RURAL CHURCH

2019 GRANTMAKING IN RURAL CHURCH
51 NEW GRANTS

$35.2 million

A total of $16.4 million was distributed, some of which was from commitments approved in previous years.

Strengthening rural United Methodist churches and the communities they serve by forming church leaders, building congregational capacity and fostering community engagement.
MAKING A DIFFERENCE THROUGH RURAL CHURCH GRANTMAKING

PHILANTHORPIC APPROACH

THE RURAL CHURCH program area takes the approach of an initiating partner that aims to strengthen United Methodist systems in North Carolina so that rural congregations can fulfill their calling to foster human, community and economic advancement.

CANDIDATES FOR RURAL CHURCH GRANTS

- United Methodist churches that serve rural North Carolina communities
- The North Carolina and Western North Carolina conferences and districts of the United Methodist Church
- Duke University Divinity School
- Retired United Methodist pastors and their families on record with the North Carolina and Western North Carolina conferences

Rural church development

Building the infrastructure and capacity of United Methodist churches to enhance ministry and mission

2019 GRANTMAKING

$8,109,598
20 new grants

Clergy leadership

Strengthening United Methodist churches by improving the quality and effectiveness of church leadership

2019 GRANTMAKING

$24,863,714
15 new grants

Congregational outreach

Engaging United Methodist congregations in programs that serve their communities

2019 GRANTMAKING

$2,238,183
16 new grants

A grant to First United Methodist Church in Taylorsville, North Carolina, will help the congregation repurpose a car dealership into a sanctuary and fellowship hall, and use the extra space for mission programs and outreach.

A new project linking rural United Methodist clergy in North Carolina and the Institute for Emerging Issues will give clergy and lay leaders the resources to identify and understand local issues, and help them take informed ideas and solutions back home.

In the rural mountains of western North Carolina, Matt’s Ministry offers food bags for children, food delivery to seniors, a food pantry for neighbors in need and free books for preschoolers and their parents. A grant to Ledford’s Chapel United Methodist Church is helping the program expand.