



IOWA ANNUAL CONFERENCE



TREASURY NOTES

June 2010

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Some Statistical Information

Thank you to all those who provided us with the year end information. The on-line entry for the statistical data did not go as well as in past years. The program used, is provided by the General Church in Nashville; we have corresponded with them about some of the data entry issues and hope that 2010 will be more efficient. I realize some of you had to supply the data twice and I want to especially thank you for being willing to cooperate.

I thought the following unedited information from the Statistics would be of interest.

Numbers regarding persons who have some relationship with the church and Christ

2007	2008	2009
<i>Membership</i>		
189,779	187,278	184,369
<i>Rec. Con/Faith</i>		
2,819	3,027	2,800
<i>Removed/Death</i>		
3,007	3,155	2,882
<i>Average Worship Attendance</i>		
64,312	62,035	60,715
<i>Baptized</i>		
2,721	2,557	2,482
<i>Constituency Roll</i>		
37,241	39,089	35,582
<i>Enrolled in Confirmation Class</i>		
2,704	2,493	2,317
<i>Average Sunday School Enrollment</i>		
21,699	20,092	18,868
<i>Number of Mission Teams from Local Cong</i>		
155	514	762
<i>Number of People Participating in UMVIM</i>		
15,229	22,068	10,339

Numbers Reflecting Church Assets

2007	2008	2009
<i>Value of Church Land and Buildings</i>		
877,417,207	898,778,663	912,638,533
<i>Value of other Assets</i>		
123,745,532	96,466,862	110,006,928
<i>Indebtedness of Local Congregations</i>		
34,694,284	32,700,823	31,830,375
<i>Paid on Indebtedness</i>		
4,717,410	4,946,415	5,773,240
<i>Capital Improvements paid for 2009</i>		
13,892,443	10,193,489	12,067,671
<i>Utilities Cost for Congregations</i>		
5,781,851	6,313,593	5,710,039
<i>Grand total Paid for all Causes</i>		
103,795,528	96,113,830	102,472,204
<u>Income Reported by Churches</u>		
<i>Number of Pledges and Identified Givers</i>		
69,335	68,197	67,277
<i>Amount received Through Pledges</i>		
39,121,716	41,245,499	48,040,939
<i>Amount Received from Identified Givers (non pledge)</i>		
31,644,941	31,869,986	34,027,944
<i>Amount Received from Unidentified Givers</i>		
2,716,369	2,424,793	2,263,973
<i>Total Amount Received for Programs</i>		
98,442,737	99,100,961	106,913,206

Some Other Information

In 2009, there are 810 Congregations, 243 grew in membership. Our smallest congregation has two members and the largest 2,574. The average size is 228; however, a more acceptable measure is the median number in which we have as many larger congregations as small. That number is 133.

Out of our 810 congregations, 251 increased average attendance at worship. The smallest average attendance was five, and the largest 1,022. The average for all congregations was 75 and the median was 45.

In 2009, 515 of our congregations baptized new people into the faith. The most baptisms in any congregation were 57. Many congregations had only one baptism.

Unfortunately, 238 of our congregations did not receive one person by profession of faith or celebrated a single baptism.

Numbers are only important when we remember that each number represents a *person*; a person who has been baptized into the faith, a person who has joined a congregation of the United Methodist Church, a person who fulfilled their life mission and now rests with God. Each person has been touched by Christ. How many more people in Iowa and around the world also need to be touched by Christ? For some, you may be the only person who can give that very important touch.

Also, our numbers regarding money represent the gifts of so many people who have shared part of their blessings from God. For each of you who give so generously, we cannot thank you enough. The life, the churches, and missions, their gifts support are all blessed because they share what God has given. We are a blessed people, living in the abundance of God's love. Together we have the resources to accomplish any ministry that we, as a connectional church decide to do for Christ.

Statistical Review

By now each pastor and each treasurer should have received the data that will become part of the statistical information about our conference. Please review the information on the report; if corrections are needed make them in the margins, and send the report back to the Treasurer's office. Any changes made before August 1, might affect your apportionment calculations. Changes made after August 1 will affect apportionments calculations for the year 2012 and later. We all want our data to be accurate. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Conference Center Closed/Summer Hours

A reminder that all Conference offices will be closed Monday, July 5 for Independence Day.

The Conference offices will begin Summer Hours the week of June 28 and ending the week of September 3. The switchboard, and the Conference entrance will be open from 8:00 am to 5 pm Monday-Thursday and open from 8:00 am to noon on Friday.

Conference Center Hours during Annual Conference

The Conference Center switchboard and doors will be open during our regular hours Friday, June 4 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. The Conference Center switchboard and doors will be closed on Monday, June 7 and Tuesday, June 8. There will be staff in the IUM Foundation and Camp Registrar's office on Monday and Tuesday. You may reach them by calling their direct numbers.

May Receipts

Another big Thank you for the way you have been sharing your blessings from God, with the world beyond your own community. May has been another good month for our apportionment receipts. Many times in the past, the month after Easter has been a big letdown in receipts; but that is not true for this year. For the current year we are still ahead of last year's giving and the four year average. Not only is the percentage higher but also the dollar amount. We want to thank you for this faithful support. We also have now received \$303,598 in prior year apportionments as well. I know that I speak for the ministries in saying thank you. The blessings of God know no limits and our sharing of those blessings become multiplied many times over as we support mission projects and ministries in Iowa, around the nation and world. Thank you for generous support.

	2009	4 YR AVG	2010
General Church	894,517 32.90%	728,771 29.75%	890,961 34.22%
Conference Ministries	2,577,151 25.02%	2,689,764 26.67%	2,567,478 25.10%
Conference Missions	742,987 22.32%	708,346 23.30%	809,605 23.70%
Total Apportionments	4,214,655 25.78%	4,126,881 26.50%	4,268,044 26.26%

Moving

If you are one of the clergy moving this year be sure to: Complete all the forms that have been given to you. These include Wellmark Enrollment, Health Savings Account, 125 Cafeteria Flexible Spending Account, United Methodist Personal Investment Plan. You may have filled out all of these forms in January but because you are moving they must be completed for your new appointment.

For clergy serving in their first appointment, you must also complete the Clergy Retirement Security Plan form and Beneficiary Forms. If you have not sent the forms into the Conference Center, take them to the Treasurer's Office at the Annual Conference Session.