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Agenda for Friday, May 3

6:30 – 8:00 A.M. – Breakfast

6:30 A.M. – Committee on Agenda and Calendar

7:30 A.M. – 6:30 P.M. – Registration

8:00 – 9:00 A.M. – Worship

9:00 – 10:00 A.M. – Plenary Session

- Opening Prayer
- Monitoring Report (3 minutes)
- Administrative Committee Reports
- GCFA Report
- Calendar Items & Conference Business
- Announcements

10:00 – 10:20 A.M. – Break

10:20 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. – Plenary Session

- Opening Prayer
- Calendar Items & Conference Business

12:00 – 1:30 P.M. – Lunch

- Organization of the Commission on the General Conference

1:30 – 3:40 P.M. – Plenary Session

- Opening Prayer
- Recognition of General Conference Staff and Local Host Committee (25 minutes)
- Calendar Items & Conference Business

3:40 – 4:00 P.M. – Break

4:00 – 6:00 P.M. – Plenary Session

- Opening Prayer
- Calendar Items & Conference Business

6:00 – 6:30 P.M. – Closing Worship

6:30 P.M. – Final Adjournment

6:30 – 8:00 P.M. – Dinner

Errata May 3

DCA Volume 5, No. 9, p. 2262, Election Results from May 1, Judicial Council Clergy Alternate “Mark Grafenread” should be “Mark Grafenreed.”

inadvertently omitted from the list of Bishops and Spouses. Add “Bishop Felton May” after “Ruth Thomas.”

DCA Volume 5, No. 9, p. 2259, Remembering Those Who Have Died, Bishop Felton May was

DCA Volume 5, No. 7, p. 2199 of the DCA, “Rodal Acdul” should be “Rodel Acdal.”

Departures from Official General Conference Hotels – Charlotte, NC

Airport Bus schedule for General Conference Delegates to the Charlotte Douglas International Airport

Hotel Check-out: 11:00 a.m.

Airport Shuttle: Saturday, May 4, 2024

Shuttles to the airport depart every hour between 3:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Use the schedule below to determine your departure time.

Hotel Departure Time Flight Time

3:00 AM	5:30 AM - 6:30 AM
4:00 AM	6:30 AM - 7:30 AM
5:00 AM	7:30 AM - 8:30 AM
6:00 AM	8:30 AM - 9:30 AM
7:00 AM	9:30 AM -10:30 AM
8:00 AM	10:30 AM - 11:30 AM
9:00 AM	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
10:00 AM	12:30 PM - 1:30 PM
11:00 AM	1:30 PM - 2:30 PM
12:00 PM	2:30 PM - 3:30 PM
1:00 PM	3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
2:00 PM	4:30 PM - 5:30 PM
3:00 PM	5:30 PM - 6:30 PM
4:00 PM	6:30 PM - 7:30 PM
5:00 PM	7:30 PM - 8:30 PM
6:00 PM	8:30 PM - 9:30 PM
7:00 PM	9:30 PM - 10:30 PM
8:00 PM	10:30 PM - 11:59 PM

To ensure an on-time departure, allow 15-20 minutes to check-out of the hotel at the front desk and load your luggage on to the shuttle.

The shuttle meeting point will be the Front Lobby of the Hotel you are staying at. We recommend you depart 2.5 to 3 hours before your scheduled flight departure time. There is a musical festival in Charlotte that could cause traffic delays.

