



2018 Ministry Funding Plan

Living Out
The **POWER**
of We

As we continue to “Live Out The POWER of We” in the Mississippi Annual Conference, this year we focus on Apprenticeship.

Do you remember who it was that showed you how to be a Disciple of Jesus Christ? Of course you do! We have many people who talk about Jesus but those who are willing to pull us alongside and show us what it means to be a disciple, a true mentor; those are not as many or as eager.

Thankfully we here in the Mississippi UMC spend our resources in creating opportunities for apprenticeship. In our giving; we create opportunities for folks to grow and be developed around the world and right here at home.

Our Council of Finance and Administration takes seriously their task to be good stewards of what God has given through the people of Mississippi and what comes to us from the General Church.

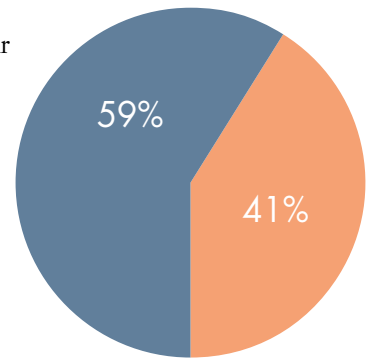
We create an environment for apprenticeship as we support Campus ministries, Youth and Children, UM Women and Men, clergy excellence, seeking to eradicate poverty, combating domestic violence, advocating for basic human rights and dignity, and a myriad of other ways to be in ministry with people.

This allows us to apprentice the next generation to come alongside now and not at some distant point in the future to join in the ministry of Jesus Christ.

When we fully fund our conference budget it is not numbers on a page but it is lives changed for the Gospel of Jesus Christ that will transform the World!

I hope you will read, study and teach this resource you hold in your hand. We are given a great responsibility to be the hands and feet of Christ in this world. By being faithful to our call as stewards we live in to that responsibility and truly embody The POWER of We!

2018 Ministry Funding Plan



● Mission Shares
● Direct Invoice

Rev. Dr. Larry Hilliard
Spiritual Leadership Director

Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church



LOVE



GENEROSITY



JUSTICE



APPRENTICESHIP

MISSION SHARE FUNDING

Number 1 Avenue of Giving

TOTAL: \$1,592,784 **12.61%**



FUND 1: World Service **T** **\$1,592,784**

www.umcgiving.org

Expands the ministry of Jesus Christ around the world and here at home. The World Service Fund is the heart of our shared United Methodist mission and ministry. Support of World Service represents a call and a challenge to each United Methodist. As paragraph 812 of *The Book of Discipline 2016* states, “the full payment of the World Service Fund is each congregation’s first benevolent responsibility.”

The World Service Fund provides basic operating resources for the following ministries:

Global Ministries **\$612,458**

www.umcmmission.org

Enables and challenges United Methodists to proclaim the Christian faith around the world. This includes recruiting, sending and receiving over 325 missionaries in 66 countries. This fund includes:

- Asian American Language Ministry \$7,169
- Korean Ministry Plan \$15,691
- National Plan for Hispanic/Latino Ministry \$16,116
- Pacific Island Ministry \$2,769

Communications **\$367,290**

www.umcom.org

Provides local churches with communications resources, tools for welcoming ministries, discounts on computers and software through TechShop, InfoServ (answers for questions about UMC resources

and services), maintains the UMC official website www.umc.org and coordinates denominational media presence.

Discipleship **\$194,795**

www.umcdiscipleship.org

Focuses primarily on the local church by developing resources that equip leaders and enrich local church discipleship ministries including worship and Christian education teaching resources for children, youth and adults. This fund includes:

- Native American Comprehensive Plan \$5,501
- Strengthening the Black Church \$10,131

Higher Education and Ministry **\$224,952**

www.gbhem.org

Prepares persons for ordained and other designated ministries in the UMC and provides general oversight and care for 122 UMC schools and colleges. This fund includes:

- Central Conf. Theological Education Fund \$51,260
- Young Clergy Initiative Jurisdictional Conf. \$35,638

Church and Society **\$56,496**

www.umcjustice.org

Implements the church’s social principles and serves as the UMC’s chief social action and public policy agency.

Religion and Race **\$50,456**

www.gccorr.org

Strives to ensure racial inclusiveness in the UMC through advocacy, teaching consulting and monitoring. This fund includes:

- Minority Group Self-Determination Fund \$12,757

Finance and Administration **\$37,791**

www.gcfu.org

Administers and coordinates the UMC’s finances. This fund includes providing local churches with resources, statistical information and forms.

