

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL AID 2017

An Update on Our Diocesan Aid Process

The Commission on Mission and Development is in a season of transition, discernment, and hope with our approach to diocesan financial aid to parishes. Over the past few years, the COMD and other parish and diocesan leaders have been working hard on a number of fronts to move towards greater sustainability for our parishes. Thanks to a bold debt-reduction program, 4 parishes are no longer dependent on aid to assist with mortgage payments. Several regional collaboratives and parish partnerships are taking shape, to share resources and ministry effectively. And we've committed to supporting parish revitalization in several key locations with great potential for growth.

During this time of change, we will continue to accept applications for aid using a similar process as in the past. However, in 2017 and beyond, we anticipate that we will be offering less aid to fewer parishes. We encourage parishes seeking aid for 2017 both to apply for the assistance you anticipate needing, and also to begin conversations among your parish leadership about what sustainability and renewal might look like in your context. Please know that Canon Peggy Bean and the members of the [Commission](#) on Mission and Development are available and happy to be resources and conversation partners for you!

Special Note regarding the Spring and Fall ministry grants – they will continue and have given wonderful expressions of ministry and mission throughout the Diocese.

The Due Date for this application is September 15th, 2016. Mission and Development will schedule follow up discussions as this fall.

Requirements if aid is given:

If you can't meet one of these requires please let us know why.

- Your leadership will be prepared to discuss the congregation's ministry review process and provide documentation.
- Your leadership agrees to respond to requirements in a timely fashion.
- If able a team of three or four from the congregation is to participate in the Diocesan Church Development Institute (DCDI) beginning in November 2016. Our weekend cycle is on Saturday/Sunday.
- The Congregation will remain current on assessments, audits or financial reviews and complete parochial report by due date.
- Your leadership is to attend the Leadership training day sponsored by Mission and Development.

The questions in this packet are about building relationships and support for us as a Diocese. We also hope these questions will help the congregation assess where it is in relationship to the mission God has called it to, and to be more intentional in planning and living into that mission. Please answer the following 4 questions in 1 page or less and provide the documentation for question 5.

1. Reason requesting financial aid in 2017? -
2. State the amount of money being requested for 2017.
3. What will the impact be if the project or need is not funded?

4. How are you reviewing your annual operating budget, pledge campaign and exploring new options?
5. **Please include:** Current year budget; Pledge information for 2016; current balance sheet (assets and liabilities including current loans; amount of any large gifts or bequests recently received.

Please answer the following, as they pertain to the congregation in the past 12 months in **two pages only**.

- I. Vision
 - a. What is the congregation's vision and how is it communicated?
 - b. How is it lived out by the congregation?
- II. People (all ages)
 - a. How are people growing in their spiritual life?
 - b. How do people know the vision and mission of the church and live into it? .
- III. Dynamics
 - a. How are you building community?
 - b. How are new members incorporated?
 - c. How are differences managed?
- IV. Structures and Processes
 - a. Describe your review process for ministries and goals.
 - b. Who was involved in applying for aid and what process did you use in filling out the application?
- V. Leadership
 - a. How is the vestry/Bishop's Committee involved in the oversight of the congregation?
 - b. How does the vestry set direction?
 - c. How do leaders stay engaged with the congregation?
- VI. Environment
 - a. If you were to walk/drive around your neighborhood what kind of people and issues would you see?
 - b. What would your neighborhood miss if your church was no longer there? .

Steps to take when applying for financial aid:

- Be sure that you have read the requirements for receiving aid and are committed to conforming to these requirements.
- Email completed application by Sept. 15, 2016 to Peggy Bean bean@diomil.org
- Completed application consists of: answers to questions 1-4 in one page or less and documentation asked for in question 5; and completed in two pages or less questions I – VI.
- If you have any questions please contact Peggy Bean, Canon for Congregations at 414-272-3028 or email bean@diomil.org

Aid from Mission and Development is to support the ministry of congregations of the Diocese as they strategically live out their baptismal mission.
Monetary disbursement is monthly beginning in January 2017.

Commission on Mission Development: the Rev. Bob Lambert, Mr. Henry Peters, the Rev. Miranda Hassett, , the Rev. Matthew Buterbaugh, the Rev. Joel Prather, Mrs. Alice Mirk , and Canon Peggy Bean