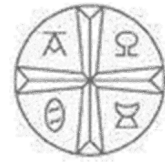




**United Church of Christ**  
Union of Evangelical Churches (UEK) Forum Grant



**PURPOSE:** The UEK Forum Fund was established to develop and nurture relationships between the Conferences, Associations and congregations of the United Church of Christ and the corresponding church bodies of the UEK. The historic relationship between the UCC and the UEK was formalized in 1980/81, when the General Synod affirmed a relationship of *Kirchengemeinschaft* with the Evangelical Church of the Union in Germany (EKU). This relationship was formed in context of a divided Germany, and was strengthened by shared history and common commitments to issues of justice. The relationship continued after the fall of the Berlin Wall, with the relationship evolving as time progressed. In 2002-2003, the EKU dissolved and its member churches joined others to become the expanded church body called the Union of Evangelical Churches (UEK). The 2003 General Synod reaffirmed its commitment to this on-going relationship with the German churches.

**CRITERIA FOR FUNDING:**

1. Funds will be awarded to United Church of Christ Conferences, Associations, congregations, or institutions;
2. Congregations must have a relationship with or be in the process of forming a relationship with a partner entity in the UEK;
3. Proposal must demonstrate how the use of the funds will nurture *Kirchengemeinschaft*, and should have a specific timeframe for implementation.

**AWARDS:** Grants will be awarded up to \$1,500, and will be made through the Conference office. Decisions will be made by the Executive Committee of the UCC's UEK Forum.

**APPLICATION:** Please submit a clear and concise written proposal indicating your interest in applying for these funds. Include **the amount requested, the intended use of the funds**, and the relationship with the UEK. All applications should be accompanied by a letter of support from the Conference Minister. The deadlines for submission each year are March 1 and September 1; awards will be sent as approved. Please send applications to Peter Makari (staff to the UEK Forum), Executive, Middle East and Europe, Global Ministries, by e-mail ([makarip@ucc.org](mailto:makarip@ucc.org)), fax (216.736.3203), or postal mail (700 Prospect Ave., #706, Cleveland, OH 44115).

**REPORTING:** Reports of the use of the funds should be made within three months of the completion of the project. Reports should include an evaluation of the program, examples of how *Kirchengemeinschaft* was manifest through the project, and some pictures, if possible. The report, or a supplement to it, should be something that can be published online to highlight *Kirchengemeinschaft*.