

# The Grant Challenge

## What is the National Fund for Sacred Places?

The National Fund for Sacred Places or National Fund, a program of Partners for Sacred Places and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, is a national historic grant-making program that supports capital building projects. Launched last year with grants totaling \$14 million from the Indiana-based Lilly Endowment Inc., the Philadelphia-based National Fund will offer planning grants, professional services, and capital grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$250,000 to a minimum of 50 congregations over four years. An Advisory Committee composed of faith leaders, architects, and philanthropists from across the country guides the National Fund. **More information can be found at [www.fundforsacredplaces.org](http://www.fundforsacredplaces.org)**

Partners for Sacred Places helps congregations and others with a stake in older religious properties make the most of them as civic assets in ways that benefit people of all faiths and of no faith. **Learn more at [www.sacredplaces.org](http://www.sacredplaces.org)**

The National Trust for Historic Preservation, a privately funded nonprofit organization, protects significant places representing our diverse cultural experience by taking direct action and inspiring broad public support. **For more information: [www.savingplaces.org](http://www.savingplaces.org)**

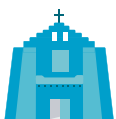
## How did FPC become aware of the National Fund's grant-making program?

Through a conversation with Ghost Ranch Executive Director Debra Hepler, Harry learned of the National Fund, and was encouraged to apply. Subsequently, First Presbyterian Church, Santa Fe (FPC) submitted a grant application, which was accepted and announced in October, 2017.

## Why did FPC pursue the grant? What is the overriding benefit to FPC?

We were in the first year of the **Great Heritage–Bold Future (GHBF)** capital campaign, which includes facilities maintenance and repair as a major component along with parking and our two mission projects: Child Development Center and Adelante – when we learned about the National Fund. Since the National Fund provides grants for repair, preservation and maintenance funding on a matching basis to historic churches accepted in their program, the capital campaign committee decided to pursue the grant.

Securing funds for long-term, ongoing maintenance and preservation of our facilities is a critical part of FPC's **Great Heritage–Bold Future** campaign. Though the campaign has thus far raised nearly \$1.2 million, we are more than \$800,000 short of our \$2 million goal. If our application for a National Fund grant is successful, the resulting grant award will supplement our GHBF campaign in areas that meet the National Funds preservation criteria.



## What are the matching requirements of the grant?

The National Fund awards matching grants of up to \$250,000 for a projects having a total cost of \$750,000. Grants up to \$100,000 are matched dollar for dollar. Grants more than \$100,000 are matched \$1 for every \$2 we raise at the maximum total cost of \$750,000.

For example, if the award is \$50,000, FPC must raise \$50,000. If the award is \$250,000, we must raise \$500,000.

## What are the terms of the grant-making program?

The terms are two-fold. First, FPC must conduct a building conditions report. To that end, FPC hired Shawn Evans, an historic preservation architect with AOS Architects in Santa Fe, to survey the entire facility. He submitted a 183-page building conditions report that identified more than \$860,000 in urgently needed repairs and fees. The Facilities and Finance committees finalized the scope of several preservation projects which Session has approved. On September 1, we will submit our capital grant request to the National Fund, which will determine the dollar amount of our grant. The cost of the AOS report is partially offset by a \$5,000 planning grant from the National Fund.

Secondly, the National Fund will evaluate our proposal to ensure it falls within their guidelines. Once approved, we can then apply for 50% of the awarded amount after we have met 25% of our match obligation in donations and pledges. The matching grant's remaining 50% can be released after the National Fund's inspection of the completed project, and FPC has met the matching balance. In our case, the National Fund grant would apply primarily to projects related to our historic sanctuary.

## Are we the only church approved in Santa Fe? In New Mexico?

Yes, we are the only church in Santa Fe and New Mexico accepted into the National Fund's 2017 program. In announcing FPC's acceptance in the National Grant Program, Chad Martin, director of the National Fund, said that First Presbyterian, Santa Fe, "is the oldest Protestant church in the region, and a beautiful building in a beautiful city. We are thrilled with the opportunity to be a part of this major preservation effort.

"Furthermore, we deeply respect First Presbyterian's commitment to the civic fabric of Santa Fe, and are eager to see our support bolster their ongoing partnerships in the downtown community."

## How many churches were awarded nationwide?

Of the more than 200 congregations that applied, 17 were accepted. The awardees include:

- Church of the Epiphany—Los Angeles, CA
- Congregation Beth Ahabah—Richmond, VA
- Downtown Church—Memphis, TN
- Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church—Charleston, SC
- The First Baptist Church of Boston—Boston, MA
- First Church—Oberlin, OH
- First Presbyterian Church—Santa Fe, NM
- Grace United Methodist Church—Dallas, TX
- Holy Ascension of Our Lord Cathedral Russian Orthodox Church—Unalaska, AK
- Judson Memorial Church—New York, NY
- Lutheran Church of the Reformation—Washington, DC
- Mission Nuestra Señora de la Purísima Concepción de Acuña—San Antonio, TX
- Saint Joan of Arc Catholic Church—Indianapolis, IN
- Saint Paul's United Methodist Church—Cedar Rapids, IA
- Shrine of Christ the King Sovereign Priest—Chicago, IL
- United Baptist Church of Poultney—Poultney, VT
- Wesley African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church—Philadelphia, PA

## When does the challenge begin?

FPC was officially accepted into the National Fund grant program on October 1, 2017, and any money contributed since then will count toward the challenge.

