

“Violet’s Garden”

The Bishop Violet Fisher Grants for Children’s and Youth Ministries
Upper New York Area Advance Special #3075

GRANT GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION FORM

Section I

The need to foster spiritual growth in and with our children and youth is of paramount importance to the congregations of the Upper New York Area. In honor of Bishop Violet Fisher’s love and concern for children and youth, this Advance Special #3075 was established in the former NCNY Conference to celebrate the Bishop’s life and ministry among us; and to continue her legacy of spiritually nurturing children and youth at the 2008 NCNY Annual Conference Session.

A. Purpose of the grants: To provide grants/funds to promote spiritual growth and faith based experiences for children and youth in local church settings; to build disciples of Jesus Christ.

B. Range of individual grants: up to \$2000. The total of the grants awarded by the Task Force during any grant period may not exceed \$2500.00. (The two grant periods are: Applications due May 1 for ministries with summer and fall start-up dates; due November 1 for ministries with winter and spring start-up dates.) **Grants are not renewable.**

C. Funding criteria: The proposal must demonstrate:

1. That the ministry/program/experience for spiritual growth is local church based and faith based
2. How it directly benefits children / youth (defined as infant through high school)
3. A need for such a ministry/program/event
4. A commitment of the local congregation and/or community to the ministry
5. And provide an assessment of gifts (spiritual, financial, and organizational) of the congregation/community to carry through on the proposal.
6. Measurable outcomes; (how will you know if the children/youth have grown spiritually?)

D. Also to be included:

1. An itemized income and expense report and add other sources of funding (include time, materials or other sponsors).
2. An evaluation process to show how you are going to evaluate the outcomes and monitor the program’s progress.

E. Grant recipients must report back to the Task Force within six months* of the

awarded date, the effect of the ministry/program/event including, but not limited to:

1. The number of children/youth reached (for information, more than for a “rating” of the ministry’s “success”)
2. The measurable spiritual /faith outcomes achieved. We are looking for documented change. (You may provide anecdotal measurements to support charted growth.)
3. How the local church will continue to “build” on this faith experience for and with children/youth.

(*Ministries with a longer life-span than six months will be asked to send in subsequent report updates every three months, and provide a cumulative outcomes summary at the end of one year.)

F. Applications must be typewritten/word processed. No more than five pages in total (including financial report). Please carefully review the application. We appreciate numbered pages, and each page identified with the church and ministry name. Faxes and emails of proposals are permitted.

G. Application deadline(s): Applications are to be sent beginning October 1 to be received by November 1, (beginning in 2008) ONLY for ministries with winter and spring start-up dates, OR to be sent beginning April 1 to be received by May 1 (beginning in 2009) ONLY for ministries with summer and fall start-up dates. The Task Force will NOT consider proposals that fall outside these time frames.

H. Notification: within 15- 30 days of submission deadline.

I. Proposals should be directed to: Rev. Joellyn Tuttle, Skaneateles United Methodist Church,
26 Jordan St., Skaneateles, NY 13152
Phone: 315-685-5963 E mail: jrwtuttle@gmail.com

Section II - Please provide a summary of the proposed ministry/experience/event

(This will be your cover letter.) Please create in bulleted rather than narrative form. To save you time, we suggest that you wait until after completing the rest of the proposal to develop this section. We encourage you to limit this to one page or less. It should be a brief synopsis.

A. 1. Ministry/program/event name

2. One sentence summary of the ministry/program/event.

B. For this request, summarize:

1. Why (community need)

2. Who and how many (target population, including age, gender, ethnicity, other relevant information)

3. What the children/youth will do/learn/experience

4. When (time frame)

5. Where (location of the work)

C. What do you hope to spiritually accomplish (outcomes)?

D. State the total cost of this effort, and the amount requested from this fund. **(Please note, since the grant focuses on the spiritual needs of children and youth we do not provide funding for food. We also do not provide funding for staff positions.)**

Section III - The application must also include responses to all of the following, keeping in mind the Grant's Purpose statement in Section I, A:

A. How are you, as a congregation, called spiritually to this ministry?

B. Describe why this ministry/experience/event is needed to enhance the faith lives of children and/or youth.

C. Describe how this ministry/experience/event is in line with your congregation's vision/mission statements. How will this ministry/experience/event be built upon by your congregation to further the faith lives of children/youth?

D. How will your project reflect a commitment to addressing root causes of problems facing children and/or youth. How will advocacy be integrated into the experience?

The application may want to demonstrate partnership with other United Methodist bodies, with community and ecumenical organizations, and/or with urban or rural ministries.

The Grant Task Force reserves the right to ask for more information and/or matching funds based on ministry impact and overall cost requirements for the ministry in achieving outcomes.

Section IV – A Cumulative Outcomes Summary Report, due within six months of the start-up date, is to be sent to the Violet's Garden Task Force c/o: Rev. Joellyn Tuttle, Skaneateles UMC,
26 Jordan St., Skaneateles, NY 13152

E mail: jrwtuttle@gmail.com

Please demonstrate and/or document the following four areas:

1. Number of youth participants', their age ranges and volunteers involved (including the number of hours per week during the program length).
2. The spiritual growth of the participating children/youth.
3. The impact of the program on your local church.
4. The impact of the program on your surrounding community.

(Photo documentation is welcome; provided the appropriate photo releases have been signed by those in the picture/video.) We look forward to reporting the fruits of your experience to the entire Upper New York Area.

**“VIOLET’S GARDEN” GRANT APPLICATION COVER SHEET
UPPER NEW YORK AREA ADVANCE NUMBER: #3075**

For Grant Period: (Circle ONE) May 1 Nov 1 Amount requested \$_____

Name of Local Church _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Church Phone _____ Fax _____

Church’s e-mail _____

Person Responsible for
Proposal Implementation _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

Signature of person responsible for implementation Date _____

Signature of pastor Date _____

Signature of chair of Administrative Council or equivalent Date _____

* * * * *

FOR TASK FORCE USE: Date received _____ by (initials) _____

