Funding for Churches

This document is a collection of potential funding opportunities for Churches.

The text on each potential funding body is compiled from extracts from their respective websites at the date stated in the document’s filename.

Some of the funding opportunities listed below were closed at the date of the searches. If they are closed permanently then they have been omitted, but those that are likely to re-open later in the year have been included.

This document is not meant to be exhaustive, nor complete. It is a snapshot of the most relevant funding opportunities at that particular time.

Church and Community Fund
http://www.ccfund.org.uk/
The Church and Community Fund has ceased its grant making operations for the foreseeable future and is no longer accepting applications.

ChurchCare
http://www.churchcare.co.uk/churches/funding-and-grants/our-grants

ChurchCare is the Church of England’s national resource, adding value from the centre to support over 16,000 parish churches and 42 cathedrals. They support all those in parishes, dioceses and cathedrals caring for their buildings today and for the enjoyment of future generations.

They support parishes in the conservation and repair of historic church buildings and their various contents.

They regret that they are unable to offer grants for heating, community use or environmental projects at this time.

They work in partnership with various grant-giving bodies to provide funding for church projects. Their grants support PCCs in the conservation of listed church buildings and their historic contents. Their aim is to ensure that conservation projects in Anglican churches are carried out to a high standard. Their grants programmes provide, in addition to financial support, expert conservation advice to ensure that repairs follow best practice.

Choose what you are interested in funding from the list below at: http://www.churchcare.co.uk/churches/funding-and-grants/our-grants to access more information on their specific grants and find out how to apply.

- Conservation Reports
- Bells
- Books and Manuscripts
- Clocks
- Church Plate
- Churchyard Structures
- Fabric Repairs
- Metalwork
- Monuments
- Organs
- Paintings and Wall Paintings
- Stained Glass
- Textiles
- Timberwork

ChurchCare also publishes a list of other sources of funding at: http://www.churchcare.co.uk/churches/funding-and-grants/other-sources-funding
Heritage Lottery Fund Grants for Places of Worship
http://tinyurl.com/jynvalq

Grants for Places of Worship funds urgent structural repairs to Grade I, II* and II listed places of worship in England. As part of the repair project, we can also fund improvements to facilities and work that helps more people get involved with these wonderful buildings. Grants from £10,000–£250,000 can fund urgent structural repairs and help to make them better places for everyone to visit.

Under this programme, they fund applications from all faith groups and denominations which are responsible for maintaining and repairing their place of worship. In order to apply, you must be a formally constituted organisation (governed by a set of rules, known as a constitution).

Under this programme, they fund projects that repair listed places of worship that are currently used for worship at least six times a year. Their priority for this programme is to support structural repairs urgently required within the next two years that have been clearly identified and defined in a condition survey such as a Quinquennial Inspection.

They expect the repair work to be carried out in a single contract. Large projects will need to be tackled in phases, with each individual contract programmed according to the urgency of the repairs. In very exceptional circumstances, they may consider larger projects requiring a grant of more than £250,000 if it is clear that you cannot divide the work and all the repairs are equally urgent (for example, a project to rebuild a spire in a single phase of work).

This programme is also designed to encourage more people and a wider range of people to take an interest in your place of worship and to help care for it in the future. They hope to achieve this by finding new ways in which your place of worship can be used by the wider community beyond the primary function of worship and/or by providing new opportunities for people to find out about the heritage of your place of worship.

They will therefore fund new capital works, such as toilets or kitchens, improvements to heating or electrical systems, other works to improve energy efficiency, and works to assist with the on-going maintenance of the place of worship.

There are no deadlines for grant requests under £100,000.

National Churches Trust Repair Grants
http://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/our-grants/repair-grants

Their Repair Grants programme offers grants between £5,000 and £40,000 towards the cost of urgent and essential structural repair projects.

Projects must have an estimated cost of at least £100,000 (including VAT and fees) to qualify. Other eligibility criteria apply.

Places of worship of any denomination and age can apply. They will consider applications from listed and unlisted Christian places of worship across the UK. However, in 2016 they are interested in seeing applications from their priority areas - North East England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, as well as from Baptist and Presbyterian churches.

The 2017 Repair Grants Programme is currently open for applications (as at 21/11/16).

National Churches Community Grants
http://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/our-grants/community-grants

The 2017 Community Grants Programme is currently open (as at 21/11/16).
Their Community Grants programme offers grants usually of between £5,000 and £20,000 towards the cost of projects introducing facilities to enable increased community use of places of worship. They prioritise projects that include toilets and catering facilities.

Are you eligible?

- Is yours a Christian place of worship in the UK, and open for regular public worship?
- Was your place of worship built as a place of worship originally, and are the works proposed due to take place within or attached to the place of worship?
- Is your total project cost estimated at over £25,000 (including VAT and fees)?
- Have you already raised 50% of the total project cost?
- Is the project being led by a qualified professional, with conservation accreditation if it is a listed building?
- Have you got all necessary permissions approved and in place?

