

National Fund for Sacred Places

A program of Partners for Sacred Places in collaboration with the National Trust for Historic Preservation | www.fundforsacredplaces.org

The National Fund for Sacred Places is a grant-making and resource program of Partners for Sacred Places in collaboration with the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The National Fund is guided by an Advisory Committee, bringing together faith leaders, architects, and philanthropists from across the country to inform the grant-making process. Through this partnership, at least 50 houses of worship will be awarded more than \$10 million over 4 years beginning in 2016.

What Congregations Receive

Each year, the group of 14-16 congregations that is selected to participate in the National Fund program receives two forms of program support:

1. WRAPAROUND SUPPORT SERVICES

Congregations receive training, planning grants, and pro-bono consulting services to make sure projects are well-planned and capital campaigns are successful; *and*

2. CAPITAL GRANTS

After receiving these services, each congregation may request a capital grant of \$50,000 – \$250,000, for brick-and-mortar projects, designed to leverage broader community support. Capital grants require matching funds, which must be raised after being awarded into the program. Matching guidelines are available on the program website.

I expected to leave understanding how to engage in external fundraising. Make no mistake, we left having clear strategies on the next steps for our Capital Campaign. What I did not expect was to leave with a paradigm shift on ministry at First Christian Reformed Church... The training challenged us to articulate the church's role and investment we make in the community through our ministry.

Randy Buursma, Pastor of First Christian Reformed Church, 2016-17 Participant

How to Apply



There will be one round of applications each year from 2016 to 2019. Congregations that meet all eligibility requirements and exemplify each of five core criteria may work through the online application process (see reverse for more information on criteria). Typically, 14 to 16 congregations will be awarded each year. All application submission steps take place through an online system available on the website: www.fundforsacredplaces.org. Application deadlines will be posted in January for the coming year.

What We Are Looking For



The National Fund staff team and Advisory Committee assess applicants according to five core criteria, while building a participant group that reflects our country's geographic, cultural, and religious diversity.

NATIONAL/REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

Buildings owned and occupied by an active congregation telling a unique story about its contribution to the landscape of American religion across history.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Congregations with innovative programs that serve members and the broader community.

NEED FOR FUNDING

Urgent repair needs that require financial support beyond the internal capacity of the congregation.

FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN READINESS

The capacity to complete a significant capital fundraising campaign and leverage a National Fund grant to raise matching funds.

HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS

Congregations with strong clergy and lay leadership, financial health, and the energy and support for a vibrant future.



2017-18 Awardees

Church of the Epiphany (Episcopal)—Los Angeles, CA
Congregation Beth Ahabah (Reformed Jewish)—Richmond, VA
Downtown Church (Evangelical Presbyterian)—Memphis, TN
Emmanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church—Charleston, SC
First Baptist Church—Boston, MA
First Church in Oberlin (United Church of Christ)—Oberlin, OH
First Presbyterian Church—Santa Fe, NM
Grace United Methodist Church—Dallas, TX
Holy Ascension (Russian Orthodox)—Unalaska, AK
Judson Memorial Church (United Church of Christ; Baptist)—New York, NY
Lutheran Church of the Reformation—Washington, DC
Mission Concepcion (Roman Catholic)—San Antonio, TX
Shrine of Christ the King (Roman Catholic)—Chicago, IL
St. Joan of Arc Church (Roman Catholic)—Indianapolis, IN
St. Paul's United Methodist Church—Cedar Rapids, IA
United Baptist Church—Poultney, VT
Wesley African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church—Philadelphia, PA

