



# MISSION NETWORKS

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS...

### What is a network?

A network is a group of people responding to Jesus' call who are passionate about a common interest or concern and connect with one another in a variety of ways.

### What is its mission?

1. A network proceeds from these Bible passages - Matthew 25:31-46 and Matthew 28: 18-20 (*The Message*):

#### Matthew 25: 31-46

<sup>31-33</sup>"When he finally arrives, blazing in beauty and all his angels with him, the Son of Man will take his place on his glorious throne. Then all the nations will be arranged before him and he will sort the people out, much as a shepherd sorts out sheep and goats, putting sheep to his right and goats to his left. <sup>34-36</sup>"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Enter, you who are blessed by my Father! Take what's coming to you in this kingdom. It's been ready for you since the world's foundation. And here's why:

I was hungry and you fed me, I was thirsty and you gave me a drink,  
I was homeless and you gave me a room, I was shivering and you gave me clothes,  
I was sick and you stopped to visit, I was in prison and you came to me.'

<sup>37-40</sup>"Then those 'sheep' are going to say, 'Master, what are you talking about? When did we ever see you hungry and feed you, thirsty and give you a drink? And when did we ever see you sick or in prison and come to you?' Then the King will say, 'I'm telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me—you did it to me.' <sup>41-43</sup>"Then he will turn to the 'goats,' the ones on his left, and say, 'Get out, worthless goats! You're good for nothing but the fires of hell. And why? Because—

I was hungry and you gave me no meal, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,  
I was homeless and you gave me no bed, I was shivering and you gave me no clothes,  
Sick and in prison, and you never visited.'

<sup>44</sup>"Then those 'goats' are going to say, 'Master, what are you talking about? When did we ever see you hungry or thirsty or homeless or shivering or sick or in prison and didn't help?' <sup>45</sup>"He will answer them, 'I'm telling the solemn truth: Whenever you failed to do one of these things to someone who was being overlooked or ignored, that was me—you failed to do it to me.' <sup>46</sup>"Then those 'goats' will be herded to their eternal doom, but the 'sheep' to their eternal reward."

#### Matthew 28:18-20:

<sup>18-20</sup>Jesus, undeterred, went right ahead and gave his charge: "God authorized and commanded me to commission you: Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Then instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you. I'll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age."

2. A network addresses new ideas and inspirations
3. A network may apply for grants from the Synod of the Trinity
4. A network may have a page on the Synod web site
5. A network may or may not continue from year-to-year
6. A network is expected to become self-funded over time

### Where do networks exist?

The Synod of the Trinity is divided into sixteen presbyteries and encompasses all of Pennsylvania, the state of West Virginia except for the counties of Berkeley, Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Jefferson, Mineral, Morgan, and Pendleton and in Ohio, only the counties of Belmont, Harrison, Jefferson, Monroe, and the southern sector of Columbiana. A network can also exist within any of these presbyteries, in cooperation between presbyteries, or it can exist between the Synod of the Trinity and other synods.



## What is a reasonable amount to request for a grant?

Requests have been quite varied. The Synod Grants and Scholarships Committee simply invites networks to ask for the amount they really need. Preference is given to first-time applicants.

## How should we manage our finances?

Good practices can be found in the Presbyterian Book of Order, G-10.04001 in the Finance section:

- 1) The counting and recording of all offerings by at least two duly appointed persons, or a fidelity bonded person;
- 2) The keeping of adequate books and records to reflect all financial transactions, open to inspection by authorized (church) officers at reasonable times;
- 3) Periodic reporting of the financial activities to the board or boards vested with financial oversight at least annually, preferably more often;
- 4) A full financial review of all books and records relating to finances once each year by a public accountant or public accounting firm or a committee of members versed in accounting procedures. Such auditors should not be related to the treasurer (or treasurers). Terminology in this section is meant to provide general guidance and is not intended to require or not require specific audit procedures or practices as understood within the professional accounting community. Website: [http://www.pcusa.org/oga/boo/fog\\_ch10.htm#g100400](http://www.pcusa.org/oga/boo/fog_ch10.htm#g100400)

## What are some good network practices?

- Criminal Background Check of all members: [OH — PA — WV](#)
- FBI Background Check of all members: <http://www.fbi.gov/hq/cjisd/fprequest.htm>
- Child Abuse Clearance of all members: [OH — PA — WV](#)
- Insurance for events. The Synod's insurer, Jim Bower, Jr., of James O. Bower Insurance is recommended. Location: 2145 Market St., Camp Hill, PA 17011. Phone: 717-763-5668 Website: <http://www.bowerins.com/>
- Keep minutes of your meetings.
- Keep in contact with people interested in the network.
- Plan activities well and enjoy the outcome of prayerful, Spirit-led, meaningful programs and meetings.

## Questions? Contact any Member of the Synod Network Team:

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Additional information is available on the Synod's website:

<http://www.syntrinity.org/86/Networks.html>



# 2014 Network Request

## The Synod of the Trinity

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
3040 Market Street, Camp Hill, PA 17011  
Phone: 800-242-0534 or Email: [office@syntrinity.org](mailto:office@syntrinity.org)



A Network\* may apply for a Synod Network Grant through the Grants and Scholarships Committee with preference given to first-time applicants. It is expected that a network will become self-funded over time. Contact Chantal Atnip or Susan Wonderland, Synod Office, with questions at phone: 800-242-0534 ext. 233 or via email at [office@syntrinity.org](mailto:office@syntrinity.org) **Please print or use our online** application available on our website under Ministry & Mission.

First Application     Previously Funded Network - Complete question on reverse →

1. Name of Network: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Amount of request: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

3. Description of need: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Reference from a Presbytery in the Synod of the Trinity by **one** of the following:

a. Certified action of the \_\_\_\_\_ Presbytery on \_\_\_\_\_.  
Name of Presbytery Date of Action

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Stated Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

**OR**

b. \_\_\_\_\_ Presbytery Staff Person or Officer on \_\_\_\_\_.  
Name of Presbytery Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Staff Person/Officer (i.e.: General Presbyter or Moderator)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name and Title

**OR**

c. The \_\_\_\_\_ Presbytery Executive Committee on \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Presbytery Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Presbytery Executive Moderator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

5. Check made payable & mailed to: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**\* A network is a group of people responding to Jesus' call who are passionate about a common interest or concern and connect with one another in a variety of ways.**

Previously-Funded Network:

In addition to answering questions 1 - 5, please describe your accomplishments so we may celebrate with you:

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