

## CREATION JUSTICE 2022 Grant Application Form

2 February, 2022

Jim Gillison  
James.gillison@msn.com  
(406) 546-1359

First United Methodist Church  
PO Box 7646  
Missoula, MT 59807  
(406) 549-6118  
300 E Main St.  
Missoula, MT 59802

- 1. Describe the work of your project. Be sure to include the central purpose, target audience, goals, key activities and timeline:** Our project is to install an 80-panel solar array on the roof of our church with the assistance of a NorthWestern Energy E+ Renewable Program grant (awarded twice annually) of about \$70k to accompany another \$20k raised from the congregation and other funding sources like this one. The project's goal is to reduce by up to 90% our building's present reliance on power generated from burning fossil fuels.
- 2. How does this project fulfill the purposes and priorities of the Creation Justice Grant and how will the community be engaged?** This project contributes to a deliberate reduction of our building's carbon footprint and "elevates climate action as a primary focus of our ministry" in accordance with our Climate Covenant (see encl. 1, #3) which has been sent to Missoula's Mayor and City Council (see encl. 2).
- 3. Explain the need your project addresses and why you are passionate about addressing that need?** Our project addresses the need shared by all fossil fuel burning communities to reduce their reliance on energy sources which harm the natural environment and threaten the very future of human life on earth.
- 4. Is this project an extension of an existing ministry? Yes.**
- 5. If Yes, how are you expanding what is already in place?** This project continues several of our church's recent green initiatives including a building energy audit, installation of low flow plumbing, automatic lighting, and glass recycling.
- 6. Please attach a budget for your project including anticipated timeline for budget expenditures, also include total amount of funding you are requesting.** We are requesting \$1,500 from the Creation Justice Grant for our solar panel project. I include the recent (29 Apr

'21) budget of a neighboring church (encl. 3) using the same company and contractor to justify our request until we have received their proposal for our church (see Green Note, 2 Jan '22, firstumcmissoula.org).

**7. What would successful results from this project look like?** Successful results from this project would see an array of 80 solar panels on the roof of a downtown church built in the late nineteenth century providing clean electrical energy to its parishioners and community well into the twenty-first.

**8. How will you tell the story to your church/organization, community and to others?** We will continue to highlight green actions and solutions for our church and community in weekly announcements both printed and electronic, from the pulpit, and from our website and Facebook pages. This particular project will also likely be covered by local print and television media.

**9. How will you follow up with your project's participants beyond the grant period?** Aside from 8 (above), solar panel installation provides an internet monitor to display church power use at the building's entrance (see encl. 3, #17).

Enclosures:

1. Missoula First United Methodist Church Climate Covenant
2. Letter, 20 Nov '21, Mayor Engen and City Council Members
3. Our Saviors Lutheran Church Solar Project Application (pg. 2)