

Oregon Synod, ELCA
Creative Ministry Fund Grant Program
2025 Congregational Grant Application
Summer Grant Cycle

In the last few years, churches have been dealing with an identity crisis in a changing world—who are we now that global pandemic changes have become a challenging routine? Who are we in the face of cultural shifts around race, privilege, and religion? How do congregations move forward without reverting to a "normal" that no longer exists? **What ministry project could help your congregation move into a new future with theological imagination and courageous love?** Describe your congregation's project and tell us how it will be a source of God's love in your community.

- Please see the cover letter, which contains helpful instructions for completing grant application: <http://oregonsynod.org/index.php/about/endowment/>
- Individual grant awards for the Creative Ministry Grant will be \$350 to \$5,000.
- No more than ONE Creative Ministry request per congregation per year, please.
- Children- and youth-focused projects should apply for a Delk Fund grant. Application is available at: <http://oregonsynod.org/index.php/about/endowment/>
- Report back on your project (stories, pictures, etc.) preferably within 2 months of the completion of your project, but no later than **January 2027**.

Application deadline is Friday, September 5, 2025. Submit your application by email to Pablo Ramirez, Endowment Board Chair, Endowment@OregonSynod.org.

Please make a copy of this document and complete the information below. Use as much space as necessary—the cells below will expand as you type.

Congregation (include city) and Pastor's Name:
Congregation Mailing Address:
Project title:
Project leader contact information (Name, phone, email):
Briefly outline your project. What do you hope to accomplish?

What is the project timeline?

How many people from your congregation will be involved? How many people from the larger community will be involved? What shape will that involvement take?

How does your project align with the core values of the Oregon Synod? These are :

Mutual Accompaniment (vs. top-down charity work),

Agency and Inherent Dignity of all (vs. making decisions without and for others),

Integrity (vs. short-cuts or posturing to look good),

Wisdom from the edges (vs. doing what is comfortable, known, and already lifted up general culture),

Honesty and Humility (vs. denying limits, areas of ignorance, past stumblings, ongoing learnings).

For more on these: <http://oregonsynod.org/index.php/about/4620-2/>

Total cost of the project: \$ _____

Amount the congregation or church members will contribute (this should be at least 25% of the overall project cost): \$ _____

Amount from neighboring agencies or ministry partners (not necessary but demonstrates collaboration and creativity):	\$_____
Amount requested:	\$_____
Briefly outline what costs the grant would cover.	
What are the options for this project if a Creative Ministry grant is not available?	
List other prospective funding sources. Have you applied for other grants?	
If ongoing, how will the project be funded in the future?	
Submitted by (Name and Congregation):	