



Oregon Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

To the Congregation:

Fall 2021

Please consider applying for a **Creative Ministry grant** and/or a **Delk Fund grant** from the Synod Endowment Board for 2021.

In the last year and a half, churches have been dealing with an identity crisis – “Who are we now that global pandemic changes have become a challenging routine? In 2021, it has felt like we are moving into a "new normal." How do congregations move forward without reverting to a "normal" that no longer exists? Please tell us about your congregation's project, and how it is doing something completely new to be a source of God's love in your community.

CREATIVE MINISTRY GRANT

- **Creative Ministry** grants are available for ministry projects that will help your congregation move into a new future and be a source of God's love in your community.
- In Fall 2021, individual **Creative Ministry** grants will be \$350 to \$2,000.
- Creative Ministry grants may not be used to offset staffing costs.

DELK FUND GRANT (CHILDREN & YOUTH)

- **Delk Fund** grants are available for **child- or youth-focused projects**.
- In 2021, individual grants will be \$500-\$2,500.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- How the Board decides: Grants are made based on the merits of each proposal in conjunction with other requests received and the overall funds available. **No more than one request of each type of grant per congregation, per year, please.**
- Tell the story of your project: Even a few sentences about your call to address a local need can help us understand what you are trying to do.
- Priority is given to projects that are collaborative (with other congregations, non-profits, schools, etc.).

FEATURED PROJECT

Dental & Feminine Hygiene Support Project Creative Ministry Grant Recipient, 2021

"In July we distributed over 350 toothbrushes and tubes of toothpaste, and feminine hygiene products. The families were delighted with the 'extras' included with their monthly food boxes. Most humbling were the children that received a pouch with their toothbrush, toothpaste, and floss, who held them as if it were a present. This effort has opened many of us to the needs of our friends and neighbors here in southern Deschutes County."

*--Jane Boubel, Project Leader
Sunriver Christian Fellowship, Sunriver*



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- Special consideration will be given to projects that focus on honoring the agency of your neighbors and collaborators, rather than doing something *for* them or *at* them, do something *with* them. Also, it is important to make choices that are representative of your congregation and its essential values.
- Demonstrate basic financial sense in your application: Provide project estimates and outline the costs of main elements. Show that a successful project might be ongoing. These grants should not be the sole financing for your project.
- Observe grant writing basics: Answer all questions to the best of your ability. Avoid negative descriptions (this is different than describing a need).
- In cases where we (Endowment Board) know of peers or mentor congregations, we will encourage you to be in touch with them, so that you can learn from each other.
- Accountability: Report back on your project (stories, pictures, etc.) preferably within 2 months of the completion of your project, but no later than **October 2022**.
- **Application Deadline: December 1, 2021**. You are encouraged to ask questions about the process in advance of the deadline.

Submit your application or questions by email to Oregon Synod Endowment Board member, Rev. Michael Keys: pasture.mike@gmail.com

In Christ,

Your Synod Endowment Board:

*April Brenden-Locke, Carl Cottingham, Mark Dickman, Rev. Patricia Hughes, Rev. Michael Keys,
Bishop Laurie Larson Caesar, Gene Obie, Pablo Ramirez, Damon Vold*