

For such a time
as this



Metropolitan New York Synod Leadership Development Grant Application and Guide to Planning Your Lifelong Learning

Application Deadlines are: February 15, May 15, August 15, and November 15

As a part of the Gathered Strategy area of our synodical strategic plan, we are focusing on leadership, particularly recruiting, equipping and supporting pastors and rostered and non-rostered lay leaders. We look forward to accompanying you on the journey of strengthening our ministries, making meaningful connections and growing deeper in our relationship with Christ.

Programs of continuing education and formation help our leaders serve more effectively and confidently in this particular season of mission. The Leadership Development Grant provides a special focus on supporting programs that will specifically nurture education, training and formation for leadership skills and qualities that complement the aims of the Claimed, Gathered, and Sent Strategies.

A total of up to \$100,000 in grants may be authorized each year by the Synod Council. Currently we are offering:

- Individual grants of up to \$3,000
- Group grants up to \$7,500

It is expected that additional funds will be committed by the applicant and the sponsoring ministry. Grant recipients will be asked to give record of pertinent receipts, a two-page report summarizing how this contributed to ongoing leader formation, and, for group events, registration lists, event materials, and publicity materials that recognize the MNYS as a shared sponsor. This application will help us along in that journey – showing how we can provide unified support for each other as the Body of Christ.

Go to "File", then "Save as" and name your file, then type your answers to all questions and submit this application to grants@mnys.org. Questions? Contact Sue Brandt at grants@mnys.org or (212) 870-2378.

Applicant Information

Is this grant application for an individual or a group? Individual Group

Name of Individual or Group Coordinator: _____

Address: _____ City/Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Rostered Status: Pastor Associate in Ministry Synodical Deacon Diaconal Minister Deaconess

Call Status: Congregational Call Call to Specialized Ministry Interim Ministry On Leave from Call Study Leave
or

Lay Leader Status: Church Staff Ministry Staff Synod Staff Seminary Student

Congregational Officer Congregational Servant Leader

Congregation or Ministry Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Address: _____ City/Zip Code: _____

Name of Pastor (if other than applicant): _____

Has your congregation's most recent Annual Report Form (Parochial Report) been filed? Yes No N/A

Has your congregation's most recent Mission Support Commitment Form been filed? Yes No N/A

Has the most recent Annual Report to the Bishop from rostered leaders been filed? Yes No N/A

If the answer to any of these three questions is "No", please stop here and complete them as required.



Please describe the nature of the proposed training, formation, or education program.

Please describe how you believe this meets the goals and challenges of ministry in your current environment. How do you believe this opportunity will enhance your ministry skills for leading the church's mission into the future?

Indicate the amount you are requesting, outlining the overall program and other sources of support (for example, congregational continuing education funds and personal assets you are committing).

Please list books and other materials you are reading or anticipate reading to support you in your study.



ONGOING FORMATION FOR MINISTRY

A Guide to Planning Your Lifelong Learning

For Such a Time as This

God isn't finished with you yet! Seminary and other forms of preparation for leadership in our church cannot possibly accomplish everything needed to form leaders for mission and ministry today, especially in a world and church that are both changing so rapidly.

Here is a tool that you are encouraged to use to help you see the big picture of what God is up to in your life, as God continues to equip you for ministry for the sake of the world. Use this resource to take a step back to do some holy daydreaming about your life and vocation – what might the Spirit be prompting you to consider for your lifelong learning and formation?

Areas of focus below follow the categories of **The Wholeness Wheel** of Portico Benefit Services, acknowledging that our holistic formation for ministry involves every dimension of our lives.

You can use this form to write a plan for your ongoing formation for ministry. You are encouraged to fill this out for your own use and also for sharing with your Mutual Ministry Committee in your local ministry setting, if you are a rostered leader.

