conference Board of Church & Society
bfidlin@dscumc.org
3. Only complete applications will be reviewed by the grant awards committee.
4. Notification of grant award status will be shared via email with the applicant.
5. Applicants may be asked to provide additional information or meet with the selection committee.
6. Two reports regarding the results of your efforts are to be submitted to the Conference Board of Church & Society at a 6 month and 12 month increments following the approval of your application. Reports will be received via email to the Director of Outreach:
bfidlin@dscumc.org.