



Presbytery of Genesee Valley

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April 2, 2020

Greetings Congregations of the Genesee Valley Presbytery, and the surpassing love and peace of the Christ be with you in these uncertain and ever-changing times.

The COVID -19 virus has impacted our world, nation, churches, homes, and lives in radical ways that have created many immediate needs. We are aware that, as our congregations seek to serve the world around them in God's love during this time, many are also in need of their own support. In response to this, the Grants Working Group of the Presbytery is **sending each church a gift of \$200**, to relieve at least a bit of the financial strain of adjusting to these new needs.

This money is yours to use as you and God determine best, including reimbursement for items purchased to continue church life during COVID-19, financial support for staff or personnel, creating new ministries to respond to community needs, or anything you need during this time. If your church's finances are such that your congregation is able to weather this time well, we hope that you will consider what community agencies or individuals in your area might benefit from this gift, and pass it on to them.

Please know that the Presbytery is holding each of the congregations in prayer during this time, and is here to help in whatever way we can, as we walk through this experience together, and with the company of God. We hope this gift will help meet some of your congregation's needs.

We are also making our remaining resources available through a special **Emergency Fund** with a simplified grant process to help meet needs of the congregations and community agencies. Application and instruction for this grant can be found [here](#).

In January each church received a [Transformational Grant application form](#). Due to the suspension of church activities we have relaxed the application deadline and will receive applications on as an as need basis. Please send the Transformation Grant application to Cheryl Battaglia, programsecretary@pbygenval.org.

May the God of consistent love meet you in every moment of uncertainty in the days ahead.

The Grant Working Group
Presbytery of Genesee Valley