**National Churches Development Grants**

[http://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/project-viability-and-project-development-grants](http://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/project-viability-and-project-development-grants)

The 2017 Development Grants Programme is currently open (as at 21/11/16).

The Project Development grant programme is a pilot grant programme offering awards of between £3,000 and £10,000 to support churches to become more sustainable through the diagnosis of issues affecting the church, by testing the viability of proposed solutions to improve sustainability, and through development of guiding policies and plans that will be implemented through an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund, or other large church heritage funders.

**Garfield Weston Foundation**


Garfield Weston Foundation award grants for eight themed areas, one of these is Religion: Conserving our built heritage and supporting religious community work

The majority of these grants were towards the cost of repairing the fabric of the UK’s numerous beautiful, listed churches. These buildings are often costly to maintain and repair and meeting such costs can be especially challenging for rural communities where congregations may be small or the population sparse. Other grants they made were for their inclusive work in engaging communities, regardless of denomination.

This category demonstrates the impact the Foundation’s funds are able to make to local communities by providing funds towards simple but practical and effective projects that enable religious buildings to be used for a wider range of charitable purposes by their local communities. Capital grants include funds towards the instillation of basic amenities (such as toilets, kitchen facilities and disabled access) and for restoration works to historic church buildings such as roof repairs.

The Foundation is only able to support UK registered charities unless the organisation has ‘exempt’ status - this is restricted to churches, hospitals, educational establishments and housing corporations.

Please note that typically their Trustees are not able to consider more than 10% of an organisation’s total budget for a capital project or core costs and no more than 50% for other projects – this is to ensure that your organisation has a broad base of funding and is not overly reliant on any one source.

They don’t have deadlines that you need to meet and they accept applications all year round.

**Glaziers Trust**

[http://www.worshipfulglaziers.com/?page_id=1219](http://www.worshipfulglaziers.com/?page_id=1219)
Grants are available to churches and other public buildings exclusively for the restoration and conservation of historic and important stained glass.

The Glaziers Trust has two principal objects:

- The restoration and conservation of historic and important stained glass
- Promoting the craft by supporting the education and training of craftsmen and women in the fields of stained and painted glass and by fostering public information and awareness.

Please note that the Trustees must have details of a grant application at least two weeks before their next meeting in order to consider it at that meeting.

The Trust targets its resources to grant aid religious bodies (of any faith or denomination) or secular institutions who have the responsibility for maintaining art-historically important stained glass in their buildings on behalf of future generations.

Grants are made towards the preservation, conservation and/or restoration of stained glass of particular significance or exceptional artistic merit. That is, stained glass or other artistic glazing designed by an artist or architect of some note; made by a studio or workshop of some distinction; or of some particular rarity and/or connection with important personages or historical events (e.g. most surviving medieval stained glass). There are no restrictions as to historical period, and applications concerning Victorian and twentieth-century stained glass are welcomed.

Grants are restricted to stained and/or painted glass; artistically designed plain and/or decorative glazing; support systems (i.e. leading, saddle bars, fixing etc., and protective conservation glazing). Grants are not available for stone or brickwork repairs or protection from weather or vandals.

That the stained glass to be restored/conserved is in a publicly accessible location.

Grants currently range from a few hundreds to a few thousands of pounds, and are paid only on completion of the work to the agreed standard.

**William and Jane Morris Fund**
https://www.sal.org.uk/grants/morris-fund-conservation-grants/

Grants are awarded to churches, chapels and other places of worship in the United Kingdom for the conservation of decorative features and monuments, but not structural repairs.

Awards are typically £500-£3,000

The Society welcomes applications in accordance with the following criteria:

- Smaller programmes of work concerned with the conservation of decorative or non-structural features, for example
  - stained glass windows
  - sculpture
  - furniture
  - monuments and tombs
  - wall paintings

- The decorative feature, monument, etc must be dated before 1896 (the date of William Morris’s death). Applications for features dated after 1896, even if they are in churches dated before 1896, are not eligible.

- A professional architect or established conservator must be engaged to direct the work.

- Grant-aided work must be completed within one year of receipt of the grant

- Completion of the work must be certified by an appropriate professional.

The following are not eligible:
- Major structural repairs and fabric maintenance
- Alteration or decoration of buildings
- Electrical rewiring and the repair or installation of central heating systems
- Bells or organs
- Works already completed (i.e. grants are not made retrospectively)
- Anything created after 1896

Pilgrim Trust  
http://www.thepilgrimtrust.org.uk/grants/apply-for-a-grant/

The Pilgrim Trust concentrates its funding into two areas, Preservation and Scholarship and Social Welfare. Their priorities include:

Preservation of and repairs to historic buildings and architectural features. Special consideration is given to projects that give new use to buildings which are at risk and of outstanding architectural or historic importance. We will consider projects at an early stage where support is needed to develop a scheme. In exceptional cases, salary costs and other support costs can be considered.

Places of Worship. To apply under our block grant allocation scheme please contact the relevant administering organisation directly.

