

Bridgeton Fund Grant Application 2017 Explanatory Notes

The Bridgeton Christian Church Fund is an endowment created by the former Bridgeton Christian Church when it closed in 1995. The fund is invested with the Christian Church Foundation. No more than 5% of the previous year-end's closing balance in the fund may be awarded in any year in order to keep the fund in perpetuity.

Purpose of the fund, as stipulated by the congregation, is three-fold:

- ❖ To meet monetary shortfalls due to unexpected strife in a church;
- ❖ To help a church underwrite "revitalization/renewal" of its congregation;
- ❖ To help meet property/structural damage caused by an act of God or other circumstances and not caused by neglect.

Guidelines stipulate that the Fund shall be used to meet a church's temporary financial need, as long as the need was not created by "overextension of a budget or repetitive under-funding of a budget by the congregation".

Any Mid-America congregation may apply for a 2017 grant. The committee will review applications to determine whether they meet the fund's requirements.

The committee will meet in late January to determine whether the year-ending balance in the fund warrants grants without jeopardizing the growth of the fund as stipulated by the donors. This year, funds are also being designated for a Region-wide revitalization effort. This will reduce the amount of funds available to individual congregations for specific projects.

Completed applications are due to the Southeast Gateway office by January 31, 2017.

Bridgeton Fund Grant Application 2017

Name of Church _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ Fax Number _____

Person Filing Application _____ Phone (H) _____

Position in Church _____ Phone (W) _____

Date of Application _____ Period for Which Funds Are To Be Used _____

Please describe the nature of the circumstances, which prompts this request, and describe your church's temporary need: (additional space may be used)

Describe your plans for resolving this situation: (additional space may be used)

What is the total annual budget of the church for 2016? _____ (Please enclose a copy of the 2016 & 2017 Church Budgets)

What is the total anticipated annual budget of the church for 2017? _____
(Attach a separate sheet showing sources of income beyond pledged giving)

What is the amount and what are the stipulations on any permanent funds to which the church has access?

What is the present level of indebtedness of the Church and to whom is this debt owed?

What is the participating membership of the congregation on 12/1/16? _____

What was the average attendance in Sunday school through December for 2016? _____

What was the average attendance in worship through December for 2016? _____

What is the current salary of your pastor? _____ What is the current total salary package being paid to your pastor? _____ (If more than one staff, please separate)

Our pastor is ____ full time/ ____ part time (check one). If part time, please indicate the number of hours per week salaried.

The guiding principles state that funds can be used to meet a temporary financial need. **A written plan of action to resolve or alleviate the problem must accompany the application form.** The plan shall include: **a)** a definition of the problem; **b)** the duration the funds are needed; and **c)** planned distribution of the funds. [This is in addition to the above information] A report of the use of all the funds distributed must be made in the next calendar year and any funds not used within two calendar years must be returned. Funds are to be given out only when there is a reasonable degree of certainty of success of the church's written plan. Funds are only allotted to SEGA congregations.

Additional supporting documents which may help clarify the need, plan of action or history of the congregation are welcomed.

Please send all data together in one packet, **no later than January 31, 2017**, to:

smoore@eden.edu

OR

(314) 918-2529 (fax)

OR

Southeast Gateway Office of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Mid-America
Attn: Bridgeton Fund Application
475 East Lockwood Ave
St Louis, MO 63119

AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$ _____