

## Emerging Mission Funds Available

Calling all visionaries! Calling those with big ideas for serving Christ in our community in life-transforming ways!

The merger agreement between First United Methodist and Christ United Methodist called for 10% of the proceeds from the sale of the CUMC property to be set aside for funding “emerging missions.” The task of defining “emerging missions,” developing funding criteria and outlining an application procedure was assigned to the FUMC Missions Committee earlier this year. Grant cycles are as follows:

Cycle 1: March 1 through June 2 with grant determination in July

Cycle 2: September 1 through December 2 with grant determination in January.

The purpose of these funds is to facilitate and encourage transformational ministry and bold hospitality! It is the Missions Committee’s desire to empower and equip groups and/or individuals within or outside our congregation to reach into our local community and beyond with hands-on ministry outside the walls of the church.

The Emerging Mission Funds are not intended to provide support for the church budget nor for regular church operating expenses. The Emerging Missions funds also are not intended to support disaster relief that would typically fall under the umbrella of UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief).

Applications should support one or more of the following FUMC mission goals:

- 1) Make disciples of Jesus Christ
- 2) Alleviate human suffering
- 3) Engage in ministry and relationship with the poor.

While support for an existing ministry would not be ruled out, priority will be given to “emerging” – that is, new or expanding – ministries. Efforts that provide opportunities for people to be *directly* involved in outreach and ministry are preferred. In keeping with the vision of FUMC, emerging missions should be culturally sensitive and inclusive.

All applications and support materials will be reviewed by the Emerging Missions Fund Committee, which is a subset of Missions Committee members. Multi-year projects will be considered, although funds will be granted one year at a time. Great ideas will come in all sizes, and no idea is too big to explore!

1. As a general guideline (not a hard and fast rule), funding will be limited to \$10K per year.
2. If you have a GIANT proposal, please break your proposal into steps requiring no more than \$10K per year.

**Interested participants should contact Pat Bowling to obtain a grant application and guidelines: [pnbowling@aol.com](mailto:pnbowling@aol.com).**