



Pilgrim Church recognizes that many in our communities are facing unforeseen hardships as a result of the current COVID-19 pandemic that has touched so many of us, our families, friends and neighbors. Many have lost essential income, are faced with still having to pay monthly bills, buy food and essentials, plus meet medical expenses and other costs. As a charitable organization, our hope is to be able to extend a lifeline during these challenging times to some of the most vulnerable in our surrounding communities impacted by COVID 19.

With initial funding from our Memorial and Endowment committee along with contributions from individual donors, Pilgrim Church has established The Pilgrim Church Good Neighbor Fund. The purpose of this fund is to be a source of immediate relief for those in our area who need it most. Our goal is to swiftly respond to the urgent needs of residents in Sherborn and our neighboring towns including: Ashland, Dover, Framingham, Holliston, Hopkinton, Medfield, Millis and Natick.

Pastor John Hudson and our Missions Ministry will begin the immediate assessment of applications and distribute grants from The Pilgrim Church Good Neighbor Fund to residents in our surrounding communities who are experiencing financial crises. These one-time grants, for up to \$500, will be made available on a rolling basis until funds are depleted. Grants will be given in the form of gift cards or checks to specific businesses or professional entities.

Pilgrim Church as a faith community abides by one central call, to come together to support one another and our neighbors. We want to help as many people as possible. You can help in several ways. Tell friends, neighbors, family and co-workers about the fund. Direct people to our website, www.pilgrimsherborn.org, and Facebook page, where a link to the grant application can be found. The application will be available at the church office as well.

Also, if you feel so moved, you can support your neighbors by helping us to grow The Pilgrim Church Good Neighbor Fund with a financial contribution. One hundred percent of your tax-deductible donation will go directly to those most in need. Donations can be made on-line through our website or by sending a check to Pilgrim Church PO Box 332 Sherborn, MA 01770. Please include the notation, The Pilgrim Good Neighbor Fund.



Eligibility and Disbursement of Grants

Individuals will be able to access the application through the Pilgrim Church website, www.pilgrimsherborn.org, on our Facebook page, receive one in the mail or obtain one at the church office.

- An applicant/ household may apply for up to \$500 of support
- Applicants must be residents of the following communities: Ashland, Dover, Framingham, Holliston, Hopkinton, Medfield, Millis, Natick or Sherborn.
- Grants will be made available on a rolling basis until funds are depleted.

Grants will be considered, based on the following criteria:

- A written or verbal explanation of how the pandemic has affected someone's income or expenses
- What economic hardships are they presently facing?
- What is their most immediate need?
- How much financial assistance are they requesting?
- How soon is the assistance needed?
- For support with utilities, housing expenses, medical bills, insurance etc... a copy of the bill is required and payment will be made directly to the company or agency.
- For support with groceries, gas, personal necessities, Pastor John Hudson will interview the applicant for details.