



IOWA ANNUAL CONFERENCE



TREASURY NOTES

May 2009

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Some Statistical Information

A thank you to all who provided to the Conference office the year-end reports on a timely basis. The following is some information about the Iowa Conference that I thought you would find of interest regarding the year 2008.

Numbers regarding person's who have some relationship with the church and Christ.

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Membership	189,779	186,590
Rec. Con/Faith	2,819	3,027
Removed/Death	3,007	3,155
Average Worship Attendance	64,312	62,035
Persons Baptized	2,721	2,557
Constituency Roll	37,241	39,089
Enrolled in Confirmation Class	2,704	2,493
Sunday School Enrollment	41,482	39,598
Enrolled in Other Formation Groups	37,343	39,499
Average Sunday School Enrollment	21,699	20,092
Total Number of Christian Formation Groups	2,974	2,942
Volunteer Mission Teams from Local Churches	155	514
Number of People Participating in UMVIM	1,483	2,156
Total number of persons served by weekday ministry programs	15,229	22,068

Numbers reflecting Church Assets

Value of Church land, buildings and equipment	807,885,065	826,532,095
Value of Church Owned Parsonages	69,532,142	72,246,567
Value of Other Assets (cash, CD's & Securities)*	123,745,532	96,466,862
Indebtedness of Local Congregations	34,694,284	32,700,823
Paid on Indebtedness	4,717,410	4,946,415

Capital Improvements paid for 2007

	13,892,443	10,193,489
Utilities Cost for churches	5,781,851	6,313,593
Grand Total Paid for all Causes	103,795,528	96,113,830

*this loss may be related to the state of the economy and how it has affected local congregations' investments.

Income Reported by churches (42 congregations' did not report anything for these items)

Number of Pledges and Identified Givers	69,335	68,197
Amount Received Through Pledges	39,121,716	41,245,499
Amount Received through Non Pledging Identified Givers	31,644,941	31,869,986
Amount Received from Unidentified givers	2,716,369	2,424,793
Total Amount of Income Received from all sources	98,442,737	99,100,961

Administrative Services Update

About a year ago, I reported in the Treasury Notes that a Consultant hired by the Council of Finance and Administration had made some recommendations regarding Administrative Services. The consultant was engaged because it had been about 10 years since the work of this office had been evaluated. This is a brief update on the four areas of recommendations that came from the consultants' report.

First, a joint committee from Human Resources and CFA and Board of Pensions is recommending to the Annual Conference that we employ a Human Resources Director. The money to fund this position is coming from the various departments that in the past have had to expend funds on what is a normal Human Resources Director's roll. No new apportionment money is being asked to fund this position, but a realignment of funds from

various departments that had budgeted money for Human Resources activities will be used.

Second, throughout this year, the Conference staff engaged in a detailed analysis of the software needs of the conference. Currently, the Conference is evaluating two vendors with the assistance of a group from Sogeti (consultants who will help select the best fit for our conference and help us with the conversion) The goal is to have a decision about the software system by late May or June and then begin the conversion process.

Third, the IT Advisory committee sent a questionnaire to a number of users in the fall, the report as been collated and the committee has begun to implement its findings. The survey has also provided information for developing some long term goals for our systems.

Fourth, the Administrative Services staff has begun the process of developing a mission statement. The process slowed down as discussion was held about all the staff in the conference center working together to develop a common mission statement. It seemed prudent that our staff wait for discussions from all Conference Center staff rather have to duplicate time and discussions.

2009 Journal Order Forms

The form to order the 2009 Journal can be found in the Pre-Conference Manual or on the Conference's website at www.iaumc.org. Click on "Annual Conference 09" then go to the bottom of the page under "Related Files." This year the price of a Journal/Book of Resolutions is \$20.00. CDs are still \$7.00 each.

The **deadline** for orders to be turned in is **June 7, 2009**, however, the process works best if you can mail in your order ahead of annual conference. All orders must be accompanied by payment. If mailed in ahead of conference please mail to Jill Stanton for processing. **DO NOT mail your orders to the lock box.**

Please contact Jill with any questions you may have by emailing her at Jill.Stanton@iaumc.org or by calling 515-974-8917.

Date to Put On Calendar

In the fall there will be two Pre-retirement Seminars for clergy who plan to retire sometime in the future. The dates are September 29 and 30. The exact times and places will be announced later. The day will include a representative from the Social

Security Administration and a retirement educator from the General Board of Pensions. Again, details will be announced later.

Benefit Packets for Moving Clergy

Just a reminder about how important it is to complete your pension, health insurance, HSA, Flex 125 and HRA forms once you have received your benefit packet. Our office needs these in order to have accurate information so that all of your benefits will begin on July 1. If you have questions regarding any of this information, please contact Betty Palmer at 515-974-8921 or betty.palmer@iaumc.org.

April Apportionment Receipts

	2008	4YR AVG	2009
General Church	742,141 30.51%	507,941 21.66%	736,568 27.09%
Conference Ministries	2,076,811 20.54%	2,089,068 20.94%	1,984,481 19.27%
Conference Missions	608,295 19.41%	501,782 17.40%	573,569 17.23%
Total Apportionments	3,427,247 21.86%	3,098,792 20.38%	3,294,618 20.15%

Along with current year apportionments \$524,732 has been paid on prior year apportionments. This is more than the four year average and at this date is more money then received in three of those four years.

Percentage of receipts for current the year is 1.71% less than in 2008 but only 0.23% less than the four year average. In the year 2008 the percentage of prior year plus current apportionments received was 24.10%. The percent for 2009 is 23.36% or 0.74% less in 2009. When these percentages are translated into actual dollars in 2008 at this time \$3,866,447 was received and in 2009 the actual dollars is \$3,819,350. The difference is \$47,097 less in 2009 than in 2008.

I want to personally thank you and your church for your faithfulness in supporting the shared ministry of Iowa. Throughout my entire ministry in Iowa I have always believed that God provides enough for us to do the ministry we are called to do, which is make disciples for Jesus Christ within our local communities and our world. Once disciples are made, together we can transform the world. Thank you for supporting the mission and ministry of the church.