



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF CHICAGO Congregations Commission

2019 Vitality Grant Application

The Congregations Commission invites you to apply for a 2019 Vitality Grant; beginning this year, all congregations are eligible to apply. Congregations may qualify based on the information provided in this application, and grant funds available. A meeting between key congregation leader(s) and your Congregations Commission liaison, if you have one, is strongly recommended. If you have any questions please contact your liaison or either of the Congregations Commission Co-Chairs, Kara Wagner-Sherer, at rector@stjohnschicago.com 773.960.1889 or Luis Garcia Juarez at luisgarciajuarez@gmail.com 773.551.9268

This application is due September 15, 2018. Mailed applications must be postmarked by September 15. *Emailing your application is strongly encouraged. Late applications will not be considered.* Funding decisions are expected by October 1, 2018. Submissions may be made electronically (emailed to Louisa McKellaston, lmckellaston@episcopalchicago.org) or via the Postal Service. Louisa will confirm receipt of all applications to the sender. *Email is strongly encouraged to ensure the application is received by the deadline.*

Part 1: Basic Information

You will need your last parochial report and your CAT Vital Signs or Conversations report. If you do not have that, please contact Louisa McKellaston at lmckellaston@episcopalchicago.org.

Congregation name and address: _____

Name & contact info of person completing application: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

2019 Vitality Grant Amount requested: \$ _____

2018 Vitality Grant Received (if applicable): \$ _____

Average weekend attendance 2017: _____ 2018 (YTD): _____

Pledge & plate income for 2017: _____ 2018 (thru 6/30): _____

Number of pledging units in 2017: _____ 2018: _____

Year CAT taken: _____

Energy/Satisfaction quadrant position: _____

(CAT Vital Signs, p. 6; Conversations, p. 4)

A	B
C	D

Adaptability/Theology quadrant position: _____

(CAT Vital Signs, p. 15; Conversations, p. 8)

Please attach income/expense statements and balance sheets for year-end 2017, and YTD 2018.

Part 2: Strengths, Challenges, Vision and Goals

Please answer the following questions during the visit with the your liaison

- 1) What is your average pledge for fiscal year 2017? (Take your total received pledges in 2017, not including plate or other gifts and divide by the number of pledging households)

- 2) Congregations in our diocese may be divided into these categories. Where would you put your congregation? Why?
 - **Poised to Transition Congregations** are strong and healthy; they are not or should not be receiving any vitality grants, stable leadership lay and ordained (part or full time); they hopefully will attain parish status soon, may need a transition period to take on all property responsibilities.
 - **Witnessing Congregations** are strong, healthy congregations with stable lay and ordained leadership (part or full time); they provide ministry to a group of people who would not otherwise have an Episcopal presence, may have good stewardship, but are unlikely to be financially independent soon.
 - **Stable and... Congregations** are doing ministry with the resources they have and that may be going well; they may not be able to afford or attract full or part-time clergy, they may or may not be willing to change or adapt, if the leadership leaves or they lose a family or two, they will be struggling.
 - **Struggling/In Transition Congregations** are struggling to do ministry with limited resources, and/or they lack lay or ordained leadership, they are may not be able to afford or attract full or part-time clergy.

- 3) What are the fruits of your love and labor?

Part 3: Signatures and Submission

Vicar/Rector/ Priest in Charge: _____

Date: _____

Warden: _____

Date: _____

Submit completed application to Louisa McKellaston at lmckellaston@episcopalchicago.org or 65 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

Please Note: Louisa must have the application by 5:00 pm, September 15, 2018. *Email is strongly encouraged.* Late applications will not be considered.