Resources for your further discernment concerning plans for lifelong-learning and ongoing formation for ministry:

- **Vision and Expectations**
- **Qualities for Leadership in Public Ministry** (Metropolitan New York Synod)
- **Rostered Leaders Profile: Listing of Competencies and Skills**

Studied and prayerful review of these additional resources may reveal gaps in your education and formation which you may want to fill for our mission in the 21st century. Such review may also reveal your attractions and desires concerning your continuing education.

THE WHOLENESS WHEEL



Portico Benefit Services' wholeness wheel emblems are trademarks of Portico Benefit Services (U.S. Patent and Trademark SN 86/238,971, 86/252,356, 86/257,977). Certificate of registration numbers: 4,637,260; 4,637,258; 4,637,259; 4,636,828.

Take some time to enjoy visioning and discerning the ways God is still at work equipping you for life and ministry!

Name _____

Spiritual Well-Being – In Baptism a New Creation in Christ

In what continuing, renewed and/or new ways do you plan to attend to your spiritual life, living diligently and deeply in the means of grace?

For example: seeking a relationship with a spiritual director; going on retreat; creating a rule of life; nurturing a more active personal prayer life; joining a pastors' support and accountability group; seeking out new opportunities to experience the means of grace.

Intellectual Well-Being

In what continuing, renewed and/or new ways do you plan to attend to your ongoing intellectual formation?

For example: keeping current with theological and non-theological reading; pursuing a Leadership Development Grant application with our synod to participate in continuing education events and programs locally or further afield; taking a course; pursuing an additional degree.

Vocational Well-Being

In what continuing, renewed and/or new ways do you plan to attend to your further professional development?

For example: seeking occasions for active discernment to fine-tune your sense of call; establishing a relationship with a vocational coach; pursuing training in and/or a degree or certification for specialized ministry; attending continuing education events locally or further afield.

Physical Well-Being

In what continuing, renewed and/or new ways do you plan to nurture the health, strength, and vitality of your body?

For example: being proactive in giving appropriate attention to your diet, hydration, exercise, rest, and your physical/medical health.

Emotional Well-Being

In what continuing, renewed and/or new ways do you plan to nurture your emotional health?

For example: as a way of being proactive about your emotional health, seeking a relationship with a counselor or therapist; joining a support group of one kind or another; making the most of trusted friendships; taking the time and making room for discerning how you actually feel about your life now.

Social-Interpersonal Well-Being

In what continuing, renewed and/or new ways do you plan to nurture your relationships with family members, church members, friends, colleagues, neighbors?

For example: among your many relationships with family members, friends, neighbors, colleagues, ministry setting members, et al., discerning who may need greater attention; seeking ways of deepening the bonds of affection with those in your life; attending to occasions for play in your life.

Financial Well-Being

In what continuing, renewed and/or new ways do you plan to nurture faithful stewardship of your financial

For example: giving attention to financial planning and help through resources from Portico Benefit Services and other entities; fine-tuning your savings plan; attending to debt management; engaging in further discernment about your investment strategies, that they are in keeping with your values.

Signatures and Submitting

After completing all questions make sure to do a final "Save" and "Print" a hard copy for your files!

Electronic signatures: Click the arrow in the signature box and follow the instructions given. Have the person approving your application do the same. Then email your electronically signed application and any supporting documents to grants@mnys.org.

Application submitted by:

Approval by: Congregation or Ministry Officer
(Conference Dean for group grants)

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

THE PROCESS: Following the due date the Leadership Development Grant Review Team will meet to discuss the applications received. The Review Team presents their recommendations to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee decides whether or not to forward the Review Team's recommendations about applicants to the Synod Council for ultimate approval. Depending on scheduled meeting dates this process can take a couple months so PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION MONTHS IN ADVANCE.

With questions regarding the application or application process please contact Sue Brandt at grants@mnys.org or (212) 870-2378.

With questions regarding continuing education and formation please contact Jonathan Linman at jlinman@mnys.org or (212) 870-2374.



Metropolitan New York Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.