

2020 BUDGET FOR MISSION & MINISTRY

WE ARE CONNECTED

As United Methodists, we are linked together by more than our Christian faith. In our church, we say that we are “connectional.” What that means is that we covenant together - we promise to each other - to share in ministry with each other around the corner and around the world. Within The United Methodist Church, a portion of the money each local church receives goes beyond the walls of the building to enable ministry in hundreds of ways.

9.3 M TOTAL BUDGET

The Council on Finance and Administration (CF&A) works on behalf of the churches of South Georgia to recommend a lean conference budget. Clergy and lay person(s) from every church receive, discuss and approve this budget every year at the Annual Conference Session. While we know there is great ministry we can do together, we also know the importance of dollars staying at the local church level! CF&A is pleased to present a 2020 budget of \$9,326,184.

7% BUDGET DECREASE

This budget is \$736,642 lower than the 2019 budget - a 7% decrease - which follows a 6% decrease the year before. Since 2010, the conference budget has dropped 25%.

BETTER TOGETHER

We truly are better together! You are changing lives through the institutions, colleges, hospitals, seminaries, missionaries and ministries throughout South Georgia, the nation and the world with your gifts. When you share in the askings, you have joined God in the great work God is doing! Thank you for your partnership and for allowing the South Georgia Conference to be good stewards of your offerings.

CF&A organizes the budget into two types of budget items to help churches and pastors understand the nature of our expenses. **Type A** items are paid based on approved expenses or vouchers which have been incurred while **Type B** items are paid each month based on the receipts collected for that item during the month.

LOCAL BENEVOLENCES

(TYPE A EXPENSES)

I. CONFERENCE BENEVOLENCES (ITEMS 1 - 4) \$ 1,067,966 11.45%

1 - OFFICE OF CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES \$ 620,000

The Office of Connectional Ministries assists local churches to fulfill our Christ-mandated mission of making disciples by offering leadership training and consultation services; by coordinating a wide variety of programming opportunities intended to help local churches faithfully and creatively produce well-rounded disciples; and by connecting the local church to the larger church through communications and networking.

2 - ARTHUR J. MOORE MUSEUM \$ 114,713

This fund provides for our "ministry of memory" through the museum at Epworth by the Sea where the conference archives and historical records are preserved.

3 - BOARD OF LAITY \$ 6,000

The Board of Laity allows the conference and district lay leaders as well as representatives from United Methodist Men and United Methodist Women to work together to provide ministry with lay persons across South Georgia.

4 - HISPANIC MINISTRIES \$ 327,253

Funds for Hispanic Ministries are used to reach out to Hispanic persons in our communities, invite them to Christian discipleship, and minister with and through them. Our part-time conference coordinator of Hispanic Ministries works closely with Hispanic ministers to provide program resources and support for Hispanic congregations. There are presently nine Hispanic ministry congregations throughout our conference.

II. CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (ITEM 5) \$ 310,014 3.32%

5 - OFFICE OF CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT \$ 310,014

The mission of Congregational Development (CD) is to create new congregations as well as help revitalize and relocate congregations with the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ. The asking provides funds for training experiences of ministers and church leaders, helping start new programs and ministries, expand facilities, and launch new congregations. Like Wesley and Asbury, we seek to move where the people are and reach them for Christ. The almost fifty churches this office has worked with account for many of the new converts and increased worship attendance in our annual conference.

III. CLERGY SUPPORT (ITEMS 6 – 15) \$ 3,015,461 32.33%

6 - DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS' EXPENSE \$ 1,055,765

This fund provides for salaries, benefits, travel, and related expenses of our six District Superintendents.

7 - BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY \$ 64,248

This fund supports testing, credentialing, counseling, career assessment, supervising pastors, and other work of the Board. Recruitment efforts include the Young Clergy Academy internship, an expanded licensing school for persons entering the ministry, and a "residents in ministry" program for probationary members of the conference.

8 - PRE - 1982 PENSIONS AND BENEFITS \$ 302,800

This fund is used to pay clergy pensions for years of service prior to January 1, 1982, at the rate of \$688 per service year. Widows/widowers of participants receive \$482 per service year.

9 - COMPREHENSIVE PROTECTION PLAN \$ 700,000

This fund underwrites the Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP) for clergy, which provides disability benefits, death benefits, and educational benefits for children of deceased clergy.