Status and Role of Women **\$20,286**

www.gcsrw.org

Advocates for the full and equal responsibility and participation of women in the church’s life and ministry.

Connectional Table **\$10,971**

www.umc.org/connectionaltable

Discerns and communicates the vision for the church and coordinates the UMC’s mission, ministries and

money as determined by the actions of General Conference.

United Methodist Men **\$7,571**

www.gcummm.org

Coordinates the United Methodist Men ministry to help men grow in Christ so others may know Christ.

Interpretation Resources **\$7,341**

www.umcgiving.org

Produces materials to explain UMC connectional funds and promote comprehensive financial stewardship.

Contingency Reserve **\$2,378**

Provides funding for emerging needs that occur during a quadrennium.

MS UM Extended Ministry

TOTAL: \$374,080 **2.96%**

United Methodists believe strongly in ministries beyond the local church that extend the witness and service of Christ’s love and justice. Our extended ministries serve the least, last and lost every day, making a difference in their communities one person at a time.

FUND 2: Community Centers **T** **\$277,080**

Helps six community centers around the conference minister to children, youth and adults. The centers serve the poor and disadvantaged by offering affordable childcare, after-school care, training and educational opportunities, abuse prevention and intervention, summer enrichment, feeding ministries, older adult services and other children’s programs and ministries. There is an additional line item for emerging ministries at the discretion of the conference missions committee.

Bethlehem Center, Jackson	\$36,000
Edwards Street Community Center, Hattiesburg	\$32,000
Good Shepherd Center, Vicksburg	\$60,000
Moore Community House, Biloxi	\$40,000
St. Andrew’s Mission, McComb	\$36,000
Wesley House, Meridian	\$50,000
Emerging Ministries	\$28,080

FUND 4: Choctaw Mission **T** \$45,000

Provides a caring ministry devoted to serving Christ and improving the condition of life for all persons, yet targeting the Choctaw people residing in over three counties. Services include biblical training, clothing, feeding and offering hope to persons experiencing hopelessness.

FUND 5: United Methodist Hour **T** \$52,000

www.thehour.org

Assists Mississippi's unique television and radio ministry in proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ on its weekly program and through its prayer and serving ministries.

MS UM Conference Clergy Support

TOTAL: \$4,182,520 33.11%

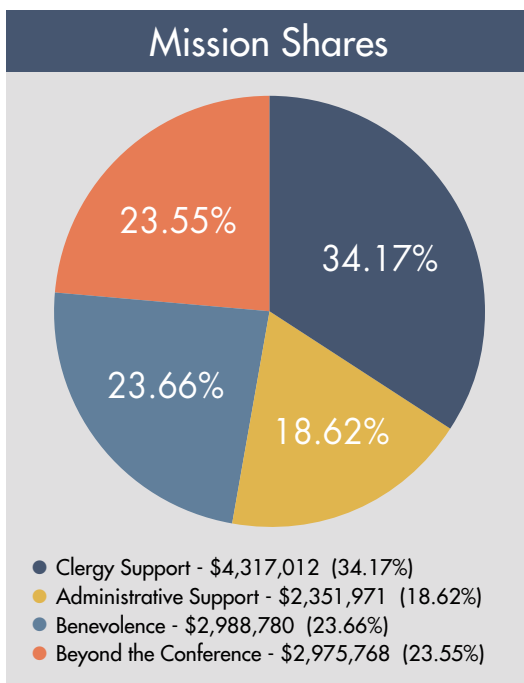
Ministry requires hands and feet – flesh and blood servants called by God. That's why educating, training, supporting and caring for pastors and their families is a priority for the conference.

FUND 8: District Superintendents Fund \$1,643,960

Provides compensation for 11 district superintendents, the number of districts approved by the 2010 Mississippi Annual Conference. The 2017 salary for each superintendent is \$93,925.

The superintendents share a travel budget of \$104,857 for cabinet responsibilities and each has an individual reimbursable business plan of \$10,136 for in-district work. Each district is responsible for providing housing, utilities and office space. This line item now carries a total of \$344,432 to fund the cost of district superintendents' pensions and health insurance benefits in the same way direct invoice of pensions and medical insurance is instituted with local churches for clergy.