JW Marriott-600 S. College Street, 28202

Hilton Charlotte Uptown-222 E 3rd. Street, 28202

Courtyard City Center-237 S. Tryon Street, 28202

Westin-601 S. College Street, 28202

Hilton Garden Inn Uptown-508 E. MLK Blvd., 28202 (Attached to HX)

Aloft Charlotte City Center-210 E. Trade Street, 28202

Embassy Suites by Hilton Uptown-401 E. MLK Blvd., 28202

Hampton Inn Uptown-530 E. MLK Blvd., 28202 (Attached to HGI)

Omni-132 E. Trade Street, 28202

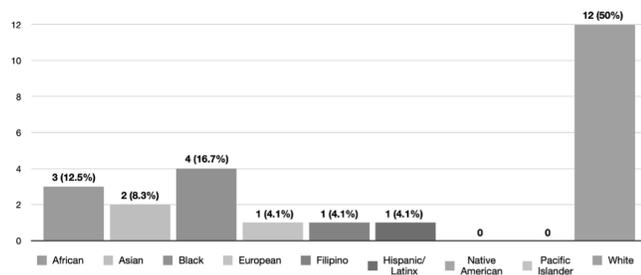
Springhill Suites-311 E. 5th Street, 28202

Doubletree by Hilton Uptown-895 W Trade St, 28202

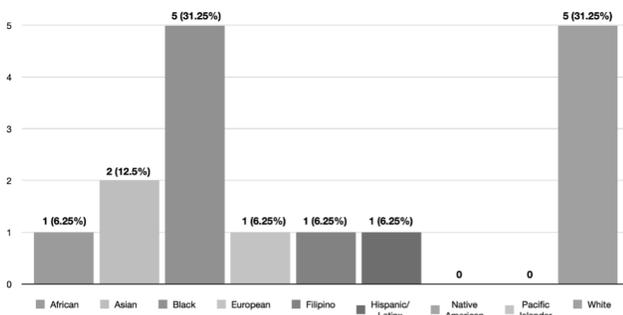
GCORR Equity Monitoring Report No. 10

Life experiences, starting with cultures of origin, often shape how leaders create equity of access for others. They have significant influence over who is seated at table of conversation and decision-making.

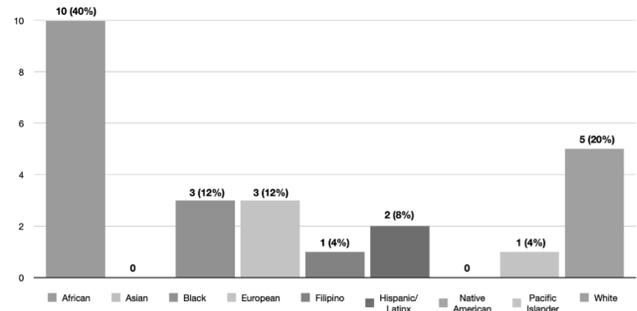
These are the results from Wednesday’s election to the **Judicial Council, University Senate, and the Secretary-Designate of the General Conference:**



The statistics for elections to GCFA:



The statistics for elections to the Commission on the General Conference:



The final chart below is a comparison of plenary speakers on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

Total Numbers of Plenary Speakers from Central Conferences and United States

	Central Conferences	United States
Monday, April 29	31	69
Tuesday, April 30	15	64
Wednesday, May 1	11	74

When reviewing charts such as this one, it is important to remember that context is critical. In a worldwide gathering such as General Conference, various pieces of legislation will be of more interest to some delegates than others. As a result, numbers such as those above will reflect different levels of participation based on perceived impact of the legislation.

We are in the process of compiling plenary context relevant to this chart and to another chart that will break out BIPOC and White speakers from Central Conferences and the United States. Those statistics are being compiled and will be shared tomorrow.

GCSRW Monitoring Report, May 3

What a historic General Conference we have had! We give thanks for the work that the body has carried out. Petitions, Social Principles, and elections were just some of the business completed yesterday. As today is our last day together, if you can encourage a person who has not had the opportunity to share their voice, today would be a great day to do that!

