

Hottle Growth Grant Guidelines

In 2008, the Hottle Memorial Fund was established with Brethren Foundation for the benefit of the congregations of the Northern Ohio District. In 2016, the Northern Ohio District Conference authorized the use of a 4% yearly draw to award grants to congregations that wish to establish new projects and ministries or impacting outreach in their communities.

The Congregational Commission of the Northern Ohio District Board invites congregations to submit grant proposals for the commission's consideration. The maximum grant that can be awarded is \$5,000.

All proposals will be considered during regularly scheduled District Board meetings. For consideration, paperwork must be submitted four weeks prior to these meetings. See the Northern Ohio District web site calendar (www.nohcob.org) for meeting dates. Requesting congregations' representative(s) must attend the District Board meeting (physically or electronically) to present their proposal and clarify any questions that may exist with the Congregational Commission. Depending on the number of grants approved and fund availability, the board may choose to partially fund awarded grants. Grants are limited to one per church in a calendar year.

The application will ask information about the project or ministry for which assistance is being requested (the intended purpose, who will provide oversight, who will benefit, the total cost involved, and the proposed start date). This is a time for congregations to prayerfully consider new ways to stimulate growth, spiritual health and outreach in their communities.

Support from the Hottle Fund is provided for:

- * Project grants within the church to expand the ministry of the church.
- * Outreach Ministry grants that impact not only the church but the community at large and may include changes to the physical plant.
- * Program Development grants within the church to stimulate growth or spiritual health and may include changes to the physical plant.

Upon establishment or completion of the project or ministry, the congregation shall submit a report or evaluation, as well as share results with the rest of the Northern Ohio District. The commission's hope is to stimulate some new ideas and innovative approaches to ministry that will help congregations proclaim and share the Gospel message in their local communities. Congregations that are unable to meet the established project start date will be asked to meet with Congregational Commission to discuss updates to the project or returning of the funds provided.

For further information or to request a grant application, please contact the Northern Ohio District Office, 1107 East Main Street, Ashland, OH 44805