

Starting and Strengthening Churches – Grants for 2024-25

Sustaining Grants:

- GR Campus Ministries - \$11,000
- Celebration Fellowship - \$8,000

Strengthening Grants:

Eastern Avenue - Cross-Cultural Enfoldment - Pastor Bob Rienstra and Marla Ehlers - Description

- Aiding in supporting the services of a dynamic leader of music and worship for Eastern's bilingual worshipping community. Will include worship leadership and mentoring as well as establishing a culture of enfoldment and engagement through worship.
- Amount Approved: \$5,000

Fuller - Navigating Pastoral Transitions Well - Pastor Nate DeJong-McCarron - Description:

- Providing care and coaching for staff and ministry leadership as Fuller transitions into a new season of ministry as its lead pastor will engage 50% of his time with The Better Together Project. This support will allow for coaching and/or consulting as well as supporting a new role emerging - Pastor of Connections and Faith Formation. This shift in ministry is vital for the continued flourishing of its ministries and mission.
- Amount Approved: \$6,000

Grace - Grace Gigs - Pastor Steven Koster

- Description:
 - Providing an opportunity to build relationships with neighbors by way of shared meals paired with local musical talent. These parking lot picnics will serve as a hospitable space for neighbors, including those facing food insecurity. It will establish a low-threshold relationship on which Grace will build and offer additional resources.
- Amount Approved: \$4,000

Madison North - Love in Action - Pastor Joy Bonnema

- Description:
 - Providing relationship building dinners held with residents at Emerald Flats and other relationship building events engaging the surrounding neighborhood. During these meals there is an effort to organically and relationally engage with neighbors as they build trust and connection.
- Amount Approved: \$7,000

Victory Church - Pastor Claude Ngendahayo and Pastor John

Rozeboom - Description:

- To provide ongoing support for Victory Church under the leadership of Pastor Claude. As an emerging congregation within classis GRE that is preparing to organize as an established congregation we see the value of continued encouragement and support begun the process of being recognized as an emerging congregation within Classis GRE.

- Amount Approved: \$5,000

Woodlawn CRC - The Front Door Initiative - Pastor Bryant

DeKruyter - Description:

- To support the launch of a new ministry seeking to engage 18-30 year olds by way of engaging 3 interns in *The Woodlawn CRC Student Internship Program* with an expressed focus of building community with young adults, and in doing so act as a sort of front door to the church by offering a way into the church through personal relationships

- Amount Approved: \$5,000

Madison CRC - Institutes of Ministry Leadership – Pastor Ericka Williams

Description:

Madison Church is planning to partner with The Foundry as a host church for their Institutes of Ministry Leadership during the 2024-25 ministry year. The Foundry offers seminary-level training on site at a host church location, focusing on ministry-centered training that connects coursework to the ministry context of participants. Between August 2024 and June 2025, Madison and The Foundry plan to offer five different classes in succession, each running over the course of eight weeks and open to up to 30 participants. These classes will target competencies for leadership in ministry; they are titled: The Missional Story of Scripture, Biblical Interpretation, Preaching & Teaching the Old Testament, Spiritual Formation & Discipleship, and Foundations of Christian Theology. Of the 30 participants, a maximum of 16 will come from Madison Church, with at least 14 spots reserved for leaders from other congregations, the aim being to create a multicultural group. This will be Madison's first grant for this purpose.

- Amount Approved: \$7,500