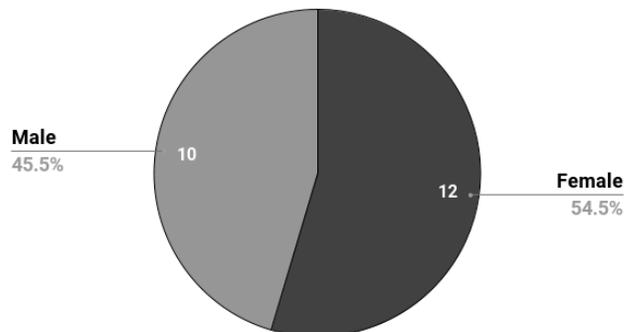
In order to empower one another and to make space for all voices, our work demands that all of us endeavor together to build a more inclusive, welcoming community of faith. What we do as The United Methodist Church matters today and will impact the denomination and the world for the next 7 generations, and beyond.

Yesterday morning's sermon was another historic first. Bishop Ruby-Nell Estrella, the first woman elected to the episcopacy in the Philippines, preached a powerful sermon. She reminded us that we should not doubt the movements of God. We can follow the words of the Methodist Youth Fellowship and "talk about Jesus more and more."

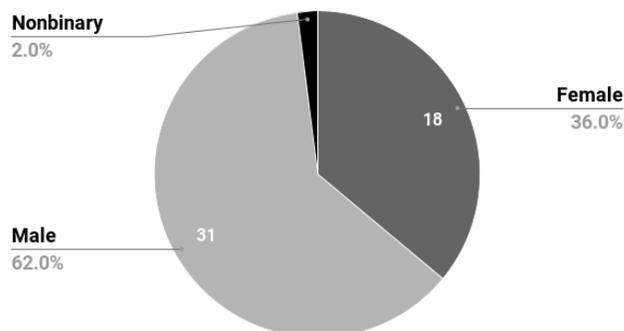
"When we remember who we are, we will know whose we are." Then, we will go into the world with hope and faith like the many missionaries who continue to go out and spread the Gospel for the transformation of the world. Bishop Estrella's sermon set the stage for the Service of Commissioning Missionaries, which sent out 9 women and 8 men into the mission field. We also received a report from the General Board of Global Ministries, who highlighted the first woman missionary, Ann Wilkins, from New York, who served for 20 years!

We are moving forward, deeply committed to our faith, much like the missionaries who will be sent to different parts of the world. The missionaries are prepared to go wherever God may call. In response we ask ourselves: where are we willing to go?

05/02 - Speakers From Stage - By Gender



05/02 - Speakers From Floor - By Gender



The diverse pool of presidors has blessed us greatly and has been a historic demonstration of our diversity! 14 women and 13 men have led the General Conference thus far. The Chair of the Administrative Committee on Presiding Officers, Rev. Jasmine Rose Smothers, consistently made space and modeled how one should identify themselves from the floor, including wearing a translation device during her report. Rev. Smothers ensured that the General Secretaries, both male and female, were addressed using their proper titles. She also invited the Vice Chair, who is of a different gender and racial-ethnic identity, to stand with her during each presentation. Diversity in our leadership and in our participation makes us better!

General Secretary Dawn Wiggins Hare was called to the floor two additional times today. This provided another opportunity to share details of the monitoring requirement as outlined in the *Book of Discipline*. Delegates were asked to voluntarily self-identify so that GCSRW does not have to make assumptions about delegates' gender, racial, or ethnic identity when compiling data. It is our hope that in the future this information will be in

our registration so we will not have to share these identifiers when speaking from the floor. The second time General Secretary Hare was asked to speak, it was at the request of the body, seeking clarity on the gender and racial makeup of the nominees for the General Council on Finance and Administration (GCFA). Thank you for your acknowledgement of the importance of the work that GCORR and GCSRW continue to do

Judicial Council Decision No. 1498

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

DECISION 1498

[Docket 0524-4]

IN RE: Petition for Declaratory Decision from the General Conference 2024 Regarding the Meaning, Application, and Effect of ¶¶ 408.1b and 357.1 of *The 2016 Book of Discipline* Concerning Mandatory Retirement of Bishops.

