

**Thriving Pastors in Revitalizing Congregations (TPIRC)**  
 A Ministry of the Illinois Conference UCC  
 Funded by the Lilly Endowment for Religion

**APPLICATION FOR PASTORS AND CHURCHES**

First Name:	Last Name:	
Email:	Phone:	
Mailing Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Church Name:		
Key Church Member-Lay Leader Contact:		
Email:	Phone:	
Mailing Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:

**On a separate page, please respond to the following questions.**

1. Please describe the size and demographics of your congregation. Do they match the description on the reverse side of this application?
2. Have you received a LEEAP or other grant in the last five years?
3. For the Pastor; do you intend to remain in this congregation for the duration of the program?
4. What excites you about this program?
5. For the Congregation; do you understand that there is a cost to participating in this program, and do you agree to participate in and remain in this program for the duration of the grant, approximately 5 years?

Signature (Pastor) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (Congregation) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## EXPECTATIONS OF PASTORS AND CONGREGATIONS

### Introductory Essentials about the TPIRC Ministry Program

- Involves a Pastor and 3-5 lay leaders from 45 Illinois Conference Churches
- Qualifying Pastors are those: new in ministry or bi-vocational or serving a declining congregation (decreasing attendance, aging, diminished financial resources).
- TPIRC will provide participating pastors and churches four strategic resource activities:
  - A trained and certified Clergy Coach for each Pastor, meeting monthly
  - A Clergy Community of Practice support/learning group for each pastor meeting 10 months of the year.
  - An Annual Learning Summit 2 day gathering of top keynote speakers and practical workshops for TPIRC Pastors and 3-5 lay leaders from each church
  - Cohorts comprised of 5-7 TPIRC churches meeting semi-annually for networking and resource sharing

These resources, along with TPIRC coordination and administration are supported with a \$1,000,000 grant from the Lilly Endowment for a five year period which began in January 2019.

Participating churches will pay a “buy-in” fee of \$500 annually. The only other TPIRC costs are time and travel.

### Participation Expectations

- Pastors will meet (incl. possibly online) monthly with a Clergy Coach at no cost.
- Pastors will also come together in Clergy Community of Practice groups 10 months of the year at no cost
- Pastors help select 3-5 lay leaders to participate in TPIRC
- Pastors participate in written and conversational quantitative and qualitative surveys in the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> years of the grant period.
- Pastors and 3-5 lay leaders will attend a two day Annual Learning Summits (2<sup>nd</sup> Friday and Saturday of September) at no cost
- Pastors and lay leaders will participate in two cohort gatherings of 6-7 churches annually.

Please send completed application to Rev. Michelle Hughes, Associate Conference Minister for Revitalization and Stewardship by mail (Illinois Conference UCC, 1840 Westchester Blvd., Westchester, IL 60154) or email [ilconfmichelle@gmail.com](mailto:ilconfmichelle@gmail.com) by **March 15, 2020**.