

Presbytery of West Jersey
Church and Society Committee

Peacemaking Grant Guidelines

An annual Peacemaking Offering is taken in many congregations of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The purpose of the Offering is to support peacemaking efforts throughout the Presbyterian Church. Each congregation's offering is divided as follows:

50% enables the Peacemaking Program to provide assistance and resources for congregations and other bodies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.),

25% is given to your presbytery and synod for their peacemaking efforts,

25% is retained by your congregation for support of your own peacemaking ministry.

The following guidelines have been established to help the Church and Society Committee determine how to allocate the 25% of the Peacemaking Offering retained by the Presbytery. Allocation of these funds is the responsibility of the Church and Society Committee and expenditures are subject to an annual review by the Interpretation and Stewardship Committee of the Presbytery.

Guidelines for Grants

1. Funds are available for any peacemaking program or event planned and executed by the Church and Society Committee.
2. Grant requests are encouraged from churches participating in the Peacemaking Offering, including requests for matching fund grants for projects supported by a church's portion of the Peacemaking Offering.
3. Applications for activities to promote peacemaking through travel grants, study scholarships, advocacy grants, and contributions to peacemaking organizations, both Presbyterian and ecumenical, will be considered. Peacemaking activities should be faith-based and nonviolent, and should involve the seeking of justice and/or the reconciling of conflict. It is expected that grant applications will clearly articulate how the requested grant will contribute to peacemaking.
4. Applications for grants should be submitted by the 15th of the month to be considered at the next Church and Society Committee meeting. Application forms are available at the Presbytery office.
5. The following factors will be considered when evaluating grant applications:
 - a. Will the person or organization receiving a grant be available as a future resource for the Church and Society Committee?
 - b. Is the project Presbyterian related? Is it a project supported by a local congregation's Peacemaking Offering? Is it a project emphasized by the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program?