

Northern Waters District Mission & Ministry Grant History 2019-present

2019

- Ferris Wesley Foundation
- New Ministry Grants
 - Traverse City Central
 - Frankfort
 - Kingsley
 - Mancelona
 - Charlevoix
 - Petoskey
 - Horton Bay
 - Empire
 - Indian River

2020

- Ferris Wesley Foundation

2021

- Ferris Wesley Foundation
- JFON
- Zoom Licensing Grants – 13 Total awarded to local churches
- New Ministry Grants
 - Evert
 - Kingsley

2022

- JFON
- Ferris Wesley Foundation
- Lake Louise Camp Grant
- Lake Michigan Camp Grant
- New Ministry Grants
 - Greensky Hikll
 - Mesick
 - Empire
 - Traverse City Central

2023

- JFON
- Ferris Wesley Foundation
- 2022 Lake Louise Camp Grant
- Lake Michigan Camp Grant
- New Ministry Grants
 - Hilman
 - Covenant Community

Highlighted Churches

RECIPIENTS OF NEW MISSION & MINISTRIES GRANTS

Charlevoix UMC

Recipient in 2019

The Drawbridge Life revitalization project was birthed in the spring of 2019. We choose the name Drawbridge Life as a way of identifying with Charlevoix's iconic drawbridge that is located just a few blocks away. This all began as an idea of outreach into our community by providing an inviting place to gather as a community regardless of where you are in your spiritual walk. Our mission statement is to:

Draw – people into a community,

Bridge – the gap between the community and God, for a

Life – lived, growing in faith to make disciples for the transformation of the world.

On Thursday nights, Charlevoix UMC is open and ready. A member of our team will greet you at the door. You will be directed to our newly installed hospitality counter for some freshly grounded coffee or other beverages. There is always some tasty treats available to have with your coffee.

Once refreshments are in hand, you are welcomed into our inviting, nautically themed coffee bistro area just off from the main worship area. Music videos and upcoming events are displayed on the big screen TV as you settle in.

At 7:07, musicians start playing on our dock inspired stage. The music has more of an acoustic feel to it and is not limited to just Christian contemporary. You could hear anything from Chris Tomlin to Tom Petty and often original songs that artists debut for the audience.

After the music, Pastor Randy introduces a topic for the night. Often a video is played that sets the tone for the topic. The message that follows is more of an interactive dialog and everyone is invited to participate. This is a very spirit-led time and many times people will share testimonies or life struggles that they are dealing with. We will take time to pray for, or, over people as the spirit moves. We conclude with an informal communion time, where you are served at the table you are sitting at.

Following this, people are invited to linger around if they wish.

Horton Bay UMC

Recipient in 2019

In our planning sessions at Horton Bay we decided to improve our media presence on Facebook and on our own website. It was our hope that if we published the messages from Sunday morning live on Facebook that we would increase our ability to reach our friends and neighbors. The grant from the district helped us purchase "boxcast" equipment, a video camera, and a new laptop computer.

Often, on Sunday mornings, we have 30 or more people worshipping at HBUMC. We started our online presence with the Sunday message and with our own commercials. Often, we have more than 100 persons viewing our broadcast, live or from our archives. When we publish commercials, we are able to reach 100 people on a regular basis.

Our numbers started small and have grown. Christmas Eve this year gave us confirmation that we were reaching many. A family living in our community gathered with us for Christmas. They mentioned that they saw our Facebook posts. Twenty-five members of this family came to our service! Another family was visiting in Petoskey for Christmas. Grandma, Grandpa, and two grandkids found us online and came for our service. We had a full house on Christmas Eve partly because we found a new way for outreach.

Mancelona UMC

Recipient in 2019

Thank you for granting our church \$200 under the Missions and New Ministry Grant program. We were blessed with a beautiful day for our event on Saturday, June 22, 2019, with approximately 24 children, their parents/grandparents, and over 30 volunteers.

Program Description

Our intent was to provide the children of Mancelona and their families with a free summertime event that included fun and educational activities outside of the regular school schedule with nutritional food provided. Many of the families in Mancelona live beneath the poverty line, come from single-parent households, and have no church home. We continue to reach out to these families by enriching their lives and showing compassion as Jesus would have done.