A supervisory fund that provides the resources to the cabinet for their supervisory role in disciplinary and emergency situations was instituted in 2009. Funding is to the extent necessary to bring the fund up to an annual maximum of \$100,000. Funding for 2018 is \$50,000.



FUND 9: Spiritual Leadership \$555,000

Board Expense	\$34,000
Conference Relations	\$46,700
Health and Wellness	\$77,000
Interviews	\$13,500
Pastoral Growth and Development	\$103,500
Resourcing the Connection	\$33,000
Vocational Call and Nurture	\$192,000
Moving Supplement for Disabled and Retiring Clergy	\$14,300
Laity Ministry	\$39,000
Clergy Spouse Fellowship T	\$2,000

Provides strong clergy leadership for the church through the care, supervision and training of ordained deacons and elders.

Spiritual leadership also includes training and licensing local pastors through the Mississippi Course of Study, administering seminary scholarships, offering continuing education opportunities, providing confidential professional counseling for clergy families in need and giving guidance to candidates for ordained ministry.

FUND 10: Equitable Compensation \$270,000

Supplements compensation for full connection clergy serving charges where the salary package is below \$35,041 as well as those serving in new churches, cooperative ministries or other unique situations. Charges receiving assistance are expected to provide 75 percent of the minimum compensation.

FUND 31: Retiree Medical Supplement **T** \$1,168,560

This line item provides the per service year defined benefit for the Post Retirement Health Benefit for those eligible clergy and surviving spouses. It also provides the full cost of coverage for surviving spouses who were on the plan and whose clergy spouse died before January 1, 2008.

The Mississippi Conference has adopted a medical plan that includes a self-insured program for all participants meeting the eligibility requirements. The active participant may choose from a basic or high deductible plan. The employer share (approximately 84%) is paid by direct invoice. The participant is responsible for paying the balance of their coverage and their dependents coverage.

FUND 32: Pre-82 Pension Funding **T** \$545,000

The Mississippi Conference Board of Pension has advised the urgent need to care for the unfunded status of the Pre-82 liability that has the responsibility of providing the funding for the pensions of those who served in years prior to 1982. The "O For A Thousand" program has produced gifts from gracious givers but not at an adequate level to fund this liability over the next eight years. The Mississippi Conference Pension Board Pre-82 funding line item coupled with invoicing the local churches and other salary paying entities for appointed clergy other than those who are being billed under the Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP) plan will provide the needed resources for the unfunded liability. This billing will be the same percentage charged to full-time and part-time status. The billing is expected to generate \$300,000.

MS UM Conference Leadership Work Areas

TOTAL: \$3,316,671 26.25%

At the 2016 General Conference, leaders of the denomination called for the continuation of The United Methodist Church's ministry on the four key areas listed below.

1. Developing principled Christian leaders for the church and the world.
2. Creating new places for new people by starting congregations and renewing existing ones.
3. Engaging in ministry with the poor.
4. Stamping out killer diseases by improving health globally.

These areas align closely with the four Core Values for mission and ministry in the Mississippi Conference which are love, generosity, justice and apprenticeship.

FUND 11: Conference Administration **\$2,351,971**

Annual Conference \$175,000
Pays for the 2018 Mississippi Annual Conference facility and program expenses including printed materials, honoraria and travel for speakers, per diem for persons included in conference policy and planning committee expenses.

Conference Administration \$817,330
Includes conference property and liability insurance, building maintenance and upkeep, office supplies and equipment, utilities, telephone service, computer hardware and support, advocacy and administrative review, work of the archives and history commission, and other expenses related to operation of the conference office, as well as the honoraria for the conference secretary and conference statistician, episcopal area discretionary fund and the conference operating reserve for unanticipated needs and fixed expenses when local church remittances are not forthcoming. The episcopal area discretionary turnaround fund is \$10,000. **T**

Staff Compensation – Conference Personnel \$1,057,148

Provides salary packages, including pension and health benefits and payroll taxes for conference staff working in the areas of spiritual leadership, connectional ministries and communications, faith community formation and the administrative assistant to the bishop.

Staff Compensation – Administry Personnel \$302,493

Provides salary packages, including pension and health benefits and payroll taxes for staff working in the areas of administry and clergy benefits (health and pension).