10 - HEALTH FLEX - CLERGY ON DISABILITY LEAVE \$ 165,000

This fund underwrites the cost of providing health insurance to ministers who are receiving disability benefits.

11 - POST-RETIREMENT MEDICAL \$ 120,000

This fund assists retired ministers who purchase their own Medicare supplement plan and prescription drug plan.

12 - CONFERENCE BOARD OF PENSIONS **\$ 47,100**

This provides meeting expenses for the Conference Board of Pensions, funding for required actuarial studies, and funding for a "gift" for our retiring clergy.

13 - BENEFITS UNDERPAYMENT **\$ 90,000**

This is a contingency fund to ensure that we can pay 100% of the cost of required insurance and pension benefits for our active ministers. These costs must be paid at 100%, even if the askings are not received at that level.

14 - EQUITABLE COMPENSATION **\$ 259,800**

This fund provides salary and benefit support for those pastors serving churches not able to meet the minimum salary standards set by the Annual Conference. Included in these funds is some salary support for the ministers serving new church starts being established by the Office of Congregational Development.

15 - PASTORAL COUNSELING SERVICE **\$ 210,748**

Our pastoral counselor conducts sexual ethics workshops, helps with safe sanctuaries training, gives guidance to ministers regarding counseling situations, assists members of ministers' families with professional counseling and advises churches in crises, just to mention a portion of the duties.

IV. ADMINISTRATION (ITEMS 16 – 34) **\$ 1,312,990** **14.08%**

16 - ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION EXPENSE **\$ 100,500**

This fund covers the cost of renting the facility where Annual Conference is held, as well as program related expenses including the Book of Recommendations, honoraria, and accommodations of guest speakers. It is divided into the costs incurred by the local committee and the cost of preparation of materials for the business session and worship services during the Conference session. Registration fees estimated at \$20,000 will help underwrite the cost of these budget items.

17 - ANNUAL CONFERENCE EXPENSE RETIRED MINISTERS **\$ 16,000**

This fund provides a per diem of \$65.00 per day (by voucher) which assists retired ministers and ministers receiving disability benefits with the cost of attending Annual Conference.

18 - AT-LARGE LAY MEMBERS OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE **\$ 22,000**

The Discipline of The United Methodist Church provides that an equal number of clergy and laity compose the membership of the Annual Conference sessions. When lay membership is less than clergy

membership, the number is equalized by the Annual Conference. This fund provides for the expenses of these at-large lay members at the same per diem as that provided for the retired clergy.

19 - COMMITTEE ON MEMOIRS **\$ 1,000**

This fund provides support for the Committee to produce materials regarding clergy and spouses who have died during the year and to provide funds for the preparation of the Memorial Service which is held during Annual Conference.

20 - CONFERENCE SECRETARY/JOURNAL EXPENSE **\$ 5,000**

This fund provides honoraria for services and expenses for secretarial staff to fulfill Annual Conference responsibilities and to keep the conference records, according to The Discipline. It also assists with the expenses of publishing & distributing The Journal.

21 - COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION **\$ 4,350**

This fund covers the costs of the meetings of the Conference Finance and Administration Committee and sub-committees.

22 - ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES OFFICE **\$ 747,683**

This fund covers the cost of operating the Administrative Services Office (conference treasurer/benefits office). This office prepares monthly bills, records payments and answers questions for the pension and health insurance plans of the conference, prepares monthly remittance statements, records payments and answers questions about the conference budget, and advance special projects. The office collects and prepares the statistical reports for the Journal and prepares financial reports for various conference offices and committees. Staff members also maintain the Conference database and online software.

23 - CONFERENCE TRUSTEES **\$ 6,500**

This fund provides for meeting costs of the Board of Trustees of the Annual Conference.

24 - LEADERSHIP FORUM **\$ 4,500**

The Leadership Forum provides an opportunity for designated conference leaders to meet together for prayer, dialogue and discernment of God's vision for the present & future ministry of the South Georgia Annual Conference.

25 - STRATEGIC INITIATIVES TEAM **\$ 6,500**

The Strategic Initiatives Team meets to work on overall issues of structure, relationships, and direction of the annual conference. This team is assisting our Bishop to learn our conference history, consider our present circumstances, and chart possibilities for the future.

26 - HUMAN RESOURCES & PERSONNEL **\$ 26,557**

This fund provides operating costs for the HR office and meeting costs of the Committee on Personnel of the Annual Conference.

