



September 2019

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Included in these Treasury Notes:

- Financial status of the Iowa Annual Conference
- Status of Apportionment Income & Statistics
- District Office Transitions
- Audit 2018
- Group Ruling Letter
- Where Do Apportionments Come From tool
- Updated & Re-designed Church Remittance Forms
- Vanco Services & Voucher Credits

FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE IOWA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Bishop's Operational Team made up of leadership, both staff and non-staff, will be continuing the focus on structural changes within the Conference due to the apportionments shortfall and unknown denominational configurations yet to be determined by our General Conference in May 2020. Along with the Council on Finance and Administration (CFA), Conference Connectional Ministries Council (CCMC) and many other groups, we must find a sustainable way forward to serve our world-wide connection, our required administrative functions on the Conference and local church level, and keep a strong mission element to all our work.

Below is information on apportionment receipts which has not improved. Your Conference leadership and many others will continue to work to find areas where we can "do things differently" to reduce structure and expenses. If you have ideas you would like to share, please email BishopsOperationalTeam@iaumc.org.

STATUS OF APPORTIONMENT INCOME & STATISTICS

As of August 31, 2019, your Conference Office has received \$5,549,073 in apportionments (current and prior years) from a total budget of \$14,288,286 or 38.8% of the total budget. This continues to be the lowest percentage received for the first eight months of any year.

<u>Percentage of Total Apportionments Collected (Current & Prior Years)</u>			
Year	Apportionment Budget	Total Collected	Percentage
2019	\$14,288,286	\$5,549,073 (to date)	67.4% (projected)
2018	\$14,794,211	\$10,973,012	74.1%
2017	\$14,171,974	\$11,120,639	78.5%
2016	\$14,810,617	\$11,801,335	79.7%
2015	\$16,014,097	\$12,577,435	78.5%
2014	\$16,273,502	\$12,874,487	79.1%
2013	\$15,675,167	\$13,274,114	84.7%
2012	\$15,623,970	\$13,303,847	85.2%

I'd like to again recognize those churches who have already paid 100% of their 2019 apportionments and then those who have paid greater than 80% of their total as of August 31, 2019:

Paid 100% of 2019 apportionments-CORRECTED

EC-United Church of Deep River	NW-First, Cushing
St Paul's, Grand Mound	Mt Zion (Blakesburg)
NC-Gifford	Norwood
BRADFORD	Troy
NE-Cresco, Zion	Unionville
Plainfield	SE-Bethel
Silver Creek (Rowley)	Keokuk, Melrose
UNION SUMNER	Fe y Esperanza, Council Bluffs
Huntington	HARVEY
CHESTER	Macedonia
Royal	Menlo
SC-Jerusalem	Monroe Chapel
HARVEY	
LACELLE	
VAN WERT	

Paid greater than 80% of total

NW-Ocheyedan
SC-Davis City
SE-Kalona
Sweetland, Muscatine
Asbury, Wellman
SW-Missouri Valley

DISTRICT OFFICE TRANSITIONS

Over the last several months, the Conference has begun working on reducing the number of district office locations. This also involved the reduction of District Administrative Assistants from eight to four. Making such changes is a painful process and we ask for your prayers for staff affected and for those making decisions regarding the future of our connectional ministries.

AUDIT 2018

Since my last Treasurer's Notes, the 2018 Iowa Annual Conference and Board of Pensions consolidated audit was completed and is now posted on our website. Go to www.iaumc.org/2018audit.

GROUP RULING LETTER

A copy of a Group Ruling Letter may be used as proof of the tax-exempt status of a United Methodist local church. Persons or corporations making gifts to UM Churches and other covered organizations under the Group Ruling Letter may request evidence that the recipient of the gift is a tax-exempt organization. The Letter may also be used in obtaining bulk mailing permits from the USPS. A copy of the Letter can be obtained from the GCFA legal department. Go to <http://www.gcfa.org/services/legal-services/> and click on Group Ruling. (This tax-exempt status is related to income taxes, not sales taxes. Our Conference and local churches are required to pay sales tax on items purchased.)

WHERE DO APPORTIONMENTS COME FROM?

I received this link to a reference tool that might be helpful to local churches. It is called "Where Do Apportionments Come From".

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/where-do-apportionments-come-from>

CHURCH REMITTANCE FORMS - UPDATED

We have updated and re-designed the apportionment/gifts remittance form. The updated form can be found at www.iaumc.org/churchremittanceforms. If you have questions, please contact Kristina Merfeld at 515-974-8938 or Kristina.Merfeld@iaumc.org.

VANCO SERVICES & VOUCHER CREDITS

Using the VANCO system is a great way to electronically submit your monthly apportionment/gifts remittance to the Conference – no postage cost, no checks to write, and less chance for error in applying your remittance. Please visit <https://www.iaumc.org/apportionmentresources> or contact Kristina Merfeld by email at Kristina.Merfeld@iaumc.org for more information.

If your church wants to report giving to a non-profit organization in which the monies do not come through the Conference Remittance System, you can report it as a VOUCHER CREDIT. However, in the Vanco System, there is not a way to report voucher credit information, so we ask that you email Kristina Merfeld with any voucher credit information. Please be sure to include your church name and church number in the email and use a subject line of Voucher Credit Information. If you have questions, please let Kristina know.

If you would like to sign up to receive the Treasurer's Notes monthly, simply go to: <http://iaumc-email.brtapp.com/subscribe>, and sign up for Treasurer's Notes or any Conference publication.