

# CHRISTMAS FOR CHRIST APPLICATION

*(Read the Frequently Asked Questions thoroughly before completing the application.)*

## Frequently Asked Questions...

### ***What is Christmas for Christ?***

Christmas for Christ is a North American Missions effort by which funds are raised at Christmas-time in North American churches to sponsor missionaries and support various North American Missions ministries in the United States and Canada.

### ***What types of allocations are available and how may the funds be used?***

- Personal Assistance:
  - A monthly allocation to assist the church-planter with living expenses.
- Property Lease:
  - A monthly allocation used to rent/lease a facility for congregational meetings.
- Property Purchase:
  - A onetime allocation to purchase property or an existing building.
- Property Remodel:
  - A onetime allocation to renovate a building already owned by the congregation.

### ***Where can I find a Christmas for Christ Application?***

The Christmas for Christ application is available through your District Office, North American Missions, or online at [NAMupci.com](http://NAMupci.com).

### ***When are Christmas for Christ applications due?***

Applications are due to North American Missions by January 15. Late applications receive little or no consideration.

### ***How does one apply for Christmas for Christ support?***

Applicants submit a Christmas for Christ application. The application must be complete and accurate for consideration. The applicant **must** be a licensed minister of the United Pentecostal Church International. Further, the application **must** have the signatures of the District Superintendent, District Secretary and North American Missions Director in the district where the church is started. **\*\*NOTE\*\*** In some cases, a minister will be moving to another district, but the transfer of credentials is not yet complete. In this case, the applicant **must** receive signatures from the District Superintendent, District Secretary and North American Missions Director in which they reside **AND** the signatures of District Superintendent, District Secretary and North American Missions Director where the church will be started.

### ***What is the maximum amount of funding available each year for assistance?***

The missionary may request up to \$2,000.00 per month (\$24,000 per year) for monthly allocations (Personal Assistance or Property Lease) or up to \$15,000 per year for onetime allocations (Property Purchase or Property Remodel).

### ***How many years can a church planter receive Christmas for Christ Funding?***

A Christmas for Christ Missionary is eligible to receive up to three years of funding during their 5-year North American Missions' status.

This can be three years of monthly allocations for Personal Assistance or Property Lease.

A missionary is eligible once for a onetime allocation for Property Purchase or Property Remodel during their 5-year North American Missions' status. If they receive this onetime allocation, it will count as one of the three years of funding.

### ***Where do I send the completed application?***

Send the application to the District North American Missions Director where the church is located. Once reviewed and all necessary signatures have been acquired, it is then the District North American Missions Director's responsibility to send the application to North American Missions.

*\* Please do not submit unsigned applications to North American Missions. All applications must go to the District first.*

### ***What is the responsibility of my district in regards to my application?***

- The District Executive Committee is responsible for review, approval and authorization of the application. Once completed, it is the District North American Missions Director's responsibility to send the application to North American Missions.
- When the application pertains to the purchase of property, it is the responsibility of the District North American Missions Executive Committee to investigate and inspect the property, check city regulations and all other matters related to the property.
- Since funds cannot be invested in property held in the name of an individual, it is recommended that the district assist the missionary in selecting the trustees. This should be discussed with the missionary when he is approved to start a new work or before the property is purchased.
- A standard lien attachment is developed by each district in harmony with the laws of each state or province. The lien document is simple and free of unnecessary encumbrances. The lien attachment applies to all North American Missions churches receiving any UPCI mon-ies invested in real property. Examples include: Sheaves for Christ property grants, Christ-mas for Christ property grants, Church-In-A-Day property loans, & property appropriations from district funds.
- It is necessary that the district officials take the initiative to set the church in order as soon as possible according to the current issue of the Manual of the United Pentecostal Church International.

***Do I need to submit any other items along with the application?*** All applications require a current photo of the church planter and family.

Property Purchase applications require pictures of the building or land to be purchased and a copy of the purchase contract.

Property Lease applications require pictures of the building to be leased and a copy of the lease agreement.

*\* Incomplete or unclear applications may be returned to the applicant for further information or may be removed from consideration.*

### ***What are the requirements of the church planter's church BEFORE the application is submitted to the District?***

- Churches must be autonomous (*daughter works are ineligible for Christmas for Christ funds*) and set in order according to the current issue of the Manual of the United Pentecostal Church International. It is advisable that churches be locally incorporated.
- The property is to be held in trust by the trustees for the local church, and **not in an individual's name**. North American Missions funds are not invested in property in which the title of ownership is held in question. Provision should be made in the church by-laws for the trustees and their duly elected successors. In addition to the pastor, two of the following three persons and their successors should be listed:
  - District Superintendent
  - District North American Missions Director
  - Sectional Presbyter

- To **apply** for Christmas for Christ funds, the church **must be affiliated** with the United Pentecostal Church International. Completed Affiliation applications are submitted to the General Secretary of the UPCI.
- Applicant must have completed Church Planting University.
- Applicant is required to read Article XII, Section 15, number 6-9.

***Who makes the decision regarding the allocation of Christmas for Christ funds?***

The North American Missions Administrative Committee, as defined by the UPCI Manual, re-views and researches each application. Input regarding the priority of the applications is given by the District North American Missions Director for each applicant.

***How long before the applicant learns whether an application was funded?***

The North American Missions Administrative Committee meets in March. All applicants are notified as to the disposition of the matter by early April.

***If my application is not awarded funding, what are my options?***

- If not funded, you will receive a letter noting the same; however, you will have the option of applying for assistance the following year if still on site and under North American Missions' status.
- If the funding is for the purchase of property, you may be counseled to apply for Sheaves for Christ funding. These grants are available from the General Youth Division of the United Pentecostal Church. Sheaves for Christ grants can only be used to purchase or improve real property and cannot be applied to leased property. Sheaves for Christ Grant applications are due August 15th. The youth division makes their allocations each fall during the General Conference.

***If approved for funding, what are my responsibilities?***

- You will receive a notification letter which will inform you of the funding start date.
- ALL allocations are made payable to the church.
- One-time allocations (Property Purchase or Property Remodel) are held until your District North American Missions Director contacts North American Missions and requests the funds. Once requested the funds are sent to your district office for distribution.
- Approved missionaries must complete the church-planting training provided by North American Missions. Missionaries are given a reasonable amount of time to complete the training. If the training is not completed, allocations are suspended until the training is completed.
- Each month the missionary submits an online report to North American Missions and the District North American Missions Director. The report must be received in order for the next month's allocation to be released.

*\* When submitting this application, please include a personal letter covering anything you feel is important to express your burden more fully.*

May the Lord bless you in planting a church!



Carlton L. Coon, Sr.  
General Director of North American Missions  
United Pentecostal Church International





PERSONAL - FAMILY

9. Do you have any health problems? (Explain fully)

---

10. Does your spouse have any health problems? (Explain fully)

---

11. Do any children living at home have any health problems? (Explain fully)

---

PERSONAL - EDUCATION

12. High School \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Did you graduate? \_\_\_\_\_ Year you graduated? \_\_\_\_\_

13. College \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Did you graduate? \_\_\_\_\_ Ye Year you graduated? \_\_\_\_\_

14. Bible School \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Did you graduate? \_\_\_\_\_ Yea Year you graduated? \_\_\_\_\_

PERSONAL - WORK EXPERIENCE

15. Describe your work experience:

---

---

Describe your spouses' work experience:

---

---

PASTOR'S HOUSEHOLD Income & Expenses

16. What is your **total current monthly income**? (Please include all sources of income from the ministry, secular work, wife's secular work, investment income, etc.)

From SECULAR work \_\_\_\_\_

From SPOUSE'S work \_\_\_\_\_

From the MINISTRY \_\_\_\_\_

From the CHURCH \_\_\_\_\_

From your DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_

From OTHER CHURCHES \_\_\_\_\_

From OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

**MONTHLY INCOME TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

PERSONAL — EXPENSES

17. What are your **total current monthly expenses**? (Please include all expenses.)

<b>Description:</b>	<b>Monthly Amount</b>
---------------------	-----------------------

Automobile payment(s)	_____
-----------------------	-------

Automobile insurance	_____
----------------------	-------

Automobile expenses	_____
---------------------	-------

Home (mortgage/rent)	_____
----------------------	-------

Average utilities (combined)	_____
------------------------------	-------

Telephone	_____
-----------	-------

Furniture payments	_____
--------------------	-------

Home insurance	_____
----------------	-------

Medical bills	_____
---------------	-------

Health insurance	_____
------------------	-------

Life insurance \_\_\_\_\_

Legal fees/judgments \_\_\_\_\_

Alimony/child support \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card payments \_\_\_\_\_

    Numer of credit cards \_\_\_\_\_

    List total current balance of  
    all credit cards \_\_\_\_\_

Personal loan payments \_\_\_\_\_

Real Estate *(other than home)* \_\_\_\_\_

Groceries \_\_\_\_\_

Clothing *(And other family expenses)* \_\_\_\_\_

Student Loans \_\_\_\_\_

Other debts and payments \_\_\_\_\_

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**MONTHLY EXPENSES TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

18. Are you current in repaying your debts? If no, please explain:

\_\_\_\_\_

19. Have you ever declared bankruptcy? If yes, please explain:

\_\_\_\_\_

20. I authorize North American Missions to acquire a credit report/reference on my name if deemed necessary.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**COOPERATION**

21. Are you currently cooperating with the financial plan (tithing, etc.) of your district?



If *no*, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

22. How much are you **personally** giving to the following programs?

North American Missions (Amount monthly) \_\_\_\_\_

Christmas for Christ (Annually) \_\_\_\_\_

Global Missions (Amount monthly) \_\_\_\_\_

Sheaves for Christ (Annually) \_\_\_\_\_

23. What is the total monthly church income?

(a) Tithes \_\_\_\_\_ Per Month

(b) Offerings \_\_\_\_\_ Per Month

**Total** \_\_\_\_\_ Per Month

24. What is the **total monthly operational expense**? \_\_\_\_\_

25. What is the **present total indebtedness** of the church? \_\_\_\_\_

26. Is the church current with its financial obligations? If *no*, please explain:

\_\_\_\_\_

27. How much money is in the church bank accounts (all accounts) **presently**? \_\_\_\_\_

28. How much district funding has this church received? \_\_\_\_\_

29. Has your church received *Sheaves for Christ* funding? If yes, how much? \_\_\_\_\_

30. If you applied for *Christmas for Christ* support previously, please indicate the year(s) and the amount given or requested:

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Requested \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Received \_\_\_\_\_

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Requested \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Received \_\_\_\_\_

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Requested \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Received \_\_\_\_\_

## TYPE OF ALLOCATION REQUESTED

31. **Property Purchase/Remodel:** Please complete ONLY if you are requesting funds to purchase or remodel property.

**AMOUNT REQUESTING:** \_\_\_\_\_ **(Onetime allocation)**

(A property allocation may be made during the 5 years of North American Missions status; with the maximum allowance of \$15,000.00 per year)

Funds will be used to:

**A. Purchase land**

1. We are presently looking
2. We have found land \_\_\_\_\_ (enclose picture(s) of land site)
3. Purchase Price \_\_\_\_\_
4. We have entered a contract \_\_\_\_\_ (enclose copy)
5. Set to close on \_\_\_\_\_
6. We have already closed

**B. Purchase an existing building**

1. We are presently looking
2. We have found a building \_\_\_\_\_ (enclose picture(s) of building)
3. Purchase Price \_\_\_\_\_
4. We have entered a contract \_\_\_\_\_ (enclose copy)
5. Set to close on \_\_\_\_\_
6. We have already closed

**C. Build a building**

1. Estimated cost \_\_\_\_\_

**D. Remodel building**

1. Estimated cost \_\_\_\_\_
2. Do you own this building?

32. **Property Lease:** Please complete ONLY if you are requesting funds to lease/rent property.

**AMOUNT REQUESTING:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Monthly)

(A property lease allocation may be granted up to 3 years during the 5 years of North American Missions status; with the maximum allowance of \$2,000/month or \$24,000/year)

**(Enclose copy of lease/rent agreement)**

1. Lease amount **monthly** \_\_\_\_\_

2. Rent amount **monthly** \_\_\_\_\_

33. **Personal Assistance:** Please complete ONLY if you are requesting funds for personal expenses.

**AMOUNT REQUESTING:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Monthly)

(A personal allocation may be granted up to 3 years during the 5 years of Home Missions status; with the maximum allowance of \$2,000/month or \$24,000/year)

Explain your need for this support? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### REFERENCES

Please give the names and addresses of the persons requested below:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Present Pastor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Present District Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Present Presbyter

\_\_\_\_\_  
Former District Superintendent

---

Former Presbyter

---

Businessman

---

College Instructor *(if applicable)*

---

Present Closest Neighboring Pastor

---

Minister Friend

---

Minister Friend

---

Mentor

All former pastors:

<b>Name</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Telephone</b>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

I have read the "Frequently Asked Questions" portion of the application and answered the preceding questions to the best of my knowledge and understanding. If I am chosen to be sponsored as a home missionary, I pledge to cooperate with the North American Missions in every possible way, as well as with the district into which I will be going.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## DISTRICT ACTION

The above application has been reviewed and was approved by our District Board (or District North American Missions Executive Committee) on (date) \_\_\_\_\_. We recommend the above applicant to North American Missions and request sponsorship in the Christmas for Christ program.

### SIGNATURES REQUIRED DISTRICT WHERE CHURCH IS LOCATED

District Superintendent \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

District Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

NAM Director \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### DISTRICT WHERE MISSIONARY IS A MEMBER *(If coming from another district)*

District Superintendent \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

District Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

NAM Director \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE TO THE APPLICANT:** *Please write a personal letter to the North American Missions Director in the month of February giving up-to-date information on any change in your financial need to assist the North American Missions Administrative Committee in its decision.*