

New Spaces Micro-Grant Application

Centers for Missional Outreach, Leadership Development and Church Development of The North Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church

The North Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church (NTC) is Gathering New Faces in New Spaces. A new space...

- 1. Gathers new faces:** A new space does not merely bring together already “churched” people in a new way. By design, it aims to give unchurched and dechurched people a fresh experience of Christian community. Without new faces, it’s not a new space.
- 2. Meets regularly:** Regularly could be weekly. It could be monthly. It could be something in between. A new space could “meet” regularly online. A one-time outreach event, however, is not a new space. Without regular meetings, it’s not a new space.
- 3. Relates to a UMC entity:** Most new spaces will break the mold of typical forms of church. But, a new space is still a part of the Body of Christ. So, every new space will have a supportive connection to a local church, a campus ministry, or some other United Methodist entity. The point of this connection is not to funnel new members to the local church and feed the institution; it’s for the institution to support the new space.
- 4. Forms disciples:** There are lots of ways to define a disciple. The definition we’re using is a disciple is a person who follows in the Way of Jesus. So, a new space should help people follow in the Way of Jesus. Some new spaces will do that by focusing on Bible study; some won’t. Some will have a strong element of service; some won’t. Still others will utilize music and liturgy; some won’t. The way disciples are formed will vary based on the context. But, without discipleship, it’s not a new space.

Please answer the questions below and include a letter (or email) of support from the pastor or director of the United Methodist Church or entity to which this new space will relate.

Gathers New Faces

1. What new faces are you seeking to gather? Who are you trying to reach, what demographic group are you trying to connect with, and/or what needs are you trying to meet? What leads you to believe these persons might be receptive? What research, discernment, and due diligence informs your answers to the above questions? (Remember, your clarity of purpose will be important to your success.)

2. What is your vision for the space in which these faces will gather? Be specific. Include numbers, location(s), etc.? (We realize these numbers are goals, so be bold and stretch!)

Meets Regularly

3. When and where will people gather in this new space? How is the location strategic for reaching the identified new faces? Provide a time frame with dates on the calendar, frequency of meetings, and the dedicated space(s) that will be used. (This is your starting point; remember that this may take some experimentation.)

Relates To a UMC Entity

4. Please share the name and contact information for the Local Church or UM entity that is connected to this proposed new space as well as the name and contact information for the connected senior/lead pastor or director of the UM entity. Describe the nature of the connection?

Forms Disciples

5. How will this new space make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world? What is the discipleship pathway for this new space? Is there a specific model that is being used for inspiration and/or direction?

6. Provide the name, phone number, email address, and a one sentence description of the gifts of each leader that has already been recruited to plant this new space. Note who will be the lead person(s).

7. What core group of people from the community or a UM church/entity are partnering with you to create this new space? Who is praying for this new space and how?

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**The vast majority of new spaces will not require conference funds. However, some initiatives that are already bearing fruit may be strengthened through a financial partnership with the NTC.*

8. What is the financial plan for this new space? What funds, if any, have been dedicated for the creation and/or sustainability of this new space?

9. How will financial discipleship be taught and lived out in this new space? What are the anticipated offerings in this new space and how will they be used?

10. What conference funds could strengthen this new space and how? How will these funds be matched with local funds?

Is there anything else that you would like us to know about your proposal for a new space?

Primary Point of Contact for this Application

Please provide the name of the best point of contact should there be any questions regarding your application. Fields with an asterisks are required fields for submission.

*First Name

*Last Name

*Phone Number

*Email Address

*Name of Proposed New Space