27 - COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE **\$ 185,000**

This fund supports the work of the Communication Office of our Annual Conference, including the website, the Advocate, internal & external communications, and support of churches and conference staff in the area of communications.

28 - WORKER'S COMPENSATION INSURANCE **\$ 12,900**

As required by the law of the State of Georgia, this fund provides Worker's Compensation Insurance for the members of the Cabinet, professional staff, & support staff of the South GA Annual Conference.

29 - COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS **\$ 1,000**

The Conference Committee on Nominations meets each year to appoint persons to conference committees.

30 - LOCAL CHURCH TREASURERS' BOND **\$ 7,300**

This fund provides for the cost of an insurance policy providing "excess" coverage for potential employee dishonesty by local church treasurers or financial administrators. (The local church's insurance policy is primary in the event employee dishonesty occurs.)

31 - GENERAL CONFERENCE & SEJ CONFERENCE DELEGATE'S EXPENSES **\$ 22,000**

This fund provides for the expenses of the South Georgia Conference delegates to meet and prepare to represent us at the 2020 General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference.

32 - EPISCOPAL COMMITTEE **\$ 1,200**

This pays for the travel for members of the Episcopal Committee to meet.

33 - LEGAL FEES **\$ 93,000**

This funds covers cost of legal fees that the conference incurs.

34 - CONTINGENCY FUND **\$ 50,000**

This fund provides for unanticipated conference needs that are not included in the budget and for funding fixed expenses when local church remittances are not forthcoming.

V. AREA EPISCOPAL EXPENSE (ITEMS 35 – 36) \$ 232,250 2.49%

35 - SOUTH GEORGIA EPISCOPAL AREA OFFICE EXPENSE \$ 212,250

This fund provides our share of the operating costs for the office of the Resident Bishop of the South Georgia Area, including Assistant to the Bishop and Office of Ministerial Services.

36 - SOUTH GEORGIA EPISCOPAL AREA RESIDENCE EXPENSE \$ 20,000

This fund provides our share of the expense for providing housing for our Bishop.

REGIONAL BENEVOLENCES
(STATE AND JURISDICTION)
(TYPE B EXPENSES)

VI. REGIONAL CAUSES (ITEMS 37 – 38) \$ 743,914 8.01%

37 - SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTION MISSION & MINISTRY \$ 20,713

(THE SEJ APPORTIONMENT) This fund helps support the ministries and programs of the SEJ Administrative Council, including The Protestant Hour; supports the SEJ Office of Volunteers in Mission, SEJ Commission on Religion and Race, Campus Ministry at Emory University, and Course-of-Study Schools of Candler School of Theology, Duke Divinity School, and Gulfside Assembly. This fund pays the expenses of the Jurisdictional Conference, which meets every four years.

38 - CHRISTIAN HIGHER EDUCATION (GEORGIA) \$ 723,201

This fund provides support for the United Methodist Colleges & Wesley Foundations in Georgia. The GA United Methodist Commission on Higher Education & Campus Ministry administers these funds.

GENERAL BENEVOLENCES

(TYPE B EXPENSES)

VI. GENERAL CHURCH APPORTIONMENTS (ITEMS 39 – 45)

\$ 2,643,589 28.35%

Items 39 – 45 are part of our connectional ministry throughout the world. These apportionments are assigned to us by the General Council on Finance and Administration based on the finances and worship attendance of local churches in the South Georgia Conference. The information they use comes from the statistical reports turned in each year by local churches.

39 - WORLD SERVICE

\$ 1,359,920

World Service is the basic mission program and benevolence fund of The United Methodist Church. It enables members of every local church to share in thousands of worldwide ministries as it impacts persons across the world. World Service carries out ministries which a local church could not do alone, such as supporting missionaries, strengthening churches outside the United States, enabling United Methodist health and welfare institutions, helping equip pastors for ethnic minority churches in the US have better paid and better trained pastors, and expressing the United Methodist Church's position on critical issues in such forums as the US Congress and the United Nations. It produces and enriches resources – persons, printing, and audio-visuals for local churches ministering in evangelism, worship, Christian education, stewardship, youth ministries, missions, and church concerns.

40 - AFRICA UNIVERSITY FUND

\$ 41,003

In 1988, the General Conference began to build a university on the continent of Africa to raise up Christian leaders who could transform the continent for Christ. These funds help with the continuing development of the university by helping fund additional buildings and faculty as the numbers of students and programs of study increase. These graduates are impacting the church and culture across Africa.