DIGEST

Paragraph 357.1 applies to ordained elders, not bishops. If a Central Conference Bishop fits the requirements for retirement under ¶ 408.1b of the 2012 Discipline, the bishop must retire no later than one year from the end of the General Conference session. There will be no need for episcopal oversight in as much as a new bishop will be elected at the central conference.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

On May 1, 2024 during the morning plenary session, a delegate from the Liberia Annual Conference rose and made the following motion:

I move that, in accordance with Par. 2601.1, the General Conference requests a declaratory decision from the Judicial Council on the meaning, application, and effect of Paragraph 408.1b and 357.1 with regard to the following questions:

1. Does the provision for mandatory retirement for ordained elders in Par. 357.1 apply to bishops?

2. If so, should bishops who have currently passed the mandatory retirement age be immediately placed in the retired relation, with the Council of Bishops providing alternative episcopal oversight for the affected annual Conference
3. If a central conference bishop fits the requirements of Par. 408.1 for retirement, must they be placed in the retired relation as of August 4, 2024, even if their central conference is being held after that date?
4. If so, must the Council of Bishops provide alternative episcopal oversight for the affected annual conference until a new bishop is elected and consecrated?
5. If one or more bishops in a central conference are retiring under Par. 408.1b, must the central conference be held in enough time to allow the newly elected bishop(s) to take office by September 1, 2024?

Jurisdiction

The Judicial Council has jurisdiction pursuant to ¶ 2610 of *The 2016 Book of Discipline* [hereinafter the *Discipline*].

Analysis And Rationale

The Judicial Council responds as follows to the questions put to it by the delegate from the Liberia Annual Conference as follows:

No.1: No. ¶ 357.1 applies to ordained elders but not bishops.

No. 2: Question 2 presupposes that the answer to question 1 is Yes (“If so,” i.e. “If yes”), and is therefore moot.

No. 3: No. The 2016 version of 408.1b did not make it into the Book of Discipline. See JCD 1370.¹ The 2012 language is still valid and applicable.

b) A bishop in a central conference shall be retired at a date no later than **one year** following the adjournment of General Conference, if the bishop’s sixty-eighth birthday is reached on or before the opening day of his or her scheduled conference effective on January 1, 2016.

Therefore, the term of a bishop who has reached the age of sixty-eight before the beginning of the central conference, must retire no later than one year following the adjournment of General Conference.

No. 4: No. There will be no need for episcopal

oversight in as much as a new bishop will be elected at the central conference.

No. 5: No. See question and answer No. 4.

Decision

Paragraph 357.1 applies to ordained elders, not bishops. If a Central Conference Bishop fits the requirements for retirement under ¶ 408.1b of the 2012 Discipline, the bishop must retire no later than one year from the end of the General Conference session. There will be no need for episcopal oversight in as much as a new bishop will be elected at the central conference.

May 2, 2024

1. “General Conference could not enact 408.1(b) without violating its own policy in ¶ 2201.2. The adoption of Calendar Item 218 was null and void. ¶ 408.1(b) of The Discipline, 2012 is revived.”
JCD 1370

Judicial Council Decision No. 1499

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH DECISION NO. 1499

[Docket No. 0524-5]

IN RE: Petition for Declaratory Decision from the General Conference 2024 Regarding the Constitutionality, Meaning, Application, and Effect of Petition 20299 (Amended ¶ 409).

DIGEST

Under ¶ 47 of the Constitution, the Council of Bishops shall be composed of all bishops of The United Methodist Church. All bishops (active and retired) of The United Methodist Church are authorized to attend meetings of the Council of Bishops with expenses paid. Petition 20299 as amended violates ¶ 47 and is unconstitutional, null, and void.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

On May 1, 2024, during the plenary session, a delegate from the New England Annual Conference rose to make the following motion:

General Conference requests:

Request a declaratory decision from the Judicial Council regarding Petition 20299 adopted 4/23/2024 on Consent Calendar. Does eliminating travel costs for retired bishops conflict with our Social Principles and Constitution by creating a standard that inhibits some members' participation due to their age from attending membership meetings by requiring paying their own travel expenses for global leadership?

