



The Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod
 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 2354 Grove Road
 Allentown, PA 18109-3044



6261 MINISTRY COMMUNITY MICROGRANT APPLICATION

(updated Mar 2026)

6261 Ministry Community Name/Location: _____

Congregations/parishes/churches in the 6261 Ministry Community: _____

Denominations of 6261 Ministry Community: ELCA Episcopal Moravian PCUSA

Reformed Church in America UCC United Methodist

ELCA Synods of 6261 Ministry Community: NEPA SEPA USS LSS Upstate NY

Contact Person Name: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Contact Email address: _____

Fiscal Agent Congregation Name: _____

Fiscal Agent Congregation Address: _____

City

State

Zip code

Project Name: _____

Project Date(s): _____

\$ _____

Amount Requested

NOTE: Microgrants are limited to \$1,500.

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

Please keep narratives brief.

Please give a brief description of your project and how you plan to use the 6261 Microgrant funds.

Please give a brief description of the ministry your 6261 Ministry Community is working on together. Feel free to include any shared core values or vision.

What impact do you hope to have? What new growth are you hoping to see?

How do you hope to deepen relationships and connections as a 6261 Ministry Community or within the surrounding community?

How do you plan to share your story of impact on the community, the 6261 Ministry Community, and on your individual and collective faith as you lived into your baptismal calling as part of the greater kingdom of God.

Synod Priorities: NEPA Synod Values and 3 Strategic Lanes for Sharing the Good News

Your project must address at least one of these Synod priorities. Check the box(es) that your project addresses.

- Growing Young** – prioritizing young people and intentionally lifting up young people into leadership roles
- Gaining Strength** – assisting leaders and congregations to identify and build upon strengths, especially in partnership/collaboration with other congregations, ecumenical partners, or non-profit ministries
- Going Beyond Death to Life** – participating in transformational ministry inside or outside the Church walls that bears witness to the resurrection of Jesus Christ
- Loving the Land** – advocating for or living out sustainable methods to live in harmony with God’s creation
- Healing the Hurts** – addressing vulnerable needs within the community, such as local, national, or global issues of injustice (racial injustice, hunger, housing, violence, religious trauma, etc.)
- Engaging the Stranger** – working to ensure that populations who may be typically ignored or excluded, hear the Good News and are welcomed as beloved children of God

GRANT BUDGET

Please include a budget detailing how you anticipate spending the grant funds. If this 6261 Microgrant is one source of income for a larger project, please include only the anticipated expenses for the categories you plan to spend these grant funds on.

Anticipated Expenses

<u>Category</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>

Total Expenses: \$ _____

Who will be responsible for overseeing the use of these grant funds, and what is their role/connection to the project and the 6261 Ministry Community?

ATTACHMENTS

- Please attach a list of the pastors, deacon, and LLMs serving the 6261 Ministry Community with their contact information (email & phone number).
- Please attach a list of the Engagement Team or Joint Exploration Team members and their home congregation.
- If this 6261 Microgrant is part of a larger project, please include the full project budget listing all anticipated expenses and income.

UPON COMPLETION

Please save your completed application as a PDF and attach it to an email to:
6261grants@nepsynod.org.

OR mail your application to: Attn: Dcn Kat Tigerman
NEPA Synod
2354 Grove Road
Allentown, PA 18109-3044

Please indicate **“6261 Microgrant Application”** on the outside of the mailed envelope or in the subject line of your email.

Contact Person Signature: _____ Date: _____

6261 MICROGRANT DETAILS & EXAMPLES

Microgrants are small grants of **up to \$1,500** for which our exploring and formed 6261 Ministry Communities can apply. These are intended to provide seed money or matching funds to help launch or further the 6261 Ministry Community's primary ministry project - something no individual congregation can tackle alone but together is possible.

Examples of primary ministry projects include justice-oriented initiatives such as providing affordable housing or weaving several individual food pantries and community gardens into a food web ministry to address food insecurity and food deserts. Other examples include a focus on engaging and welcoming young people, people of color, and LGBTQIA+ communities. Still other examples center on advocacy or accompaniment ministries that address poverty, mental health, suicide, addiction, or summer childcare gaps.

So often God gives us all the gifts we need – in community – not just in our individual congregation. When we lift up the combined resources of all 6 congregations – financial, time, community connections, buildings, special gifts like grant writing – some of these major justice areas God calls us to address are suddenly feasible.

For 6261 Ministry Communities still in discernment about their primary ministry project, we imagine that these 6261 Microgrants might offset the cost to determine what the needs are in their community; what gifts and resources they have collectively; and how God might be calling their gifts to meet those needs. Examples of possible 6261 Microgrants in this category include a discernment retreat; congregational gatherings working through the 6261 Exploration Process together; a dinner meeting hosting several agencies in the area; a workshop/educational event on how to deepen community relations through relationship and living out of our baptismal callings; or other innovative, grassroots, diaconal ministry ideas.

ELIGIBILITY

Any 6261 Ministry Community – whether formed (and Covenanted) or still in discernment (has a Joint Exploration Team) of the NEPA Synod can apply for a 6261 Microgrant. This includes our ecumenical 6261 Ministry Communities - which are defined as 6261 Ministry Communities who are made up of ELCA and full-Communion ecumenical congregations. Full-Communion ecumenical partners include the Episcopal Church, the Moravian Church, the Presbyterian Church, USA (PCUSA), the Reformed Church in America, the United Church of Christ (UCC), and the United Methodist Church. 6261 Ministry Communities who are formed across Synod and ecumenical judicatory lines are also eligible. There simply must be at least two (2) congregations of the 6261 Ministry Community who are member congregations of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the ELCA.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Interested 6261 Ministry Communities must submit the 6261 Microgrants Application and requested Attachments for their Application to be considered. Applications are reviewed by the 6261 Microgrants Team on a quarterly rolling basis. More information on 6261 Microgrants and other 6261 Ministry Community grant opportunities are listed on the Synod website: www.godslove.org/6261grants.

Applicants can expect to receive communication that their application has been received and will be notified of the decision by the 6261 Microgrants Team within two (2) weeks of the quarterly 6261 Microgrants Team meeting. Applicants can expect to receive funds within two (2) weeks of receiving their 6261 Microgrant Award letter.

All funding must be spent within one (1) year of the start of the 6261 Microgrant project. 6261 Microgrant recipients are also required to submit a final 6261 Microgrant Report within one (1) month of spending the full balance of the 6261 Microgrant.

For the quickest turn around time, please submit your Application via email to 6261grants@nepsynod.org instead of mailing it in.

If you have questions about your 6261 Microgrant idea, primary ministry projects, or would like to brainstorm ideas on what might be a good fit for your context and 6261 Ministry Community, please reach out to Deacon Kat Tigerman at kat@nepsynod.org.

6261 MICROGRANTS TEAM:

- Rev. Canon Melinda Artman (Episcopal)
- Rich DeLuca (ELCA)
- Nancy Reichelt (ELCA)
- Deacon Kat Tigerman (ELCA)