FUND 12: Faith Community Formation **\$650,000**

The Faith Community Formation Ministry Team (FCFMT) exists to transform the Mississippi Annual Conference to a culture of vitality by forming new faith communities and by revitalizing existing congregations. This mission carries out the Core Values of Love by helping revitalize existing congregations to once again learn what it means to “Love the Lord your God with all of your heart, your mind, your

soul and your strength” (Mt. 22:37). The new church plants also stem from a desire for all to know the love of Christ and to have an opportunity to be transformed by God’s love.

In order to fulfill our mission, the generosity of others is essential. This is where The POWER of We takes hold. For alone none of us could fulfill all that God requires of us, but together there is a power through community and relationship that allows us to love God and neighbor in all we do. We long for the same spirit of generosity to exude from the initial DNA of each new church plant. Therefore, we are setting an expectation that within three years, the new church will also generously give of their resources to help plant another new faith community. We hope to create a culture within the MAC that multiplies churches that “make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

Justice is a part of our work as each new faith community and existing congregation are called to be the hands and feet of Christ. In order to reach new people for Christ, church is going to have to look different. Justice and outreach will be an essential component of reaching new people for Christ. Our revitalization efforts reveal that healthy churches understand that they exist, not merely to meet their own needs, but to meet the needs and transform the community in which they live. New faith communities and revitalized churches will be essential to sharing the love of Christ as we are called to “act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God” (Micah 6:8).

One of the FCFMT goals is to identify church planters and to strengthen pastors to do the work of revitalizing churches. Both of these goals aim to live into the Core Values of Apprenticeship as we equip leaders to transform the world, one life at a time.

FUND 13: Connection/Communications **\$314,700**

The office of Connectional Ministries focuses and guides the mission and ministry of The United Methodist Church within its boundaries by envisioning the ministries necessary to live out the mission of the church in and through the Mississippi Annual Conference. The core values of the Mississippi Annual Conference—love, generosity, justice, and apprenticeship—are the ethos through which all ministry is envisioned and implemented. The office of Communications casts the vision for Living Out the POWER of We and is led by the Commission on Communication. *The Book of Discipline* (§ 646) requires that “the commission shall be a service agency to meet the communication, publication, multimedia, public and media relations, interpretation, and promotional needs of the annual conference.

UM & MS Higher Education Support

TOTAL: \$2,085,585 **16.51%**

Our Wesleyan roots are on a college campus. The Holy Club that Charles and John Wesley founded at Oxford University helped birth the Methodist movement. Today, our tradition of supporting higher education and campus ministry continues, impacting the lives and futures of thousands of students.

FUND 14: Mississippi Campus Ministries **\$850,000**

Provides financial support through a grant process for Wesley Foundation programs on the campuses of 24 universities and community colleges.

FUND 15: Ministerial Education Fund **T** *www.umcgiving.org* *Apportioned by General Church* **\$537,969**

Helps recruit and educate, through tuition scholarships and other means, persons for ordained ministry in The United Methodist Church through the 13 United Methodist seminaries in the U.S., global initiatives through General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, local pastor courses of study, continuing education for clergy and other programs. Each annual conference retains 25 percent of funds received. Our conference portion supplements the amount in Fund 9 for scholarships for seminary students.

FUND 16: Millsaps College **T** *www.millsaps.edu* **\$290,000**

Provides scholarships and financial aid to United Methodist students attending the United Methodist-related liberal arts college in Jackson.

FUND 17: Black College Fund **T** *www.umcgiving.org* *Apportioned by General Church* **\$214,591**

Assists the programs of 11 United Methodist-related institutions of higher education including Rust College that have historically served the educational needs of black students.

FUND 18: Rust College **T** *www.rust.edu* **\$145,000**

Provides general support and scholarships for this historically black United Methodist-related liberal arts college in Holly Springs.

Turnarounds: The mission share items indicated by a **T** icon are “turnarounds.” This is the funding that allows each local church to be in “big ministry” throughout the world. **47.57 percent** of the funding plan, or approximately **\$6 million**, goes straight to our related ministries and institutions through turnarounds. How are United Methodists different from other charities? **No amount is withheld for administrative work!**

FUND 19: Africa University Fund T

www.africau.edu or www.umcgiving.org

Apportioned by General Church

\$48,025

Enables the growth and expansion of the only degree-granting United Methodist university on the continent of Africa. More than 1,200 students from nations across Africa attend the university each year.