Appeals for Fabric Repairs for Churches in England. National Churches Trust 7 Tufton Street London SW1P 3QB 020 7222 0605 info@nationalchurchestrust.org

Appeals for Fabric Repairs for Cathedrals:  
The Pilgrim Trust is unlikely to fund ongoing, major repairs in Cathedrals. However, it would consider particular discrete projects, for example, the conservation of a particularly significant monument.

Appeals for Historic Contents:  
Including the conservation of historic contents, for example, monuments and the repair and important structures and monuments in churchyards. If an application concerns a pipe organ, then the instrument should be historically and musically significant.

Projects to develop new facilities or re-ordering of religious buildings are not supported.

Non-Church of England establishments (including Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales).  
Apply direct to The Pilgrim Trust Church of England Churches Cathedral and Church Buildings Division, Church House, Great Smith Street London SW1P 3NZ 020 7898 1866 enquiries.ccb@churchofengland.org

On Organ Fund  
http://www.onorganfund.org.uk/

The fund exists for the purpose of supporting the provision and restoration of pipe organs in the British Isles.

An application can be made only if and when all of the following conditions have been met:
- the project is for the main organ in the church;
- a fund has been set up and at least half the amount required (including VAT if applicable) has been raised;
- a contract has been signed with the organ builder;
- a faculty (if applicable) has been granted.

The Fund receives many applications and most grants are currently between £100 and £1000.

Ousley Trust  
http://wwwouseleytrust.org.uk/
The Ouseley Trust is a registered charity set up to promote and maintain to a high standard the choral services of the Church of England, the Church in Wales and the Church of Ireland. It does this by making grants to cathedrals, choral foundations, parish churches, choir schools and other relevant institutions.

The largest grant they have made is £50,000 to a cathedral. The maximum they are likely to give towards fees is £5,000.

**Sharpe Trust**

http://www.sharpetrustees.org.uk/trust.htm

Grants for the maintenance, repair and restoration of church bells in England. Grants have ranged between 50 and 500 pounds, the average being approximately 150 pounds.

**WREN Heritage Fund**

http://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/our-grants/wren-heritage-fund

The FCC Heritage Fund has been closed and is no longer accepting applications. The decision to close the fund was made by WREN in March 2016 following recent changes to the Landfill Community Fund.

This means the National Churches Trust will no longer make recommendations or distribute WREN monies towards church repair projects. Some church community projects may still be eligible through WREN’s existing FCC Community Action Fund. Please refer to their website http://www.wren.org.uk/ for further details and eligibility criteria.

**Listed Places of Worship: Roof Repair Fund**

http://www.lpowroof.org.uk/

The Listed Places of Worship: Roof Repair Fund is for urgent repairs to public places of worship across the UK.

The second round has now closed and there will be no further funding. Grants are available for between £10,000 and £100,000. They know that some repair projects will cost more than £100,000 but they want to ensure they are able to help as many places of worship as possible. Evidence shows that modest repairs undertaken quickly will save large amounts of money in the medium to longer term.

For larger urgent repair projects where a grant in excess of £100,000 is sought, they recommend you contact your local Heritage Lottery Fund office to see whether you may be eligible to apply to one of its grant programmes.

Details about previously funded projects are at:

They do provide some suggestions about other possible sources of funding.
http://www.dianedodds.co.uk/assets/images/files/Dodds_Church.pdf

**Beatrice Laing Trust**

http://www.laingfamilytrusts.org.uk/index.html

The Beatrice Laing Trust’s focus is on the relief of poverty and the advancement of the evangelical Christian faith, both at home and abroad.

Previous grant recipients have included:

- Organisations, many of them Christian organisations working to express their faith through practical action to help those in need, offering direct support to the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in society, including:
Charities providing practical services to people with physical, mental and learning difficulties and their families/carers. Examples include:
- special schools seeking to develop and expand their facilities in order to enable them to meet the needs of people with increasingly complex disabilities
- those involved in supporting young people with complex needs in the transition into adulthood, providing supported accommodation and opportunities for training/meaningful employment
- those seeking to provide facilities for respite care

Organisations providing opportunities for training and development to young people, in particular those who are disadvantaged or ‘at risk’.

Small-scale overseas development projects aiming to build the capacity of local partners to develop long-term sustainable solutions to local problems in countries in the developing world.

A significant percentage of the grants awarded are made on a one-off basis for capital purposes such as the purchase or construction of new premises, building extension, redevelopment or refurbishment, or the purchase of equipment and vehicles. Most other grants are directed towards specific projects which will meet a clearly defined and demonstrable need within the applicant charity’s beneficiary/client group which cannot be met from statutory sources. Such grants may be made on a one-off basis or phased, often on a tapering basis, over a three year period.

While the Trust does not make grants towards the ongoing cost of sustaining core activities, the Trustees do recognise that securing funding for such costs can be a particular challenge. Applicants should, therefore, include a reasonable level of management costs to cover overheads when submitting a project budget; this may include some employment costs.

Grants typically range between £1,000 and £5,000, although the Trust has the capacity to make a few larger grants each year.