

# Apportionments

## Where does our giving/pledge go? What does it do?

### **Giving to the Church:**

The vast majority of a church's operating budget comes from the generosity of the church's members and active participants. Some churches also have income from endowments, investments, and building use.

### **Apportionments (Ministry Shares):**

In the United Methodist Church, a portion of the money you give to your local church home goes beyond the local church to the larger denomination. This portion is referred to as an apportionment (a-portion) or ministry share.

### **Annual Conference & Global Church:**

The portion of money sent beyond the local church is divided between the Annual Conference to which a church belongs and the global denomination. The largest percentage stays in the annual conference.

### **Connectional:**

A defining feature of the United Methodist denomination has been the many ways we are connected to one another around the world. The apportionment is one of the ways Methodists have maintained that connection. With the growth of the large division over biblical interpretation, inclusivity, and local church control, we have seen different parts of this connection break down. For some churches, this has been seen in the amount of support for apportionment giving.

## What does this mean for my giving/pledging to St. Paul's?

### **Budget & Apportionments:**

- Our budget for 2019 is \$450,000.
- The portion assigned to us to contribute to the larger denomination is \$68,508.
- This apportionment number is determined from the income of the church.
- This means that 16.5% of what you give is sent on to the larger church—our Upper NY Annual Conference & the global denomination.
- The rest of your giving, 83.5%, stays here at St. Paul's UMC and supports all our ministries, missions, programs, staff, and activities.



### **Apportionments to the Global Church:**

Out of the \$68,508 sent to our denomination, 20% goes to the global UMC. This is just under \$14,000. These funds support:

- World Service Fund: The primary work of ministry in the world of the UMC—developing leaders, creating new spaces for ministry, working alongside the poor and stamping out poverty (determined by GC2016).
- Ministerial Education: Funding seminaries and educational opportunities for leadership.
- Black College Fund
- Africa University: UMC University serving the African continent, located in Zimbabwe.
- Episcopal Fund: Paying the salary and benefits of all UMC bishops.
- Interdenominational Cooperation
- General Administration

- Jurisdictional Administration-larger regional entities—we are Northeastern Jurisdiction.



## Apportionments & Upper New York Conference

Of the 16.5% that St. Paul's sends in apportionments, 80% stays in our Annual Conference of Upper NY. That is just a little under \$55,000. Here is where that money goes in our area of New York State:

### Connectional Ministries:

Approximately 21% of that \$55,000 goes to the ministries that we engage in together, just over \$14,000.

- Our yearly Annual Conference meeting held in late May or early June.
- Committees and teams that advocate for and support minorities and women.
- Discipleship resources such as our Resource Center (library) and Lay Servant Ministries.
- Youth, college, and older adult ministries.
- Local Volunteer in Missions Groups and Disaster Relief work.
- Camp & Retreat Ministries.

### Ministerial Support:

A portion of our giving supports the clergy—ordained, licensed local pastors, and lay supply.

Approximately 7% of the \$55,000 fund the Board of Ordained

Ministry, the committees that oversee benefits, support for struggling churches in paying for a pastor, and the bishop's office (not the bishop's salary). This area also funds the delegates to General and Jurisdictional

Conference. This amounts to around \$4,300.

### Cabinet & Districts

Our bishop works with a cabinet of personnel much like the executive branch of our nation has a cabinet of advisors. The cabinet is made up of our 12 district superintendents and other staff that help lead and administrate the conference. Around 25% of the \$55,000 supports the cabinet and the offices of the district superintendents. This amounts to approximately \$17,000.

### Administration:

The remaining 27% of the \$55,000 supports the administration of our Upper NY Annual Conference. This amounts to around \$19,400. Here are the areas of administrative ministries—personnel, offices and staff:

- Our Conference office in Liverpool
- The office for the Director of Benefits
- The Treasurer's office
- Computer services
- Council on Finance and Administration
- Board of Trustees
- The office of the Director of Communication

## Reconciling Ministries Network

If you choose to divest a percentage or all of your contribution to our apportionments, this divestment is sent to the Reconciling Ministries Network (RMN). RMN is a growing movement of United Methodists working toward full participation for ALL people in the UMC, established in 1984. RMN is made up of over 1,000 churches and groups, and almost 41,000 individuals. RMN is committed to practicing biblical obedience through relationship building, sharing stories, and advocacy to include LGBTQIA+ persons in the full life of the UMC.



What does RMN do?

- Sends staff and volunteers to Annual, Jurisdictional, and General Conferences, and major UMC events;
- Organizes witnessing and protests outside of church trials and the meetings of UMC governing bodies;
- Guides churches and other UMC groups through the process of committing to full inclusivity;
- Works alongside other advocacy groups for full inclusivity in the UMC, such as racial and gender groups.

To learn more about RMN, visit [rmnetwork.org](http://rmnetwork.org).

St. Paul's UMC is a member of RMN, joining 21 years ago.