



IOWA ANNUAL CONFERENCE



TREASURY NOTES

June 2009

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As I write the Treasury Notes, the Annual Conference Session meeting in Ames has not begun. However, I want to share with you some information about our apportionments that I think will be of interest.

Recently, CFA and the Treasurer's office began to review some history of our Conference apportionments from the year 2006 to the proposed 2010 apportionment budget. During these five years, the apportionment requests for the Conference budget have increased by 9.2% from \$14,872,580 in 2006 to a request for 2010 of \$16,241,151.

A division of our Conference budget in the three categories that is currently being used would indicate the following: **General Church Apportionments** are funds that are assigned to the Iowa Annual Conference. *The Book of Discipline* states that the Annual Conference is to receive these apportionments by an apportionment formula and pass them on to local congregations. In 2006, they were \$2,335,183 and in 2010 is \$2,248,829, a 3.7% decrease. However, the Annual Conference voted to pay these apportionments at 100% rather than treat them as a pass obligation from local congregations to the General Church. Thus, a contingency fund was added to the General Church apportionments to cover any possible short-fall in receipts of \$355,000. Including the Contingency fund, the General Church apportionments increase is 11.5%.

Conference Ministries is the second apportionment category. This fund contains the retiree costs of the Board of Pensions, almost all of the salary and benefits for conference staff, the cost of the Annual Conference Session, Equitable

Compensation, and many District Funds. In 2006, the apportionment was \$9,807,611 and for 2010 the request is \$10,220,616 for a 4.2% increase. The largest fund in the Conference Ministries section is District Funds, followed by the Connectional Ministries Council and the Conference Board of Pensions.

Conference Mission is the third fund in the apportionment category. It is the program funds for the Annual Conference. Thus, the funds includes grants to United Methodist institutions, Congregational development, Hispanic Ministries, Wesley Foundations, the camping program, other programs of the conference, sponsored by the Board of Laity, the Board of Discipleship and advocacy commissions. In 2006, the apportionment was \$2,729,786 and in 2010 the request is for \$3,416,706 for a 25.2% increase. The largest fund in the Conference Missions is the Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministries followed by the Board of Global Ministries and then the Board of Camps, Conference and Retreat Ministries.

The percentage increases in these funds translate into dollar increases for each fund. The dollar increase for General Church Apportionments from 2006 to 2010 is \$268,646. The dollar increase for Conference Ministries is \$413,005 and for Conference Missions is \$686,920.

The numbers provided are including the approved apportionment analysis for the 2006-2009 and the CFA recommendations for 2010. Of course these numbers could change depending on the actions of the Annual Conference.

Conference Center Hours during Annual Conference

The Annual Conference Session begins with the clergy and laity sessions on Thursday afternoon; however, the Conference Center

switchboard and doors will be open on Thursday. Some staff will be at the Center on Thursday while others will be in Ames preparing for the Conference. On Friday the Conference Center will be closed.

Conference Office Closed

A reminder the Conference offices will be closed Friday, July 3 honoring our Independence Day.

Direct Bill Reminder

The direct bill for pension and health insurance for July will be mailed after July 1 when the data is updated in our system to account for the moves of clergy and those who have retired.

Statistical Review

Each pastor and treasurer should have received the data that will become part of the Iowa Annual Conference 2009 Journal. Please review the information on the report; if corrections are needed, make them in the margins and send it back to our office before August 1. August 1 is when we begin the apportionment calculations for 2010; once the calculations are complete, our office will make corrections that will affect future year's calculations but not those for 2010. So it is important to make sure that the information sent to you is correct.

All Moving or Newly Appointed Clergy

In order for the pension and health insurance billings to be correct before July 1 the following forms should be at the Treasurer's office:

1. Wellmark enrollment form (*note even if you were enrolled in your previous appointment, because of the change of location, a new form must be completed according to the regulations of Wellmark*)
2. If you are enrolled in the High Deductible Health Plan you must also complete a new enrollment to receive funds in the Health Savings Account (*note again because of the change of location regulations require the forms be completed again*)
3. The same is true for those who qualify for a HRA. Forms must be completed because of the move.
4. If you are also contributing to the 125 Cafeteria Flexible Spending

Account because of a new location all forms must be submitted again.

5. If you also are making a personal contribution in the United Methodist Personal Investment Account because of the change of location another form must be completed. Billing will not be correct and will go to the former parish until the General Board of Pensions has a copy of the change.

For clergy who are newly appointed, serving a church for the first time, all pension forms must be completed. This would be the CRSP form or the Clergy Retirement Security Plan. Contributions cannot be made into your retirement plan until the forms are complete and mailed.

Moving is also a good time to review your beneficiary forms. All forms should be mailed to Betty Palmer, Benefits Secretary at 2301 Rittenhouse Street, Des Moines, IA 50321.

May Receipts

A big thank you to all who helped to make the May receipts very strong. As you can see from the table below our receipts through April are 1.72% less than in 2008 and only 0.01% change from last month. Also, they are 0.73% less than the four-year average. Again, that is only a 0.01% change from April. When we include prior year apportionments paid, the difference between 2008 and 2009 is 0.74% which is the same as it was in April.

Thank you for your faithfulness to the mission and ministry within your local congregation and to the ministry of your church in Iowa, the US and around the world. Each dollar touches lives and helps us complete our mission of making disciples for Jesus Christ. Thank you again for your generous support.

	2008	4YR AVG	2009
General Church	892,444 36.68%	641,424 27.35%	894,517 32.90%
Conference Ministries	2,652,889 26.24%	2,711,615 27.18%	2,577,151 25.02%
Conference Missions	765,426 24.43%	678,203 23.51%	742,987 22.32%
Total Apportionments	4,310,759 27.50%	4,031,242 26.51%	4,214,655 25.78%