

**Applications can be done online see  
the links and instructions below:**

### LINKS

FOR CONFERENCE ENDORSEMENT

[www.ucc.org/confendorse](http://www.ucc.org/confendorse)

RENEWING CHURCH ONLINE APPLICATION

[www.ucc.org/renewing](http://www.ucc.org/renewing)

NEW CHURCH ONLINE APPLICATION

[www.ucc.org/new](http://www.ucc.org/new)

CHURCH MULTIPLICATION APPLICATION

[www.ucc.org/multiplying](http://www.ucc.org/multiplying)

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING APPLICATION

*(Very important to follow these instructions)*

1. Print out the application in advance to review and answer questions.
2. Use any word processing software to answer your questions and then paste the answers into the document .
3. Fill out the whole survey at one time. Unfortunately you cannot save information and come back to it.
4. Fill in any box for a question that cannot be answered or any question that is not applicable with the letters 'NA'. (All boxes should be completed).
5. If you don't know your UCC church ID # we will fill in or provide you with an ID#.
6. After you have completed application, please select the Submit Survey button.

We are excited to be in partnership in ministry with so many congregations and look forward to our continued commitment to God's realm in sharing the Good News with all God's people.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information or questions about applications, please contact Ms. Gloria Otis at [otisg@ucc.org](mailto:otisg@ucc.org) or call her at (216) 736-3875.

For other information about the funding process, please contact Rev. Pérsida Rivera-Méndez at [riverap@ucc.org](mailto:riverap@ucc.org) or call (216) 736-3813.

## FUNDING FOR NEW & RENEWING CHURCHES

### Local Church Ministries

**New & Renewing Churches Endowment Fund**



700 Prospect Ave, East  
Cleveland OH 44115

Phone: 866-822-8224 (toll free)

[www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org)

**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**



## New & Renewing Churches Endowment Funds Purpose:

To provide assistance to **NEW** churches to support pastoral leadership, providing seed monies for programs that will enhance their ministry for growth in membership and stewardship. Funds can provide for other areas of leadership for new congregation in its infancy to move the church into a sustainable congregation for the future. . .

For **RENEWING** congregations, the endowment fund can be used for programs that will assist in the growth of their membership and stewardship. The funding will help provide seed money for a specific ministry that will produce growth, leadership and create new ministries that will encourage members to participate in the life of the congregation with a deeper commitment to the mission and vision of the church.

## Who Can Apply?

Any United Church of Christ congregation can apply that has been identified by their Conference as a new church start or a renewing congregation.

All applications require Conference Endorsement and the endorsement needs to be in the National Offices on the date the applications are due.

Applications are due in our office on the funding cycles which are **February 1<sup>st</sup>** and **August 1<sup>st</sup>** of each calendar year.

## How much funding does a new or renewing congregations receive?

The amount of funding is **\$20,000 for 18 months** and each congregation can reapply for a total of three years, contingent on the congregation meeting their measureable goals and objectives for those first 18 months.

### Important Criteria Considered for Funding:

The planters or redevelopers are required to take the online Gallup Assessment. For more information go to: ([www.centerforprogressiverenewal.com](http://www.centerforprogressiverenewal.com))

The planters or redevelopers are encouraged to work with a coach. Contact Rev. Rose Wright-Scott, The Director of Coaching at **888-249-8244** at The Center for Progressive Renewal, for coaching information.

The congregation has a called pastor in place.

The congregation has a clear vision and mission for the work of the church.

The congregation will provide most current financial information (usually a three year history – last year, current year and next year).

The congregations make a compelling case for needing the funds

The congregation has a commitment to OCWM Basic Support at least 5% (no less) with a projected goal of 10% of the operating church budget.

The congregation has a commitment to being 5 for 5. For information on these special offerings, go to: [www.ucc.org/ocwm/is-your-church-five-for-five/](http://www.ucc.org/ocwm/is-your-church-five-for-five/)

The congregation should be committed to Conference/ Association/UCC Life.

The congregation provides discipleship training to its members.

The congregation is committed to community involvement and outreach.

For renewing congregations a strategic plan for renewal, membership growth and stewardship growth is required.

For congregations coming back for additional funding – They need to demonstrate consistent growth in the first 18 months of funding in membership, stewardship and faith formation.

They have met their measureable goals and objectives for the 18 months of funding.

Before reapplying for additional funds, the church will be asked to do a self-assessment of its progress which will be utilized by the New and Renewing Funding Review Team in the process for reapplication.

Before reapplying for additional funds the conference will be asked as well to evaluate the new and renewing church for consideration in reapplying for funds.

## Who is the new and renewing church review team?

The review team is made up of 5 individuals who are church leaders and pastors in various regions of the UCC, in addition, a National Staff assigned as the chair. The composition of the review team are persons who are passionate about working in church development in their region, conference or association.