Section I: RLC Church Grants

What RLC Grants for Churches monies will support...

For building renovation and repair, or for new construction, the RLC Committee looks for clear evidence of creative fund raising on the part of individuals and congregations to help meet project costs. Church buildings are often landmarks or historic places in Maine towns, and non-church community members and organizations (in addition to outside foundations) are often willing to share in the cost of their preservation. Also, church facilities are often used by non-church individuals and organizations who may be able to help with funding these projects.

In addition, the RLC Committee is often able to help with the cost of new programs or services – or with expansion of existing services – within a local church. It can assist individual churches with programs or events that also benefit other local churches. The Committee can aid in the development of new congregations, provide emergency funds to local churches, and help pay for a crisis counselor to assist a local church with conflict resolution.

For example:

- Expand existing services within the church

- Aid development of new ministry programs

- Provide emergency funds for churches

- Provide services of a crisis counselor for local church conflict resolution

RLC Grant Application Process for Churches:

- Awards are granted by a majority vote of the Resourcing the Local Church Committee, which is made up of seven people, both laity and clergy, one representative elected by each Association in the Maine Conference and a Conference Minister that serves as an ex-officio member.

- Applicant will be notified of the RLC Committee's decision within one week of the meeting.

- Grants are typically paid by the Conference Business Office upon receipt of either invoices or receipts from Grantee. Payment cannot be made based on estimates.

- Grants must be disbursed six months from the date Grantee receives written approval from RLC. Grantee may request additional time if necessary.

- The **Resourcing the Local Church Committee** usually meets three or four times per year, although additional meetings can be arranged for urgent applications.

- Deadline for applications are **January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1** each year.

- Assure the project falls with the guidelines of the grant.

- Determine what other funding sources have been accessed (secured)

- Look at all possible options before deciding to do the project

- Provide a one page description of the planned project. Include information on other options that were considered when deciding how to accomplish the project.

- Provide a copy of the church's current financial budget and a year-to-date statement of income and expenses.

- For construction, renovation or repair projects provide a written estimate from the business or individual who will complete the work. If possible provide pictures of the areas of the planned work.

- Complete the RLC Church Grant Application.

- Return the completed grant application to:
  > Resourcing the Local Church Committee
  > Maine Conference UCC
  > 337 State Street, Suite 3
  > Augusta, ME 04330-6122

- Following notification of acceptance of the application and completion of the project, submit invoices or receipts for the completed work to the Maine Conference business office.
  > Maine Conference UCC
  > 337 State Street, Suite 3
  > Augusta, ME 04330-6122

- Projects must be completed within 6 months of the grant's approval. Funds not utilized within 6 months tie up much needed funds that could be used to serve other churches within the Maine Conference.

- Grantees must inform the RLC Committee of any delays or extenuating circumstances so appropriate action can be taken.

- Grantees are to report to RLC after expenditure of grant funds.

RLC Church Grant

Date _____

Church Name _____

Street/ PO Box _____

Town _____ ZIP _____

Phone(s) _____ Cell _____ Email _____

Contact Person: _____

Position (check one):   Pastor [ ]   Lay Leader [ ]   Other [ ]

Church Membership _____ Average Sunday Worship Attendance _____

Please share the approximate percentage of those attending your church on an average Sunday

Children _____ Youth _____ Young Adults _____ Middle Aged Adults _____ Elderly Adults _____

Name of Project _____

Has your church applied for an RLC Grant before (check one): Yes [ ] No [ ]

When _____ Was your previous request granted (check one):   Yes [ ]   No [ ]

What is the status of the previous project? _____

Anticipated Date of Program/Project_____

Your Church's Contribution $_____ Other Resources $_____

Amount Requested from Committee $ _____ Total Cost $ _____

Please Sign Below

Applicant_____   _____
             (Print Name)   (Signature)

Pastor _____   _____
             (Print Name)   (Signature)

The following information <u>must</u> be included with your application to assist the Resourcing the Local Church Committee in evaluating your project.
1. A written description of this request consisting of not more than **one** page. **Include** information on how the program will **benefit** your church and **contribute** to future ministries.
2. A copy of your church's **current fiscal year** budget, and a year-to-**date statement** of total income and expenses.

3. Written estimates from the businesses or individuals that will be completing the work.
4. If possible, please include pictures of the areas of the planned work.

Additional Requirements and Information:

- The **Resourcing the Local Church Committee** usually meets three or four times per year, although additional meetings can be arranged for urgent applications.

- Deadline for applications are **January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1** each year.

Return your completed application to:

Resourcing the Local Church Committee
Maine Conference UCC
337 State Street, Suite 3
Augusta, ME 04330-6122

Conference Phone: 207-622-3100
March 14, 2022Conference Fax: 207-622-3102
E-mail: conference@maineucc.org

For more information about the types of programs and projects RLC Grants will fund,
you can request a copy of the **RLC Brochure** or
Contact the Maine Conference office or take a look at Resourcing the Local Church on
the conference website: https://www.maineucc.org.