The motion was passed by 493 YES to 188 NO.

Jurisdiction

The Judicial Council has jurisdiction pursuant to ¶ 2610 of *The 2016 Book of Discipline*. [hereinafter the *Discipline*]

Analysis and Rationale

Petition 20299 as amended eliminates reimbursement for travel costs for a retired bishop, forcing the bishop “to function as a member of the council of Bishops at their own expense in accordance with the Constitution and other provisions of the Discipline.” [emphasis added]

In Decision 117, the Judicial Council held that a “retired Bishop of a Central Conference is authorized to attend meetings of the Council of Bishops with expenses paid.” [emphasis added] The Judicial Council cited ¶ 36 of the 1952 *Discipline*, which states: “There shall be a Council of Bishops composed of all the Bishops of all the Jurisdictional and Central Conferences...” The successor provision in *The Discipline* is ¶ 47 of the Constitution:

¶ 47. Article III.—There shall be a Council of Bishops composed of **all the bishops** of The United Methodist Church. The council shall meet at least once a year and plan for the general oversight and promotion of the temporal and spiritual interests of the entire Church and for carrying into effect the rules, regulations, and responsibilities prescribed and enjoined by the General Conference and in accord with the provisions set forth in this Plan of Union. [emphasis added]

This constitutional provision does not distinguish between active and retired bishops but states that

the Council of Bishops shall be “composed of all the bishops of The United Methodist Church.”

Petition 20299 reads as follows:

A retired bishop is a bishop of the church in every respect and continues to function as a member of the Council of Bishops at their own expense in accordance with the Constitution and other provisions of the Discipline. If a retired bishop is asked to engage in work (ex. committee, conference, project, etc.) a contract will be issued for said work to include provision for compensation of expenses incurred.

Petition 20299 was amended as follows:

In the sentence beginning “if a retired bishop is asked...” insert the phrase “by the Council of Bishops” after the word “asked”.

Petition 20299, as amended, reads as follows:

A retired bishop is a bishop of the church in every respect and continues to function as a member of the Council of Bishops at their own expense in accordance with the Constitution and other provisions of the Discipline. If a retired bishop is asked by the Council of Bishops to engage in work

(ex. committee, conference, project, etc.) a contract will be issued for said work to include provision for compensation of expenses incurred.

Petition 20299 creates two classes of bishops whereas there is only one provided for in the Constitution. This legislation would make it financially difficult for retired bishops to attend meetings of the Council of Bishops because they would have to choose between attending meetings at their own expenses or not attending due to financial considerations. The Judicial Council holds that all bishops (active and retired) of The United Methodist Church are authorized to attend meetings of the Council of Bishops with expenses paid. Consequently, Petition 20299 as amended violates ¶ 47 and is therefore unconstitutional, null, and void.

Decision

Under ¶ 47 of the Constitution, the Council of Bishops shall be composed of all bishops of The United Methodist Church. All bishops (active and retired) of The United Methodist Church are authorized to attend meetings of the Council of Bishops with expenses paid. Petition 20299 as amended violates ¶ 47 and is unconstitutional, null, and void.

May 2, 2024

Report on Items Removed from the Calendar Items Voted Together on May 1

On Thursday, May 2, a motion was made to receive a report of the delegates who acted to remove items 454, 535, and 554 from the calendar items that were voted together on Wednesday, May 1.

Requests to remove a calendar item from the list required signatures of twenty seated delegates and had to be turned in by 4:00 P.M. on May 1.

Calendar Item 461 was removed from the bundled calendar items by action of the plenary.

Calendar Items 454, 535, and 554 were removed by the following delegates.

