*Minister Support and Supervision Committee*

*Holland Classis*

**Minister Support Grants**

Financial support from the Minister Support and Supervision Committee of Holland Classis is recognized as symbolic. It is meant to affirm a minister who is reaching out for help and connection in a time or situation of crisis and transition. The word “symbolic” is used because we acknowledge that our funds are very limited.

Priority is given to helping ministers with spiritual, emotional, psychological, relational support, or vocational transition. A MSS grant is meant to encourage an ordained minister to take a step in reaching out to get the necessary help and avoid isolation. A MSS grant is ordinarily limited to $300 and satisfies one or more of these criteria:

* The grant pertains to the emotional/ spiritual health of the minister.
* The grant will actively work to network the minister with mentors/coaches in timely specific support.
* The grant works to help the minister discern future courses of work or vocation.
* The grant assists to help strengthen personal relationships with immediate family.
* The grant promotes healing of specific vocational wounds.
* The grant facilitates productive communication with one's church or ministry setting.

It is the intention of the committee not to support tuition expenses for academic degree education.

MSS recognizes that seminars and network study groups can promote the emotional and spiritual health of ministers, in addition to supplementing professional development. We recognize that some ministers do not receive any assistance for professional development from their ministry employment. With our limited funding ability, unfortunately the MSS committee cannot be a dependable source for assistance with seminar and network group funding. Indeed, such grants have a lower priority when the committee must choose which requests it can grant.

Action by MSS, June 2014