

## Will You Become a “New Places for New People Partner?”

Bishop Webb and Rev. David Masland, the Director of New Faith Communities, challenge individual clergy and laity, as well as every United Methodist Church in Upper NY to become a “New Places for New People Partner!” But first, a little history.

There are currently 96 active NFC’s being planted in Upper NY! About 35% of them have received some form of grant to get them started, and nearly 100% of this grant money has come from the New Beginnings Fund. The New Beginnings Fund was set up at the time of the formation of Upper NY Conference, and has been fed by the income of the sales of closed church properties. For a variety of reasons, in recent years, the income from sold churches has not kept up with need. Because of this, the Conference Leadership Team has approved a plan to create a new annual fund drive called “New Places for New People Partners.”

Individual persons (lay and clergy) are invited to prayerfully consider becoming a “New Places for New People Partner” by giving a gift of at least \$100. Every person who gives at least \$100 will receive a button that proclaims: “I am a New Places for New People Partner.”

Every church in Upper NY is challenged by Bishop Webb and Rev. Masland to become a “New Places for New People Partner” by giving a gift of at least \$500. Congregations that give at least \$500 will receive a certificate saying: “New Places for New People Partner Church.”

Of course, if individuals or churches feel inspired to give something more than the entry level “Partner” gift, they can. People can consider giving at the following levels:

<b>Individual Donations:</b>	<b>Level of Donation</b>	<b>Thank you gift</b>
“Partner”	\$100	Button
“Covenant Partner”	\$1000	Button and certificate
“Vision Partner”	\$10,000	Button and framed certificate
“Lifetime Partner”	\$100,000	Button, framed certificate, meal w/Masland

  

<b>Congregational Gifts:</b>	<b>Level of Donation</b>	<b>Thank you gift</b>
“Partner Church”	\$500	Certificate
“Covenant Partner Church”	\$2500	Framed Certificate
“Vision Partner Church”	\$10,000	Framed “ ”, written update by Masland
“Lifetime Partner Church”	\$100,000	Framed Certificate, and Visit from Masland

We expect to use between \$100,000 and \$200,000 of money raised thru this program for grants in 2019-20. Any funds raised above this amount will be invested to provide income for future years! Gifts can be sent to Conference Office, or brought to Annual Conference... made out to “Upper NY Conference” with the notation, “New Places for New People Partner Gift.”