

**PC(USA) OFFICE OF VITAL CONGREGATIONS
THE REVITALIZATION INITIATIVE**

PRESBYTERY LETTER OF INTEREST

INVITATION

An invitation for all presbyteries who are interested in joining together in this covenant relationship to God and to one another, as we seek the Spirit's revitalizing power for a vital life together. The Office of Vital Congregations for the PC(USA) invites you to share your interest in joining with other presbyteries around the country in the two-year Revitalization Initiative — which is a covenant relationship between Presbyteries and the PC(USA) to prayerfully walk with pastors and existing congregations in intentional efforts of revitalization. Year one builds authentic relationships of faith. Churches will embark on an honest assessment, capturing their unique stories, confessing their realities, and discerning the Spirit's call to action. Year two is about joining Christ in the new thing taking place, allowing the wonder of God to transform, and faithfully living into change. Through the 7-marks of Vital Congregations and 3 courses of action, we pray God will revitalize the church in missional action and faithful discipleship in Jesus Christ throughout our neighborhoods, our nation, and the world.

7-Marks: *Lifelong Discipleship Formation; Intentional Authentic Evangelism; Outward Incarnational Focus; Empower Servant Leadership; Spirit-Inspired Worship; Caring Relationships; Ecclesial Health.*

3-Actions: *1) Re-forming churches – re-envision & change how we are church together through the 7 Marks of Congregational Vitality, 2) Missional Clustering churches – revitalization by clustering congregations into new communities of worship & ministry, 3) Death and Resurrection churches – revitalizing by grace and gratitude in the death and legacy of a congregation, in witness to the resurrection.*

Financial Support: Applicants who are chosen to be part of this initiative may apply for a Transformation Grant in an amount up to \$25,000.00. If they have not been a recipient of this grant in the past, to cover costs associated with the initiative.

Beginning in Fall 2018, 10 presbyteries will be selected on an annual basis to begin this work together. Selected presbyteries will begin with the Foundational Planting work in their presbyteries; with the first 10-presbyteries beginning in January 2019. We pray that together we might join in witnessing the new thing Christ is doing in the Church! We look forward to receiving your letter of interest.

Please contact:

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Application Checklist

- ✓ **Letter of Interest, including:**
 - What attracts you to this Initiative?
 - What do you hope to gain out of this experience?
- ✓ **Completed application**

Application deadline is August 20, 2018.

Questions? Contact Denise Founder at denise.founder@pcusa.org

**Email your completed application and cover letter to the following persons:
Denise Founder at denise.founder@pcusa.org**

**Revitalization Initiative, PC(USA)
Interest Application**

Name of Presbytery _____

Presbytery Leader(s) name(s): _____

Presbytery Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____ Office Hours: _____

E-mail of Contact Person: _____

Person(s) Preparing Letter of Interest: _____

No. of Congregations: _____ Pastors: _____

Please answer the following questions. Each answer should not exceed three hundred words.

1. What attracts you to the Revitalization Initiative? What would Vital conclusion to the initiative look like for you?
2. What is the level of interest from church pastors and congregations in participation? Have hopes, expectations,
3. Is your Presbytery willing to invest human and financial resources for two years in this initiative? Will you be willing/able to provide two candidates for facilitators to be trained?
4. What do you consider the top two to three largest obstacles/issues in your presbytery at this time? How do you think your participation with us could overcome these?
5. What steps have you already taken to begin Revitalization? Explain the outcomes of these steps.

Cover Letter

Please submit a cover letter with your application that includes a brief description of your presbytery, and what brings you to the work of Revitalization now, and what are your hopes in the vitality of churches and pastors in your presbytery?

Signature of person(s) preparing Letter of Interest application: _____

Signature of presbytery leadership: _____

Date: _____