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?