



508 Franklin Road, Franklin, TN 37069 615-790-2112, www.christumcfranklin.org

The Betty & Frank Evans Mission Fund Grant Guidelines

Annual Outreach Grants are funded by The Betty & Frank Evans Mission Fund (Evans Fund) through an Endowment gifted to Christ UMC from the Evans estate.

Betty & Frank Evans were generous members of the Christ UMC congregation for many years and gave sacrificially to God and the Church from their gratitude for his blessings. They entrust Church leadership to direct their gifts responsibly.

Christ UMC awards grants only once each calendar year and considers only one application from an organization within a calendar year.

Grant awards will be a minimum of \$1,000 and a maximum of \$5,000

Grant Period

Christ UMC intends to make Evans Fund Grant disbursements during January of the award year. Organizations receiving funds must complete all program expenditures by December 31 of the award year.

Eligibility

The Evans Fund makes grants to nonprofit, tax exempt organizations with current 501(c)(1), (2) or (3) status. Grant funds must be used to provide services in the Middle Tennessee Greater Nashville Area.

The intended use of funds must address one or more of the following areas:

- Poverty
- Homelessness
- Hunger
- Human Development
- Social Justice

Funds may not be used to supplant or increase a funding line item of the Christ United Methodist Outreach Committee. *Funds may NOT to be used for Capital Expense, Travel or Entertainment.*

Christ UMC considers the following values as a way of prioritizing organizations and initiatives we elect to partner with financially:

- Congruence with the mission of Christ UMC “To be In Relationship with God’s Hurting World”.
- The applicant organization must be focused on one or more of the following areas: Poverty, Homelessness, Hunger, Human Development or Social Justice.
- Project or service should focus on long-term development with measurable impact, as opposed to short-term relief or rehabilitation.
- Potential for Christ UMC’s grant contribution to fund new programs or services currently not possible in the organization’s budget that also offer a strong service and volunteer opportunity to the congregation of Christ UMC.
- Robust relationships existing or desired between Christ UMC and the organization in ways other than financial.

Grant Application

An organization’s applicant must submit **one (1) complete, collated application**, including:

- The 2025 Evans Fund application, fully completed with additional sheets attached if needed. A blank Funding Application is attached to these instructions. An electronic version is available at ChristUMCFranklin.org
- The latest IRS letter(s) regarding the current tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(1), (2) or (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- A current and accurate list of the organizations Board of Directors or Trustees.
- The current budget for the specific project for which funding is sought.
- From the most recent audit, enclose only the opinion statement from the accounting firm.
- From the most recent 990 report, enclose only the first page.

Email one (1) complete, collated copy of your application by November 1st to: outreach@christumcfranklin.org or mail (postmarked by November 1st) to:

**Christ United Methodist Church
508 Franklin Rd.
Franklin, TN 37069
Attention: Evans Fund**

Electronic versions of this application, guidelines, and document checklist are available on our website (<https://christumcfranklin.org/evansfund/>). Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Commitment to Informed Grant-Making

Christ UMC performs due diligence on all funding applicants to ensure that they are effective and healthy non-profit organizations. Christ UMC takes into consideration not only written application, but also the results of telephone interviews, site visits and public records if necessary.

Additional documents may be required prior to awarding of a grant including, but not limited to: Annual Operating Budget, Current Balance Sheet, Additional Audited Information, Profit/Loss Statement, etc.

Not All Projects Can Be Funded

The Christ UMC Lead Team has the responsibility for the final approval of each grant. Since we may receive funding requests that exceed our grant budget, we cannot fund every worthy project. A decision not to fund a proposal does not reflect on the merits of the proposal or applicant organization. Grants are awarded on the merits of the grant request yearly. Organizations should not expect that prior awards guarantee future awards.

All questions should be directed to the Christ UMC Outreach committee.
Please email outreach@christumcfranklin.org if you have any questions.