MS UM Camping & Retreat Centers

TOTAL: \$365,000 2.89%

God’s great outdoors provides a beautiful setting for the ministries of our camping and retreat centers in Mississippi. Powering down from smart phones and tablets, social media and the television, gives visitors of all ages the opportunity to learn about God while being surrounded by God’s creation. Rest and reflection are offered year-round at these facilities.

FUND 20: Camp Lake Stephens T

www.camplakestephens.com

\$130,000

Serves as the primary United Methodist camp and retreat in North Mississippi, offering year-round programs that are prayerfully designed to challenge participants to grow deeper in their relationship with God. Camp Lake Stephens is located in a beautiful environment near Oxford.

FUND 21: Camp Wesley Pines T

www.wesleypines.com

\$120,000

Serves as the primary United Methodist camp for Central Mississippi, hosting a full schedule of camps, touching lives through a unique setting to church and non-church persons to experience God, with the outdoors as the setting near Gallman.

FUND 22: Seashore Assembly T

www.seashoreassembly.org

\$80,000

Serves as the primary United Methodist camp in South Mississippi as a ministry designed to create an atmosphere and programs that foster spiritual growth and empowerment cross-generationally, offering reflection and relaxation in an environment that allows each individual (no matter what age) to reflect on the beauty of our Lord’s creations and wonder.

FUND 23: Gulfside Assembly T

www.umcmision.org

\$35,000

Served in the past as a United Methodist multi-cultural conference, retreat and training center located on the Mississippi coast, founded by African Americans in 1923. After its total destruction by Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Gulfside Assembly assisted in recovery work by providing its campus as a relief staging area. Gulfside Assembly is now visioning its future for ministry for all God’s people and a caring community where all persons are transformed by the love of Christ.

UM General/Jurisdictional

TOTAL: \$716,891 5.67%

Mississippi United Methodists are part of more than 43,000 congregations in a global church. Beyond our conference we are part of the Southeastern Jurisdiction and the worldwide United Methodist Church.

FUND 24: Episcopal Fund T

www.umcgiving.org

Apportioned by General Church

\$471,688

Provides salaries and expenses for active bishops and supports retired bishops, surviving spouses and minor children of deceased bishops. The Episcopal Fund

supports the operation of the Mississippi Episcopal Area office and provides \$20,000 for the upkeep of our episcopal residence.

FUND 25: General Administration Fund T

www.umcgiving.org

Apportioned by General Church

\$189,130

Funds the General Conference and church agencies that are specifically administrative – rather than programmatic, missional or ecumenical – in nature. These include the General Council on Finance and Administration, General Commission on Archives and History and Judicial Council.

FUND 26: SEJ Apportionments T

www.sejumc.org

\$14,000

As a ministry of The United Methodist Church SEJ provides spiritual formation, leadership development and worship opportunities for all. Informed, trained and challenged Christians can bring much needed transformation to the church and communities all over the world.

FUND 27: Interdenominational Cooperation T

www.umcgiving.org

Apportioned by General Church

\$42,073

Provides basic support for ecumenical agencies through which The United Methodist Church participates in God’s mission in cooperation with other Christian communions.

TOTAL MISSION SHARE FUNDING: \$12,633,531

2018 Special Sundays & Offerings

- Jan. 14: Human Relations Day*
- Jan. 28: Golden Cross Sunday
- Feb. 18: Methodist Rehab Center
- March 11: One Great Hour of Sharing*
- April 15: Native American Sunday*
- May 13: MS Methodist Senior Services
- May 27: Peace with Justice Sunday*
- July 29: Conference Emergency Preparedness
- Sept. 23: The Baddour Center
- Oct. 7: World Communion Sunday*
- Nov. 25: United Methodist Student Day*
- Dec. 9: The Methodist Children’s Home

**Special Sundays approved by General Conference for churchwide emphasis*

CLERGY BENEFITS FUNDING: \$8,780,703

Pension Invoicing

TOTAL: \$5,084,703 57.91%

Funding Report of the Conference Board of Pension

Paragraph 1507 (2) of the 2016 Discipline states “the conference council on finance and administration shall report to the annual conference the amounts computed by the board that are required to meet the needs of the pension, benefit, and relief programs of the conference.”

1. The CRSP Program Full-time Clergy rate is 15.50%.
 - a. The program contains a defined benefit and matching defined contribution element. The death and disability benefits are included in the percentage.
 - b. The base on which the billing will be due shall be the total package of the appointed clergy adjusted by a 25% increase of those clergy living in a United Methodist-provided parsonage.