We will have a timeframe mutually agreed on by FPC and the National Fund to raise matching funds and complete the projects covered by the grant.

The amount of the National Fund's grant, expected to be announced by October 31, will kick off our efforts to raise the required funds to match this grant. During this phase we will solicit support from the congregation, and from foundations and other public sources.

## Would I be able to redirect the capital campaign pledge I've already made?

Unfortunately, the National Fund's terms specify that only pledges or gifts made after October 1, 2017, can be applied to the matching grant. So if you pledged to the GHBF campaign before October 1, your contribution will remain directed to the capital campaign's general fund.

If you pledged to the capital campaign after October 1, and would like to redirect your pledge or gift, please contact Judi Haines, Pledge Clerk, at [clerk@fpcsantafe.org](mailto:clerk@fpcsantafe.org), and submit a signed statement of intent.

## What happens if FPC is unable to meet the full challenge?

In the unlikely event we are unable to meet the full challenge, the National Fund will award only the amount prescribed by their funding formula.

## How will new contributions to the capital campaign be affected?

During the matching grant challenge, 100% of your donation will go toward the match unless you direct otherwise.

## Will our parking needs be included in the matching funds?

Parking is not included. The National Fund restricts the grant to preserving, repairing and maintaining significant sacred structures, which in our case is the sanctuary.

## Will this be a one-time donation, or may I make an extended pledge?

Your donation can consist of one or more unpledged gifts, or you can pledge an amount and pay your contribution by June, 2020. Simply indicate your preference on your donation card. Either way, your generosity is much appreciated.

## Are donations other than cash such as property, antiques, and art acceptable?

Yes, donations of this type are acceptable with some restrictions stated in the church's financial policies. Please review with Judi Haines, FPC's Pledge Clerk, before committing the donation.

## Do the matching funds have to come from the congregation only?

No, matching funds are not limited to the congregation. Foundations oriented to preserving historical structures; facility users; state, county and local governments; and friends of the church can and will be encouraged to donate.

However, it is important that outside requests for donations include the message that we have made every effort to generate the funds internally; that our congregation supports this initiative 100%; and that non-congregational assistance is needed if this iconic, historical structure is to remain a vital, contributing member to Santa Fe.

## Will my donation appear as part of the capital campaign on my year-end church donation summary, or as a separate line item?

Gifts to the GHBF capital campaign, the matching grant campaign, and/or the stewardship campaign will be noted as separate line items on the church's year-end statement to you.

As a reminder if you have an IRA, and are taking your required minimum distributions at age 70 ½, you are able to make a tax-free direct donation from your IRA to approved charitable entities such as FPC. However, please consult your tax advisor beforehand to avoid potential mishaps.

## What are our *Great Heritage–Bold Future* campaign contributions to date?

As of March 1, 2018, \$1,149,544 has been pledged, and \$763,536 in cash has been donated. We will publish periodically campaign updates in FPC's Sunday bulletin and newsletters.

## Will the capital campaign and the National Fund challenge grant overlap?

Yes they will overlap, but in different ways. The GHBF campaign, which officially began on Commitment Sunday, May 7, 2017, is a three-year campaign, running until June, 2020.

The GHBF campaign will continue to accept pledges and cash contributions through its conclusion in 2020. Since June, 2017, the campaign has concentrated on bringing in new members, reminding people of their pledge promise, and providing progress reports to the congregation.

The dollar amount of the challenge grant from the National Fund is expected in 3rd Quarter 2018.

Going forward, the next several months are dedicated to meeting the matching requirements of the challenge grant. Thereafter, the attention shifts to sustaining our fundraising momentum, facilities planning, and providing regular updates and progress reports to the congregation.

Funds collected during the challenge period, although restricted to the sanctuary, will be counted toward the original facilities goal of the GHBF campaign.

Further details regarding the purposes, terms and conditions, and disposition of funds collected in the course of the GHBF and National Fund campaigns are set forth in fund description documents that are maintained in the FPC business office.

## How can I help?

You can help with an additional gift to *The Grant Challenge*, be it \$5, \$100 or more. Every contribution brings us within reach of the repair and long-term care of our beloved sanctuary, and it brings us closer to 100% participation of the congregation, an important consideration as we approach outside funders.

You can also help by reaching out to your friends who could open doors to contributors outside the church. You can encourage congregational support. And you can pray that God will guide us in our quest for service to all peoples.

## Who are the FPC members leading this initiative? Whom do I contact with questions, or with offers to help?

Plato Karayanis, Diane Buchanan and Judi Haines lead the capital campaign and the National Fund matching grant program. Several church members serve on the campaign's subcommittees and central committee. Direct questions or offers to assist to Plato at [skarayan@swbell.net](mailto:skarayan@swbell.net), or call (505) 424-8174. Your questions are welcomed, and any time you can volunteer contributes to our goal.

where your  
*treasure*  
is, there your  
*heart*  
will be also.

Matthew 6:21