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Shumaker Family Foundation awards Church Extension a \$15,000 grant

Funds to be used for Green Building pilot studies and launch of national effort

INDIANAPOLIS, December 18, 2008 — Church Extension, a ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), has been awarded a \$15,000 grant from the Shumaker Family Foundation in Lawrence, Kan.

The grant will be used to support the work being accomplished for Church Extension's Green Building assessment service, now in the final stages of pilot development with launch set for mid-year 2009. The funds will help with the various phases involving the congregational service pilot studies and the launch of the national effort.

Consultants from the congregational services team at Church Extension initiated this service to evaluate a congregation's existing facility based on its design, use, geography, ministry, and finances. The service projects potential estimated energy savings and specific recommendations for energy improvement.

Many Disciples church buildings were constructed prior to the current high energy prices according to John Davidson, congregational services consultant for Church Extension. "As the cost of energy continues to increase, so does the cost to operate the building," he said. "By conducting an energy audit, the Green Building Assessment Service will be able to help churches know what renovating will be most cost effective and help provide savings that can go to ministry and mission," Davidson added.

"We are very pleased to receive a grant from the Shumaker Family Foundation and to partner with the Green Building service," said Ellen Mitchell, vice president for Donor and Investor Relations. "The grant will be used to help Church Extension achieve its goal of launching Green Building at the 2009 General Assembly in July and making preparations for a national effort in the fall of 2009, which will include working with areas where we have numerous Disciples congregations like in the greater Kansas City area," she said.

The Shumaker Family Foundation exists to promote social and environmental justice, education, spirituality and the arts.

Church Extension is extending the witness of 125 years of service to Disciples of Christ congregations. Called by God, Church Extension, together with our investors and partners, offers mission-driven planning and capital-funding services to Disciples congregations and organizations.

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