

**Synod of the Northeast**  
**Emerging Gospel Communities Grant Criteria Checklist**

Grant Maximum = \$20,000 per year for 2 years (\$40,000 total). Applicants must reapply for 2nd year funding.

**The Emerging Gospel Community described by the applicant:**

- Represents a new or developing (in its first several years of existence) gathering of people.
- Builds ongoing relationships between participants.
- Centers on a shared interest in and commitment to the teaching of Jesus.

***Criteria related to Innovation***

**This Emerging Gospel Community application describes a project that:**

- Is truly creative, innovative, and entrepreneurial.
- Mobilizes the Presbyterian community to engage with its neighbors and the needs of the world in a way that will bring a fresh experience of Christ's love to both the local and Presbyterian communities.
- Exhibits an experimental edge that will provide a source of learning both for those living it out and the larger Synod community.

***Criteria related to Leadership and Partnerships***

**This Emerging Gospel Community application describes a project that:**

- Is led by a team or teams of people responsible for the flourishing of the project.
- Focuses on developing strong partnerships in support of the project.
- Fosters connections within the broader community.
- Maintains a solid connection to the Presbytery in which it is present.

***Criteria related to Synod Values***

**This Emerging Gospel Community application describes a project that:**

*Community*

- Draws people into meaningful relationships with one another.

*Approved June 8, 2021*

### *Diversity & Inclusion*

- Helps bridge difference and promotes greater understanding between people.

### *Missional Identity*

- Addresses real needs in the community and world with the hope, care, and love of Jesus Christ.

### *Partnership*

- Shares commitments with the Synod's work to promote justice and vitality within our region and world.

### ***Criteria related to the Budget/Financials***

#### **This Emerging Gospel Community Grant application's financials provide:**

- A clear explanation of the financial components of the project.
- A snapshot of the funding sources for the project that demonstrates a diversity of funding sources (not reliant on Synod funds alone).
- A description of how Synod funds will be used to support the project.
- (For Year 2 applications) A plan for financial sustainability after Emerging Gospel Community grant funds are exhausted.

**Red Flags** - Checks in the boxes below will require conversation between the applicant and the Synod's Mission Working Group for additional discernment/clarity.

#### **This application:**

- Centers on the work of one inspiring individual rather than a strong core team of participants.
- Seeks funding for ongoing staff salaries.
- Seeks funding for building projects intended to attract/begin a ministry ("if we build it, they will come") as opposed to a building project that enhances or clears impediments to an already flourishing ministry?