

# Thank you for your interest in the Cornerstone Fund. Please complete the entire loan application and provide all requested documentation.

The Cornerstone Fund provides low-cost financing that is designed exclusively for churches and other faith-based, missionally aligned non-profits. Founded in 1993 as a separate 501(c)3 non-profit organization, the Cornerstone Fund's mission is "to join together in faith to invest in and build Community." We have now financed over 700 projects across the U.S. worth more than \$350 million, from energy improvement projects and building renovations to property purchase and site redevelopment. The Cornerstone Fund is a mission-driven organization, and with the help of its investors, able to provide competitive financing to churches, ministries, and non-profit organizations.

Important Considerations	Local Bank	Cornerstone Fund
Up to 30-year Term & Amortization	NO	YES
Five-Year Adjustable Rate	YES	YES
Limitations on Rate Changes	VARIES	YES
Pre-Payment Penalty	OFTEN	NO*
Re-Amortization at Paydown	VARIES	YES
Cashback Programs	NO	YES
Mission Driven and/or Faith Based	NO	YES

<sup>\*</sup> Pre-payment penalty only applies if refinancing loan through another financial institution

Please contact a lending specialist at the Cornerstone Fund with any questions. We can be reached at 888-UCC-FUND (822-3863) or lending@cornerstonefund.org.

#### **About the Cornerstone Fund**

The Cornerstone Fund, affiliated the United Church of Christ, provides low-cost flexible financing that is designed exclusively for churches and faith-based organizations. The Cornerstone Fund also offers flexible and competitive investment options for churches, church affiliates and individual investors. As a faithful steward of our investor's funds, Cornerstone Fund helps churches and non-profit organizations create change within their communities.

#### The United Church of Christ

The United Church of Christ (UCC) is a very young church with old roots. The UCC was formed in 1957 when several denominations, some of which go back to the Protestant Reformation, merged. They include the Congregational and Christian churches (which merged in 1931) and the German Evangelical and Reformed Church in America (which merged in 1934). One of the hallmarks of the UCC is the quest to seek social justice for all people. The UCC believes that to truly understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ, one must read it from the perspective of the poor, the oppressed, and the marginalized. Christ is revealed in word, sacrament, and service. This philosophy is embodied in the UCC's purpose, vision, and mission statements:

Purpose: To love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength and our neighbor as ourselves.

Vision: United in Christ's love, a just world for all.

Mission: United in Spirit and inspired by God's grace, we welcome all, love all, and seek justice for all.





#### SECTION 1

## **APPLICATION CHECKLIST** PLEASE INCLUDE THESE DOCUMENTS WITH YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION

2025 Budget

2025 Year to Date Financial Statement (income & expense and balance sheet)

2024, 2023, and 2022 Financial Statements (income & expense and balance sheet)

Most recent (2) months of bank statements and the most recent investment account statement

Current statement of any existing loan(s)

Articles of Incorporation

Constitution and Bylaws

Property and Liability Insurance Certificates

Pastor's Bio/Resume

All supporting project documents (contracts, plans, etc.)

2024 Anonymized Pledge List

Letter of Reference from Community Member Certificate of Good Standing, or equivalent

**Church History Summary** \$250 Application Fee

#### **SECTION 2**

# ADDITION INFORMATION

Church Name (as incorporated):	
Also Known As (if applicable):	
Street Address:	
City / State / ZIP:	County:
Mailing Address:	
City / State / ZIP:	County:
Phone:	Email:
Website:	Tax ID:
Contact Name:	Title:
Contact Phone:	Email:
Senior Pastor:	Year Called:
Contact Phone:	Email:



#### Non-UCC CHURCH LOAN APPLICATION

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**SECTION 3** 

**PROJECT SUMMARY** 

Estimated project cost:

Fees paid to date, if any (e.g. architect, etc.):

Project cash-on hand:

Total loan amount needed:

Anticipated project start date:

Expected project completion date:

Project Purpose: (Select all that apply)

**Property Purpose** 

Construction

Renovation

**Energy Efficiency** 

**Accessibility Improvements** 

Multi-Use Development

Refinancing

Other (Please specify)

In one or two sentences, please briefly describe your financing and project needs:

**SECTION 4** 

# **FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

What is your plan to manage the payments for this loan?

If there are any deficit years in the financials provided, please explain how they were managed.

What is the proposed collateral for this loan?

Existing Property. Address:

Property to be Acquired. Address:

Investments/Endowment Funds:





Do you have any existing debt at other financial institutions? If so, please complete the table below detailing the current loan(s).

Lender	Purpose	Original Amount	Current Balance	Interest Rate	Monthly Payment	Collateral

#### **SECTION 5**

### **CHURCH INFORMATION**

Church Stats	2022	2023	2024	2025 (YTD)
Membership				
Attendance (in-person)				
Attendance (online)				
Pledging Units				

Community Impact	2022	2023	2024	2025 (YTD)
Program*	# of people impacted			

<sup>\*</sup>Program examples include: food pantry, clothing drive, after school programs, mentoring, job training, etc.

### **SECTION 6**

# **FUNDRAISING**

Is there a capital campaign to support this project?

Yes No

Professional support (if any)

Campaign Launch Date:	Campaign Completion Date:	
Campaign Goal:	Total Pledged to Date:	
Total Donors to Date (#):	Total Collected to Date:	





**SECTION 7** 

#### **LEGAL LIABILITITES**

Does your organization have any known recent, current, or pending litigation of any kind?

Yes No

If yes, please attach supporting documentation

**SECTION 8** 

#### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Please describe your financing needs and project in detail. Please include what you think the impact of your project will be, using whatever metrics are appropriate.



# Non-UCC CHURCH LOAN APPLICATION

#### SECTION 9

#### **CHURCH PROFILE**

Since you are a potential lending client with the Cornerstone Fund, we need to assure our investors and our Board, that your church's activities align with the purpose, vision, and mission of the UCC. Please answer the following questions:
What is your mission? How does your church advance the agenda of a "just world"?
Please describe your church's interpretation of "welcoming to all". How do you engage in and enrich the local community?
Has your church actively worked to protect the rights of all people? Please provide an example
Is your church part of an denomination or group of churches? Please provide name and website, if available.
The United Church of Christ is a progressive denomination that values and promotes inclusion, equality, social justice, and climate care. Please share ways in which your church has advanced these values.
What are your views on homosexuality?
The Cornerstone Fund prioritizes community and social impact in lending decisions. Please discuss the impact your church has on your community, including numbers, if possible. For example, some of our borrowers demonstrate depth of impact by significantly improving the lives of a small number of people (20 neighborhood children nurtured and supported for decades through grade school, college, and into professional life, breaking the cycle of poverty) while others demonstrate breadth of impact by improving one aspect of many people's lives (91,000 people from three counties fed each week with a foodbank ministry.) There are many ways a church can impact its community. What is yours? How do you measure it?

Please send us a 3-minute video showing us what your church is all about. Show us the building, introduce us to the Pastor, and include whatever you would like us to know. This should not be a professional video, just a casual smartphone video that helps us get to know you better.



# Non-UCC CHURCH LOAN APPLICATION

#### SECTION 10

#### **SIGNATURES**

I/we represent that we are a non-profit organization. Further, I/we certify that all information provided on this application is true, correct, and complete.

Name:	Title:
Signature:	Date:
Name:	Title:
Signature:	Date: