

# I. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL SUMMARY SHEET

*One page only. This page will be shared electronically with Grant Panel Members & Fund Advisors.*

*Note: If Philanthropy Network's Common Grant Application is used, CCCF's Summary Sheet MUST accompany application.*

*To obtain an electronic version of this application, visit [www.chescocf.org](http://www.chescocf.org)*

**September 14, 2022**

## Contact Information

Organization Name: **Thorndale United Methodist Church**  
Address: **3503 Lincoln Highway Thorndale, PA 19372**

Phone: **(610) 384-2433**

Website: **[www.Thorndale-UMC.org](http://www.Thorndale-UMC.org)**

Year Incorporated: **1878**

FEIN: **36-2167731**

ED/CEO Name: **Pastor Shauna Ridge**

ED/CEO E-mail:

**[Pastor.Shauna@ThorndaleUMC.org](mailto:Pastor.Shauna@ThorndaleUMC.org)**

Board Chair Name: **Rosemary Moore**

Board Chair Approval (check here): ☒

Primary Contact Name: **Rosemary Moore**

Primary Contact E-mail: **[RoseC21@Verizon.net](mailto:RoseC21@Verizon.net)**

## Organization Information:

### Field/s of Interest:

☐ Arts, Culture & Humanities

☐ Environment/Animal Welfare

☐ Education

☐ Health

☐ Human Services

☒ Religion

**Mission:** The mission of Thorndale United Methodist Church is "to encourage everyone to experience the life-changing love of God." Members are invited to lift up those who need help in our community through partnerships with local organizations and programs, such as the Atkinson Shelter, donations of food to the Chester County Food Bank, Coatesville YWCA, and our food box, donations to Caln Elementary School students, and hosting weekly AA and Al-anon meetings, just to name a few. Thorndale UMC also runs a preschool program that draws children from throughout Chester County.

**Geographic Area Served** (If not all of Chester County, specify primary Chester County regions served): **We serve families located in Thorndale, Coatesville, Downingtown and West Chester, Pa.**

**Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served:** We are a congregation of all ages, from infants to the elderly. We have a strong desire to serve the underprivileged in our community, such as those who are hungry in our community via our food box, students of an adjacent school via our monthly donations of supplies, the residents of Coatesville via our community garden, and those who need meals via the Atkinson Shelter, just to name a few. It is difficult to assign a numerical number of people served because we serve a diverse group of people in need in the community.

Annual Budget \$ <u>300,002.08</u>	<u>4.25</u>	# of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
<u>19</u> % of budget for program expenses	<u>14</u>	# of Board Volunteers
<u>80</u> % of budget for administrative expenses	<u>10</u>	# of Active Non-Board Volunteers
<u>1</u> % of budget for fundraising expenses	<u>many</u>	# of Volunteer Hours

100 % total

**Top 3-5 funding sources:** Offerings/Giving; Building Use; Tuition paid through the Thorndale Learning Center preschool.



Is this grant proposal for: Capacity Building ☒ or General Operating \_\_\_\_\_

If Capacity Building Proposal, the focus is:

☒ Mission, Vision & Strategy    \_\_\_\_\_ Governance & Leadership    \_\_\_\_\_ Partnerships & Collaborations  
\_\_\_\_\_ Fundraising, Development & Marketing    \_\_\_\_\_ Technology    Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation: \$ 5,000

**Proposal Summary:**

**1. History, goals, key achievements & distinctiveness:**

Thorndale United Methodist Church was established 144 years ago in 1878 when early settlers of Thorndale felt the need for a more conveniently located church for worship and Sunday school. The church was originally built across from the current location of the Thorndale Fire House. By the early 1900s, there was a need for more space for the growing number of children coming to Sunday school. Using a combination of four acres of land donated by community members and the proceeds of the sale of the old church building, the existing church building was constructed. Over time, as attendance outgrew the sanctuary, an expanded worship center was built in 1998 and an additional contemporary service was added. This addition allowed us to expand our outreach and ministries well into the 21st century.

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are passionately devoted to showing and sharing the love of God to transform lives and fortify the well-being of our communities. As a family of faith, in 2018 we determined our values to be inspiring worship; engaging with children, youth and families; healthy community life; intentional spiritual development; active outreach; and faithful stewardship. We continue to embrace and live into these values as we move forward.

Determining our values has shaped our plans and goals even though the Covid crisis has challenged us all to think and act differently. We have been flexible these past two and a half years as we've adapted to challenges regarding in-person meetings and gatherings and in our care for one another. We've grieved many losses, including departure of some members and the passing of friends and family due to aging and illness. We recognize much has changed and little will remain the same. But we have remained steadfast in expanding our outreach to the community. We created and launched a thriving preschool, the Thorndale Learning Center, with several options for children ages five and under. We strengthened our relationship with Caln Elementary School, whom we supported during the Christmas holiday prior to Covid, and now provide for their requests and needs on a monthly basis. We are maximizing our building usage by renting our sanctuary to a new church worshipping on Saturday mornings. Moving forward, we are focused on building relationships within and beyond the church as we get back to the basics of loving God and our neighbors as we love ourselves.

All are welcome and all are invited to love and serve our neighbors. We do this through partnerships with local organizations and programs, such as supporting the Atkinson Shelter in Coatesville, collecting food for the Chester County Food Bank and Coatesville CYWA, and donations for Caln Elementary School students. We also serve the Caln Little League by sponsoring a girl's softball team and providing breakfast for the league on opening day. We host weekly AA and Al-Anon meetings. We have a couple of small groups and other Bible studies, and we provide children's programs and events throughout the year in an effort to always connect with and support the surrounding community.



## **2.Funding Request:**

**Thorndale United Methodist Church would like to expand the outreach to the adjacent community by increasing student enrollment in the Thorndale Learning Center preschool, in addition to preparing to open a new day care center at some point in the future. We have an immediate need to renovate unused space in the building to achieve these goals. Specifically, we would like to replace outdated carpeting and paint some classrooms to create an acceptable environment required to meet our goals. There is an extraordinary need for affordable day care in the Thorndale community, as expressed by many parents who inquire about this on a regular basis. Our hope is not only to open a new day care, but also to add afternoon preschool classes to expand the existing half-day preschool.**

**The expansion of the Thorndale Learning Center, and the opening of a new day care center, would impact our church by providing funds for the use of the building during the week when church services are not typically offered. The impact on the community would be measured by the enrollment of additional students in the Thorndale Learning Center, and enrollment in the proposed day care center, which would provide a much-needed and affordable service.**

**Thorndale United Methodist Church anticipates projected expenses would comprise the entire \$5,000 grant amount requested, considering the cost of paint and carpeting.**