

The Presbyterian Church in Canada
Life and Mission Agency
The Worship and Liturgy Trust Fund
Guidelines, 2008

Background Information

The Worship and Liturgy Trust Fund was established to encourage and assist persons who are committed to improving their knowledge and skills as leaders in worship in The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Theological Basis

In The Presbyterian Church in Canada we understand that, in our worship, we focus our attention on glorifying and enjoying God in Jesus Christ and, as a community, we then go out into the world as followers of Christ. Worship is the central unifying act of the Christian community.

This gathering and scattering focuses around the Word and sacraments.

The service of the Word has its origin in the worship of the Jewish synagogue. The sacraments remind us of the Upper Room when Jesus said, “Take. Eat.” And, we recall the Great Commission found in Matthew 28: 19—“Jesus came and said to them, “...Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

Worship styles may vary within The Presbyterian Church in Canada, but Presbyterian churches, in general, see worship as a drama in four parts:

We gather to worship God
We listen for the Word of God
We respond in faith
We go out to serve God in the world

Goal

Projects supported by this Fund will increase excellence in worship leadership and/or increase knowledge about worship which will be shared with others.

Objectives

The recipients of money from this Fund will:

- enroll in an accredited study program (a continuing education program with a focus on worship and liturgical concerns or a postgraduate program in liturgical studies) OR commit to a personal program (study and research resulting in the development and publication of a paper or a presentation of an outstanding essay on a specified subject.)
- specify, before starting, how the results of this study will be shared with the national church in order that the results can then be shared with others.

Administration of Fund

The responsibility for administering the Fund will rest with the staff of *The Vine: Connecting people, places and programs* and the staff of Financial Services.

To submit an application for funding, applicants will carefully plan their project and submit a completed application form for consideration to *The Worship and Liturgy Trust Fund*, The Presbyterian Church in Canada. Attn: *The Vine: Connecting people, places and programs*, 50 Wynford Drive, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. M3C 1J7. The application form is available on line at www.presbyterian.ca: enter *Worship and Liturgy Trust Fund* in the search box on the home page.

Applications will be reviewed by *The Vine* staff. Approval for the funding will be based around the following criteria:

The program:

- is offered by an accredited theological institution recognized as consistent with reformed worship OR the application has a clear description of the purpose of a paper or essay on worship.
- the application will have a clear description of how and when the results of this study will be shared with the national church in order that the staff at the national church can share it with others.

The Fund is available for immediate distribution of approximately \$3000 per year. Individual applicants will be granted a maximum of \$1000 each, but the administrators of the Fund reserve the right to increase or decrease the amount of individual requests depending on the nature of the project or the yearly demands on the Fund.