

Sharing God's Gifts

As United Methodists in Missouri, we have many opportunities to give freely: to help a hungry child, to encourage and support those called to the ministry, to welcome someone who speaks a different language, to enable clean water to flow in villages halfway across the world, to give hope after disaster strikes, to reach out our hands and share love in so many ways with so many people. We have many opportunities to share the gifts God has given us and to receive so much in return. We are able, as United Methodists working together, to do much more than we could alone.

The apportioned items approved for 2016 at Annual Conference session follow. They offer us many opportunities to make disciples who make a difference in our world and strengthen our local ministries as we help others.

Apportioned Funds

GENERAL CHURCH SUPPORT

WORLD SERVICE: \$1,928,746

This fund is the heart of our denomination-wide ministry, underwriting Christian mission and ministry worldwide. It supports all boards and agencies and strengthens evangelism efforts; stimulates church growth; expands Bible studies; and enriches spiritual commitment.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION FUND: \$662,168

The United Methodist Church has 13 seminaries to train clergy. This fund provides assistance to those who are in seminary. A portion of the fund is used by the Board of Ordained Ministry for working with those preparing for ministry and for continuing education and other pastoral support for current clergy.

EPISCOPAL FUND: \$580,586

Bishops serve the annual conferences and provide leadership to the entire denomination. This fund supports salaries, benefits and expenses. It is apportioned to the Missouri Conference from the General Conference. Bishops are an important connection among the annual conferences, central conferences, the general church and the world.

BLACK COLLEGE FUND: \$264,133

United Methodism supports 10 black colleges and a medical school that maintain an ongoing relationship with the denomination. It helps to provide well-equipped buildings, solid academic programs, strong faculties, a nurturing environment to encourage students in each new generation and to affirm and celebrate African-American heritage and culture.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION FUND: \$232,794

The General Administration Fund pays administrative expenses of GCFA, which underwrites the legislative work of General Conference, funds the work of the Judicial Council to adjudicate questions of church law and maintains United Methodism's official documents and historical artifacts.

JURISDICTIONAL FUND: \$138,822

The Jurisdictional Fund includes the jurisdictional administration fund and supports the work of our South Central Jurisdiction. This fund includes: Lydia Patterson and SMU Campus Ministry.

AFRICA UNIVERSITY FUND: \$59,112

This United Methodist university is the first nongovernment-institution of higher education in Africa. It was established to serve the entire continent of Africa, to offer post-secondary education for students from all of Africa, to specialize in education in schools of agriculture, theology and management and business.

Apportioned Funds

CONFERENCE SUPPORT

CLERGY SUPPORT: \$1,794,974

This fund supports health insurance for retirees and their families, equitable compensation and retiree moving grants.

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT FUND: \$1,765,322

The fund covers salaries, utilities, travel, professional expenses and continuing education for the 12 district superintendents who serve this conference. The superintendents provide assistance and resources to local churches, districts and annual conference, the bishop (in appointing pastors) and clergy (pastoral care).

CONGREGATIONAL EXCELLENCE: \$1,752,139

This fund helps support the Congregational Development Team, New Church Starts, the Commission on Higher Education and Hispanic Ministry.

MISSION, SERVICE AND JUSTICE MINISTRIES: \$1,245, 793

These funds are used by the Mission, Service and Justice Team for the Camping & Retreat Ministries Team, Values Team and Mozambique Initiative Team to lead congregations in mission, service and justice ministries. The major portion of funds support Volunteers in Mission, Mozambique Initiative, Haiti Water Project and the Festival of Sharing as well as disaster response and other outreach opportunities.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL COOPERATION FUND: \$51,786

This fund provides our share of the basic budgets of organizations that relate to the ecumenical responsibilities of the Council of Bishops and of the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES: \$1,134, 684

This fund is comprised of Healthy Boundaries, Conference Communications, Lay Ministry Team, Central Methodist University, Safe Sanctuaries, Nominations and Leadership Development team, Conference Staff and Core Practices Team. It also provides funds for Annual Conference designed by the Sessions Team.

PASTORAL EXCELLENCE: \$1,113, 722

This fund helps support educational opportunities for pastors, Conference Leadership Development Committee, Lay Missioner Training, Youth Leadership Team and Learning and Leadership.

CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION: \$890,156

This fund helps the Conference provide services to local churches across the state. It includes funds for Conference Trustees, Episcopal office support and Conference Treasurer's Office.

BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY: \$215,000

The fund helps the Ordained Ministry Team with Pastoral Counseling, processing new pastors and student aid.