

What Will My District Do With The \$?

- The **Massachusetts Bay District** will be using their share as seed money for a new Young Adult Ministry Coordinator position.
- The **Ballou Channing District** will be making a decision as to the uses of their share sometime in June. Among the options being considered are: Conducting a growth conference with free registration for congregations that participated in Association Sunday; Providing full or partial matching grants for participating congregation leaders to attend Alban Institute or UUA growth workshops; Engaging a growth consultant; Developing a library of growth resources (books and DVD) for congregational in-house training; Purchasing UU A banners to distribute to congregations' Providing grants to congregation for specific growth programs or projects using Chalice Lighter guidelines that allow single, joint or district projects; or, Developing a district-wide ad campaign using the various newspapers in the region.
- The **St. Lawrence District** grant will be used to support a Four District (NRG)/Congregational Services-growth proposal that includes a quarter-time growth consultant and small congregations consultant.
- The **Metro New York District** is joining with three other districts and contributing \$3,800 from their grant towards a NRG-shared growth consultant. They will also be putting together a group to decide on the use of the remainder of the funds.
- The **Heartland District** has decided to direct their grant money to the following four areas: They will be creating and funding a "Weekend Ministry" program through their Extension Committee. This program has been a success in other districts and will allow for a talented minister to spend a weekend with a congregation in the discernment process discussing intentional growth and choosing a minister; A portion of the funds will go towards providing small stimulus grants to designated emerging congregations; They will use some of the funds to expand their Growth Coordinator position for FY '09; and, some money will be directed towards the staging of a growth conference next fall.

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- The **Joseph Priestly District** is planning on offering flexible grants between \$1,000 and \$5,000 to congregations based on criteria yet to be determined.
- The **Florida District** is planning on inviting congregations to propose matching grant ideas, contingent upon sharing the work with another nearby congregation. They will be providing money for a growth consultant to work with congregations in this effort. Preference will be giving to those who are fair-share to the UUA and FLD APF and who have a documented growth plan. FLD board members will be recruited to advise the process.
- The **Mid-South District** will be using its funds to support a new program for small congregation growth which will benefit 19 of the district's 33 congregations. Called the "Unlimited Potential" program — or UP! — it is designed for congregations 60 members or smaller who have no full-time staff. The MSD staff is planning the program along with the Trustee for Growth on the MSD board.
- The **Ohio-Meadville District** has decided to use a part of their Association Sunday grant funds to contribute towards the hiring of a growth consultant they will share with JPD, Metro New York and St. Lawrence. Initial plans for the remainder are to ask congregations to submit proposals for its use.
- The **Central Midwest District** will use the grant money they receive to purchase hymnals for their UU ministry at the Great Lakes Naval Training Academy. This will be a great resource for those UUs who wish to support our troops, while not the war. They may also help to fund a satellite of the Fox Valley congregation.
- The **Prairie Star District** is pleased to announce the *Collaborative Growth Initiative*, a special opportunity for multi-congregational initiatives that promote the growth of Unitarian Universalism within Prairie Star District. The district is funding this initiative using the resources created through Association Sunday 2007. The board has solicited proposals from multiple congregations collaborating for growth. The criteria for receiving a grant from this initiative include involving at least two congregations working together, at least one of which must have been an Association Sunday 2007 participating congregation and at least one of which must be formally affiliated with the UUA. The congregations involved must also commit to reporting back to the PSD board on quantitative and qualitative outcomes from their efforts. A small task force is reviewing these proposals and will make the final decision about grants soon.

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- The **Southwest District** has decided to use their grant money for a project they are calling “Young Adult Ministry Revival 09/10.” Among the goals of this program will be to hold young adult ministry best practice trainings, plan gatherings of young adults and consult congregations on their young adult ministry.
- The **Pacific Central District** board has invited two groups to make proposals for the use of their grant money, their *Regional Marketing gUUrillas* and their Growth Committee. The *RMg* has proposed a Google Ad words campaign similar to the one that was so successful for the San Francisco Bay Area during their big regional marketing campaign last fall. The Growth Committee just finalized their proposal in mid-April. The PCD board will make their selections in May.
- The **Pacific Southwest District** is still in discussion about their use of their grant money. Among the recommendations for its use are that the district should give grants to programs that are already in progress surrounding growth. The district will ask for a short description of each and collaborate with an advisory committee to help decide which to fund.
- The **Mountain Desert District** has decided to use half of their grant money to support scholarships to the RLLS Leadership School and the other half to underwrite a major, public social justice conference in the district. They feel that this will support excellent congregational leadership and provide a powerful new visibility for Unitarian Universalism. Though the topic for the conference is not yet set, it will center on an issue of significant regional importance.

We are still awaiting word on decisions from the following districts:

- **Northern New England District**
- **Thomas Jefferson District**
- **Clara Barton District**
- **Pacific Northwest District**