

Grant Application

One More Question is an initiative of the Arkansas Conference of the United Methodist Church that invites local congregations to get to know their neighbors and communities better so that they can partner in building stronger communities through relationships. We are seeking innovative and creative ideas!

Who May Apply

ARUMC churches that worship an average of fewer than 200 people on Sunday AND

- OR have attended an OMQ Regional Training,
- OR have attended the Lights of Arkansas Training,
- OR are currently participating in or have completed the Lights of AR Cohort,
- OR have completed a Jumpstart Neighboring Experiment Zoom Cohort,
- OR have completed the Good Neighbor Worship or Small Group Experience Series.

Maximum Amount to be awarded: \$750

Please be mindful that over 400 churches could apply for a limited number of funds. Any funds that the local church, individuals, or the community can employ toward the total cost of the ministry or program would allow us to serve more churches.

Grant applications will be considered that request support for

- 1) Activities that seek input from church neighbors and the community as the local congregation discerns outreach ministry design or redesigns. Such activities include community-asset mapping, neighborhood surveys (formal or informal), community meals to ask questions needed for discernment, etc.
- 2) Outreach opportunities designed to build relationships with their church neighbors and community, such as block parties, neighborhood gatherings, and special opportunities that also show continuous, regular connection with those in the neighborhood. Designs must show how follow-up to connections made at these events will occur.
- 3) Ministries designed WITH church neighbors and the community, such as Neighborhood clean-up, community organizing, and others that include the neighbors or the community in the implementation.
- 4) Outreach ideas that are developed through trainings or cohort experiences.

Important Note: Grant applications that seek funds for online worship technology or ministries that meet the 200,000 More Reasons grant application guidelines will not be considered. Feeding ministry redesigns to be more relational may be submitted, though requests for support of food to be distributed will not be considered. For clarification, please contact Mary Lewis Dassinger (mdassinger@arumc.org) or Samantha Menley (Samantha.menley@arumc.org).

If funds are granted, awardees will not only submit a written report describing use of the funds and the implementation of the event/program but also attend at least 1 zoom meeting with ARUMC staff to share learning and best practices with other awardees.

Applying:

- 1) Complete the application after reading the above carefully.
- 2) Applications may be submitted at any time after completing one of the required learning opportunities listed above. This is an ongoing, open application process. Once the money set aside for grants is used, the application process will close. Award notice will be made within 4-6 weeks after applying.
- 3) The online application system does not save or allow you to go back and edit your work. Consider typing the answers to each question in a permanent document and copying it into the online application. Online submissions are preferred since other formats must be entered by hand by staff.
- 4) If you are not able to complete this form online, download the <u>PDF Form</u>. Return via email or mail to: Mary Lewis Dassinger, ARUMC Staff, 33 Saint Andrews Drive, Little Rock, AR 72212, <u>mdassinger@arumc.org</u>.
- 5) For applications submitted correctly through the online application system, an auto-generated email acknowledging receipt from <u>Wufoo should be in your email inbox immediately</u>. Check your spam/junk folder. If it is not received, then it was not submitted correctly.
- 6) For paper or emailed applications, please allow 5 days for an email acknowledging receipt from mdassinger@arumc.org. If you have not received an email in your inbox, junk, or spam folders after this time, please call Mary Lewis Dassinger at (501) 425-9049.
- 7) Email is required. Award and report communications will be made via email only.
- 8) Review reporting requirements PRIOR to ministry implementation. Photo/Video or other documentation is requested.

Online form on website preferred.

Please answer the following. Supporting documents may be included with the grant application.

- 1. Briefly describe your church and neighborhood. Include size, Rural/Urban, Ethnic/White, experiencing disaffiliation, or loss of membership. Who are your church neighbors? How do they perceive or connect with your church?
- 2. Describe your outreach ministry, program, or event. Include all design elements, giving reviewers a clear picture. Include time/place; who will participate; how you will announce/invite participants if relevant; and any other details that give clarity. (Answer who, what, when, where, and how!) Note that subsequent contact with those you meet is expected. Please indicate ideas or plans you anticipate as follow-up.
- 3. Describe your intentions, goals or hopes for this outreach ministry/event/program. If this is an event that allows you to learn more about your neighbors, describe your intentions for continued follow-up and connections. If this is, for example, for community asset-mapping with your community, how will you use the information? What are your goals and objectives if you are implementing a ministry WITH your neighbors?

- 4. If this application is for a current ministry, explain the design changes you intend to implement to make it more relational. If it is new, please indicate so.
- 5. Provide a total budget for the ministry/event/program. Include expenses (name/type) and estimated amounts/costs. What percent of the total budgeted cost of your ministry does this grant request cover?

Example: Budget for a Church Neighborhood Block Party **Printing Invitations** \$100 Food for Guests \$500 Decorative supplies \$ 50 \$500 Blow Up Rentals \$ 20 Printing Guest Cards/Survey Questions Total \$1,170 Amount Requested \$ 650 % of Total Budget 37%

- 6. Provide a budget narrative. Describe your financial need and clarify/explain any budgeted costs for reviewers. If this grant award will meet specific budget items, indicate which one(s). What partners or other financial resources do you have?
- 7. Does this ministry involve other local United Methodist church(es)? If so, which ones, and what are the respective roles for each?