**2018 CFC Grants Available to Congregations in the Diocese of Ohio**

***Ministry and Growth Grants:***

These are grants to help congregations initiate new programs to build their size and vitality. They can be as large as $3,000 in the first year and for the same program can be renewed for up to $2,000 in the second year and $1,000 in the third year. These must be programs through which the congregation reaches out toward new members. Congregations have used them in the past to support:

* Bring in outside leader and purchase materials to enhance congregational singing during worship.
* A summer music camp for the neighborhood
* Setting up a parish booth with free water, coffee, sand art, etc. at their community's annual Home Days Festival, the Hartville Flea Market, or Painesville’s Party in the Park
* To develop a comprehensive welcoming and incorporating process including materials, brochures, door hangers, etc.
* To build nontraditional children's formation and ministries, and much more.
* To purchase signage and other support for a weekly worship service in a local park.

There is a total of $40,000 available in such grants and they can be applied for at any time until the funding for the year is exhausted. They cannot be used for capital improvements or for outreach ministries because each of those ministries have their own diocesan grant programs.  (Loans and Grants/Sue Leishman and Episcopal Community Services/Margaret D’Anieri)

***Young Adult and College Ministry Grants:***

These are grants to be used toward start up and some ongoing support of local congregation ministries specifically aimed at people between the ages of 18 and 35 (or so). The bulk of these funds has traditionally supported ministries at local residential colleges and universities but they may also be used in support of ministries toward young adults in your community or neighborhood.

There is a total of $17,000 available in such grants and they are awarded once per year for the following academic year. **This year's deadline for applications is June 10, 2016** for the academic year 2017-18. There is no maximum grant amount as all applications are reviewed at the same time and eligible programs are each supported as best we can within the budget.

***Adult Faith Formation Grants:***

These are grants to be used toward startup and some ongoing support of adult faith formation in your congregation. Programs of faith formation such as weekend retreats, mid-life (boomer) spirituality groups or events, senior groups or events around faith development and experience, are among those that will be favorably considered.

***(over)***

There is a total of $3,000 available in such grants and they can be applied for at any time until the funding for the year has been exhausted. The maximum grant is $500. They cannot be used to purchase books or materials for a parish library or for similar purposes.

***Lay Continuing Education Grants:***

Grants are available to lay members of the Diocese to help pay for training or continuing education in areas that are of value in building the life of the congregation and/or the diocese. The typical grant is made for between $100 and $500. The lay person and her/his congregation are each expected to contribute, generally 1/3 each.