2. The Defined Contribution Plan for the half-time clergy is 6%.
3. The Defined Contribution Plan for the 3/4 time clergy is 9%.
4. The base for the compensation of less than fulltime clergy shall be the same as in 1 (b) above.

Health Insurance Invoicing

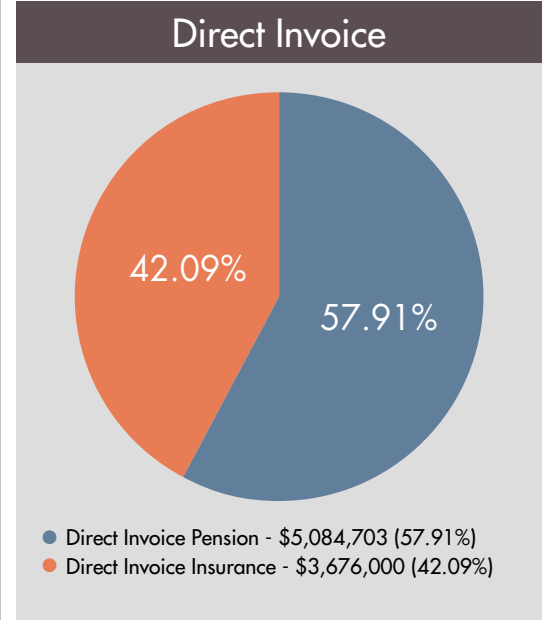
TOTAL: \$3,696,000 42.09%

Funding Report of the Board of Medical Benefits

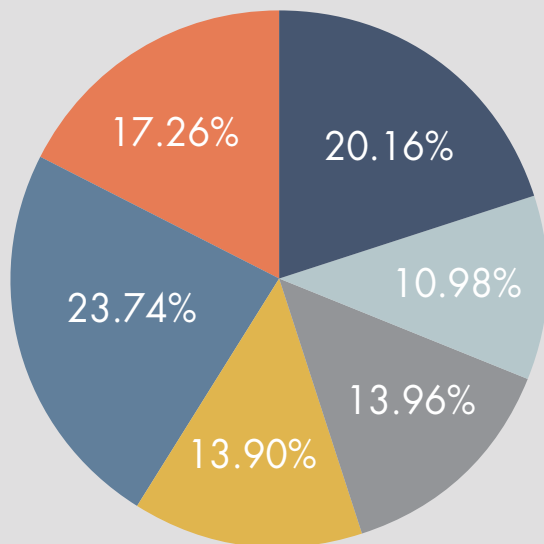
The 2015 Annual Conference voted to move the Medical Plan for Active Participants into the direct invoice method of funding. Beginning in 2017, two-thirds of the amount apportioned for 2015 was direct invoiced. The full cost will be direct invoiced in 2018.

The amount to be direct invoiced is \$3,676,000 and the base on which the invoice that will be computed is the same as the Pension Invoice except it will only apply to pastors who have a compensation package in excess of 75% of the minimum salary for a local pastor as deter-

mined by the Equitable Compensation Commission report that is adopted at each session of the Annual Conference. That amount for 2018 is \$20,454 and the invoice rate is 11%.



TOTAL MINISTRY FUNDING PLAN OF \$21,414,234 SUPPORTED BY: MISSION SHARES: \$12,633,531 & BENEFITS INVOICE: \$8,780,703



Total Ministry Funding Plan

- Clergy Support - \$4,317,012 (20.16%)
- Administrative Support - \$2,351,971 (10.98%)
- Benevolence - \$2,988,780 (13.96%)
- Beyond the Conference - \$2,975,768 (13.90%)
- Direct Invoice Pension - \$5,084,703 (23.74%)
- Direct Invoice Insurance - \$3,696,000 (17.26%)

Ministry Funding Plan Q & A



Q: What makes up the ministry funding plan of the Mississippi Conference?

A: The apportioned mission shares and the direct invoicing for clergy benefits make up the conference ministry funding plan.

Q: What are apportioned mission shares?

A: Apportioned giving is “fair share” giving. The general church and conference budgets are proportionally allocated to the local churches. This method of giving has become a strong, generous tradition for United Methodists to support the mission of The United Methodist Church.

Q: How is my local church’s apportioned mission share determined?