41 - EPISCOPAL FUND

\$ 402,728

This fund provides for the expenses of the Council of Bishops of The United Methodist Church including their salaries and benefits as well as funds for the operation of their offices and to purchase and maintain the episcopal residence.

42 - MINISTERIAL EDUCATION FUND

\$ 459,319

This fund provides training for tomorrow's ministers and helps today's ministers be more effective in fulfilling their call. Twenty-five percent of the amount raised in our Annual Conference remains within the conference to help educate ministers to serve our congregations and ministries. The remainder is distributed to our 13 Theological Seminaries to help meet current expenses and other financial needs.

43 - BLACK COLLEGE FUND

\$ 183,218

This fund supports United Methodism's 11 predominantly black colleges. This is the largest group of black colleges related to any Protestant denomination. Of this apportionment, five-sixths is for current operation budgets, and one-sixth is for capital improvements. Although most students attending these colleges are black, the schools are open to students regardless of race.

44 - GENERAL ADMINISTRATION FUND

\$ 161,479

Several general agencies and items essential to The United Methodist Church are supported by this fund: General Conference, Judicial Council, General Commission on Archives and History, United Methodist Shrines, and General Council on Finance and Administration.

45 - INTER-DENOMINATIONAL COOPERATIVE FUND

\$ 35,922

This fund represents United Methodism's financial commitment to ecumenical mission and work and to interchurch cooperation.

This budget was prepared by the Conference Council on Finance and Administration after receiving requests from various conference ministries and committees. The budget was presented to the Annual Conference for discussion, amendment and approval. Your lay delegate and pastor, together with delegates from other churches across South Georgia, were able to discuss, question, amend, and vote on this budget. We pray that our support of the ministries and services contained herein will be pleasing to God, and will help us both be and make faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

THE APPORTIONMENT FORMULA

Two items are used to calculate each local church's share of the total Conference Budget. They are the **membership factor**, which is weighted at 35%, and the **financial factor**, which is weighted at 65%. Using these two factors sets the apportionments in such a way that larger churches have a larger share than smaller churches, and churches with greater means bear a larger share than churches with less means. The membership and financial factors are averaged over the last two reporting years to even out spikes and dips. The membership factor is reported by the local church in the *Conference Journal*. The financial factor includes the total expenditures of each local church as reported in the *Conference Journal* for salaries, benefits, program costs, and operating costs.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \text{Average Church Membership} \\
 \text{-----} \\
 \text{Average Conference} \\
 \text{Membership}
 \end{array}
 \times 35\% +
 \begin{array}{r}
 \text{Average Church Local Expenditures} \\
 \text{-----} \\
 \text{Average Conference Local} \\
 \text{Expenditures}
 \end{array}
 \times 65\%$$

= Church Decimal

This decimal is multiplied by each item in the Conf. Budget to obtain your local church's share of the Conf. Budget.

FUND NAME	2020 BUDGET	LOCAL CHURCH SHARE
Local Benevolences	5,938,681	
Conference Benevolences (# 1 - 4)	1,067,966	
Congregational Development (# 5)	310,014	
Clergy Recruitment, Certification, Supervision, & Support (# 6, 7, 14, 15)	1,727,661	
Pre-82 Pensions, CBOP, & Benefits Underpayment (# 8, 12, 13)	302,800	
Comprehensive Protection Plan (# 9)	700,000	
HealthFlex Clergy on Disability Leave (# 10)	165,000	
Post-retirement Medical (# 11)	120,000	
Administrative Expenses (# 16 - 34)	1,312,990	
South Georgia Episcopal Office Expense (# 37)	212,250	
South Georgia Episcopal Residence Expense (# 38)	20,000	
Regional Benevolences	743,914	
Southeastern Jurisdiction Mission and Ministry (# 35)	20,713	
Christian Higher Education - Georgia (# 36)	723,201	
General Benevolences	2,643,589	
World Service (# 39)	1,359,920	
Episcopal Fund (# 40)	402,728	
Africa University Fund (# 41)	41,003	
Ministerial Education Fund (# 42)	459,319	
Black College Fund (# 43)	183,218	
General Administration Fund (# 44)	161,479	
Interdenominational Cooperative Fund (# 45)	35,922	
2020 Budget Apportioned on the Decimal	9,326,184	