



A Policy for the Use of The Grace Scott Fund

The Grace Scott Fund was established by a planned gift from the Rev. Grace Edith Scott, whose Will directed that it be used to support hospital chaplaincy.¹ Rev. Scott died April 15, 1997. Ad hoc committees were convened in 1999 and in 2007 to determine an appropriate use for these monies. The Conference Council (*Minutes – 09/20/2007*), acting upon the recommendation of an ad hoc committee, designated the proceeds from the Fund be used to support clergy development groups in each Association of the New Hampshire Conference, United Church of Christ (NHCUCC). Pastoral Counseling Services, Inc. (PCS) was selected as the administrator of the program and a Letter of Agreement was executed to define this relationship. The Grace Scott Fund also provides a subsidy for groups for “newly-called” clergy in the NHCUCC. Occasionally, the Fund has been used to underwrite training programs, sponsored by PCS that aid our authorized ministers in their practice of pastoral care. The program is regularly reviewed by an advisory group that includes the Conference Minister of the NHCUCC. These supportive programs increase the clinical skills of clergy and help them better serve in all situations, including collaborative work with hospital chaplains when congregants are hospitalized. The groups also reduce the risk of depletion and burnout, thus enhancing pastoral care and all aspects of ministry.

The intent of this document is to further clarify how the NHCUCC will continue to utilize and serve as a faithful steward of this Fund into the future.

Oversight, Evaluation, and Stewardship of the Fund

The Clergy Support Ministry shall be charged with regular oversight and evaluation of The Grace Scott Fund. It shall work with the Conference Minister to ensure that these monies are used to equip and strengthen authorized ministers who are serving as institutional chaplains in the NHCUCC. Chaplains with good standing in an Association of the NHCUCC may request funding to attend workshops, seminars, and other educational offerings that will strengthen their ministries. Requests should be submitted in writing to the Conference Minister at 140 Sheep Davis Road; Pembroke, NH 03275-3711. Requests should be received at least thirty days in advance of an event. All or a portion of the costs of registration and customary expenses may be supported by a grant from the Fund. Only one grant per chaplain will be awarded in a two-year period.

The Clergy Support Ministry shall also administer the Fund to continue to provide networks for peer support and review. This may include, but is not limited to, funding for pastoral leadership development groups, various clergy support groups, and underwriting of the costs to provide educational seminars related to pastoral care and counseling.

The Clergy Support Ministry shall provide an annual reporting of the usage of the Fund to the Board of Directors of the NHCUCC and the Gathered Conference.

This Fund is subject to the provisions of the NHCUCC Investment Policy and the annual draw, which is calculated by the Investment Mission Group of the Finance Ministry. Any balance remaining at the conclusion of the NHCUCC fiscal year will be returned as principal to the Grace Scott Fund in the investment account.

The Board of Directors of the NHCUCC shall be charged with the review and revision of this policy.

Approved by Conference Council
2013/06/20

¹ [I]t is my desire without imposing any trust or duty to account that these monies be used to further hospital chaplaincy.

Application for a Chaplaincy Grant from the Grace Scott Fund

I, _____, a chaplain on the staff of _____ and an authorized minister in good standing with the _____ Association of the New Hampshire Conference of the United Church of Christ do hereby make application for a grant from The Grace Scott Fund.

Event: _____

Date: _____

Location: _____

Registration: \$ _____

Transportation: \$ _____

Lodging: \$ _____

Meals: \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

I seek a grant of \$ _____ from The Grace Scott Fund and promise that this grant, if awarded, will be used for participation in the above-referenced event. I further understand that, should I be unable to attend the event, this grant will be returned in full and payable to the NHCUCC. I will submit a report, which will include a final accounting, to the NHCUCC Clergy Support Ministry within 60 days after the conclusion of the event.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Please submit this application to:

The Conference Minister
New Hampshire Conference, United Church of Christ
140 Sheep Davis Road
Pembroke, NH 03275-3711