A: The church’s statistical information provided by each local church through EZRA at the end of the year shall be used to provide the statistical base for each church’s fair share of the conference mission share budget. The last two years of available statistical data will be used in computing a resulting fraction that will become the local church’s index and represents its proportionate fair share of the budget. Multiplying your church’s index by the conference’s total budget yields the amount of your church’s apportioned mission share for the year.

$$\frac{\text{Local church 2 year average}}{\text{All conference churches 2 year average}} = \text{Index}$$

Line Items 48-57 are as follows:

- 48. Pastor’s base compensation
- 49. Appointed associate(s) base compensation

- 50. Housing and related allowances paid appointed pastor and associate(s)
 - 51. Payments to appointed pastor and associate(s) for reimbursable plans
 - 52. Amount of non accountable plan paid apportioned pastor and associate(s)
 - 53. Deacon(s) compensation and benefits
 - 54. Diaconal minister(s) compensation and benefits
 - 55. Other staff compensation and benefits
 - 56. Current expenses for local church program
 - 57. Local church operating expenses
- You will note that the church’s membership or attendance is not figured into the formula.

Appeals for changes in apportioned mission shares made because amounts were incorrectly reported shall be made to the Mississippi Conference Council on Finance and Administration through the conference treasurer provided the church paid 100% of their prior year mission shares. This appeal must be made by Jan. 1 on the year the apportioned mission shares are due.

Q: Are all line items in the mission shares apportioned in the same way?

A: Yes, the formula as described above will apply to all line items.

Q: Who adopts the ministry funding plan?

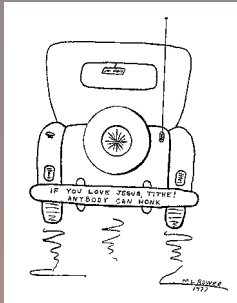
A: The Mississippi Annual Conference session approves the ministry funding plan each year. The Mississippi Conference Council on Finance and Administration recommends a budget and the lay and clergy members vote on it.

Q: How can I help make sure my church gives 100 percent of its apportioned mission share and direct invoicing?

A: There are many ways to encourage your congregation’s giving. Model and teach stewardship by tithing and encouraging others to tithe. Help your church understand where its connectional dollars go and the lives that are changed through your church’s giving. Encourage your congregation to give systematically by contributing to apportioned mission shares each month, and ask your church treasurer for regular updates. Highlight ministries supported by your giving through the church bulletin, newsletter, website, special events and activities.

People Behind the Scenes

Receiving budget requests and submitting an annual spending plan to the annual conference is the role of the Mississippi Conference Council on Finance and Administration. The clergy members are Fred Britton, David Cox, Mitchell Hedgepeth, Johniel Henry, Giles Lindley, Arthur Louis Johnson, Keith Keeton, Brenda McCaskill, and Rochelle Minor.



The laity members are Donna Gilbert, Dan Kibodeaux, Laura Kinney, Kiah Hitt, Sharolyn Miller, Lee Murphy, Sherry Russum, Chuck Stringer, Shannon Turner, and Brent Wilson, Chair. Treasurer, David Stotts and his staff are happy to provide information and answer questions about conference, jurisdictional and general apportioned mission shares. They regularly conduct training for districts and local churches. To contact the conference treasurer or benefits office, call **601-354-0515** or toll free **866-647-7486**. You may reach the person directly by calling their direct dial number listed below. Visit the conference website, www.mississippi-umc.org and click on **Administry** for the very latest updates.



Brent Wilson
Council on Finance and Administration Chairman



David Stotts, CPA
Conference Treasurer, Director of Finance and Administration and Benefits Officer
769-243-7020
dstotts@mississippi-umc.org



Ed Jones
Internal Auditor
769-243-7026
ejones@mississippi-umc.org



Sheila P. Owens
Benefits Administrator
769-243-7022
sowens@mississippi-umc.org



Laura Rollins
Administry Accountant - Receipts
769-243-7024
lrollins@mississippi-umc.org



Tamara Easter-Young
Administry Accountant - Disbursements
769-243-7023
teaster-young@mississippi-umc.org



Susan Ross
Administry Coordinator
769-243-7021
sross@mississippi-umc.org



Andy Ray
Retiree Liason
662-255-5525
aray@mississippi-umc.org



Jodie Cothen
Disability Liaison
601-744-6327
jcothen@mississippi-umc.org



Bernice Grant
Administry Assistant
769-243-7025
bgrant@mississippi-umc.org