Our program included three activities:

1. **Bicycle Program** – Our Pastor Bryan Kilpatrick led a bike safety program with the assistance of Marcie Grabruck from Communities in Schools Northwest Michigan and Mancelona Schools National Honor Society students. Students road their bikes through a bicycle safety course. Local sheriff officers along with the Health Center’s Nurse Practitioner fitted the children with free bicycle helmets and did a safety tune-up on each bike. A local bicycle shop agreed to order two bicycles at cost as part of a raffle we had for the children. Rob Burroughs from New Lyfe Restoration also donated four used/refurbished bicycles as a giveaway to children through the raffle.
2. **Book and Bookbag Program** – We partnered with the non-profit organization PoWeR! Book Bags of Sutton’s Bay to provide the children with three free books of their choice along with a handmade book bag filled with crayons, a finger puppet, and blank booklets to make their own books. Our church works with PoWeR! Book Bags throughout the year by making book bags and keeping bags and books stocked at our local food pantry. Volunteers were on hand to read books to younger children.
3. **Labyrinth Program** – Church volunteer Ellen Whitehead lead children and their parents on a labyrinth walk with the assistance of a National Honor Society student. She explained how a labyrinth helps us relax, be mindful, and find peace/calm when we are stressed. The children also enjoyed finding hidden letters to spell out the word “Labyrinth.” After they solved the word puzzle, they were given five small prizes from a box of goodies.

Partners in this Mission

The following community partners worked with our church to provide this program to children and their families:

- Communities in Schools Northwest Michigan – Provided volunteers, helped plan the event, and obtained grants through the Safe Route to Schools program. The grant provided bicycle safety signs and bicycle helmets.
- Village of Mancelona – Helped promote the event, allowed us to use a neighborhood street to conduct the bicycle safety course, prepared the park by sprucing up the grounds, providing refuge containers, and picnic tables.
- Mancelona Food Pantry & Resale Shop – Helped with promotion, donated healthy snacks, water, and prizes for the children.
- Ambulance Authority – Brought staff members, ambulance vehicles, and equipment to show the children how they help our community.
- Family Fare Supermarket of Mancelona – Donated a \$50 gift certificate for healthy food.
- Paddles & Pedals – Offered to order two bicycles at cost for our raffle.

We feel this was a wonderful outreach ministry to our community! The laughter, smiles, and genuine gratitude the children and families shared will warm our hearts for years to come. We hope to offer another program next summer.

Empire UMC

Recipient in 2020

Grant funds were used to make our church a church with amazing new video potentials.

Through the help of the district we were able to purchase large screen tv's, computer and all the misc. things needed to provide a moving church service with modern technology.

These new changes have allowed the church to be a community center of sorts. We have had meetings and started a community coffee cafe when church offices are open. Pastor Melody has been able to enhance her Sunday services with video clips and youtube praise music. The ease of seeing scripture on a big screen has made reading along much easier, not to mention the words from our hymns.

We would tell other churches to use their imagination on how they do ministry and reach out to the Mission and Ministry team for a grant application to help you with these advances and changes.

Harrietta UMC

Recipient in 2022

Harrietta United Methodist Church was able to create a Firewood Ministry for the community. This ministry helps with emergency heating needs in the winter.

With this generous donation, we decided to purchase the logs instead of pre-cut wood so we could get more to serve more people this winter.

The wood was delivered and before we could officially set up a work bee, volunteers just showed up and got to work. They made great progress and we were ready for the cold winter months.

Anyone in the Harrietta community and vicinity who needs help this winter staying warm are encouraged to reach out to us at the church. We feel very blessed to be able to bless other families this winter.

Kingsley UMC

Recipient in 2022

Monday Nite Out ~ a mission success and its impact

Our new ministry is called Monday Nite Out and is held every Monday at a park in Kingsley. We give away a free hot dog meal, offer free kids crafts, and have games. A great time for all from 5:00pm – 7:00pm.

This ministry brings young families and older seniors together. Those who serve see God working through volunteers and strangers getting to know each other. They talk about life, their kiddos and their struggles.

Kids enjoy playing games with the volunteers and EVERYONE enjoys the extra food that church volunteers bring as a surprise — such as watermelon, cupcakes, even s'mores!

It's like a mini block every Monday.