Stan Copeland
Margaret Washington
Nettles Brown
Emanuel Cleaver
Elizabeth Duffin
John Stephens
John Esquivel
Wayne Haglund
John Ervin

Calendar Item Number: 454, Petition Number 20173, Chastity Instead of Celibacy

Brady Whitton

Karli Pidgeon

Katie Simpson

Adam Philley

Tom Pace

Don House

DeAndre Johnson

Romonica Malone-Ward

Daniel Irving

Jeff McDonald

Eddie Erwin

Clayton Oliphint

Calendar Item Number: 535, Petition Number 20730, Revised Social Principles

Dixie Brewster

Rachel Fulton

Alex Hoffman

John Seth

Richard Hoffman

Robert Zilhaver

Elizabeth Fink

Chris Hancock

Jaci Murden

Leanne Burris

Mitchell Hedgepeth

Fred Britton	Karli Pidgeon
David Stotts	Brady Whitton
Zach Beasley	Elizabeth Duffin
David Beckley	Daniel Irving
John Branning	Lynn Kilbourne
John Walters Ngoy Muyombo	Trista Soendker Nicholson
Virginie Umba	Steve DeWilde
Flaubert Kabange	Jeff McDonald
Adolphe Kitenge	Todd Jordan
Kenneth Einselen	Romonica Malone-Wardley
Iosmar Alvarez Alfonso	Tom Pace

Calendar Item Number 554, Petition Number 20897, Granting Sacramental Authority to Deacons in their Ministry Settings

Katie Simpson	John Branning
Michael Roberts	Leanne Burris
Natasha Murray	Jaci Murden
	Fred Britton
	David Stotts
	Zach Beasley

Election Results from May 2

Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters

The **Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters** was elected, as shown below:

Bishops:

Bishop Gaspar Domingos (Africa CC)

Bishop Stefan Zürcher (Central and Southern Europe CC)

Bishop Mande Muyombo (Congo CC)

Bishop Harald Rückert (Germany CC) *until 2025, after the election of the newly elected bishop*

Bishop Christian Alsted (Northern Europe and Eurasia CC) *until 2025, after the election of the new bishop*

TBD (West Africa CC)

Bishop Ruby Nell Estrella (Philippines CC)

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung (NCJ)

Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton (NEJ)

Bishop Laura Merrill (SCJ)

Bishop James Swanson (SEJ)

Bishop Minerva Carcaño (WJ)

Bishop Harald Rückert (CC Bishop of OCUIR)

Laity:

Manuel Sebastião Rodrigues (Africa CC)

Leonarda Edome Simbine Sambo (Africa CC)

Thomas Fux (Central & Southern Europe CC)

Gabriel Otshudi Dikete (Congo CC)

Henoc Malenge Mwenze (Congo CC)

André Günther (Germany CC)

Ināra Avotiņa (Northern Europe & Eurasia CC)

Nimia Peralta (Philippines CC)

Virginia Bambur (West Africa CC)

Nadia R. Kanhai (NCJ)

Fred Brewington (NEJ)

Jill Wondel (SCJ)

Derrick Scott, III (SEJ)

Mele Maka (WJ)

Clergy:

Gift Kudakwashe Machinga (Africa CC)

Moses Maina Kariuki (Africa CC)

Andrzej Malicki (Central & Southern Europe CC)

Jørgen Thaarup (Northern Europe & Eurasia CC)

Pitshi Ngoy Kazadi (Congo CC)

Anne-Marie Detjen (Germany CC)

Joseph Estadilla (Philippines CC)

Francis Charley (West Africa CC)

Nelly W. Wright (West Africa CC)

Deanna Stickley-Miner (NCJ)

Gary Weaver (NEJ)

Amy Lippoldt (SCJ)

Leanne Burris (SEJ)

Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan (WJ)

Commission on the General Conference

The **Commission on the General Conference** was elected. After individual ballots for nine contested positions, the remaining positions were elected. The entire Commission is listed below, divided by class:

Class of 2028

AFRICA CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Godelieve Manirakiza

CONGO CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Robert Shakikupe Kilembo

Michel Djonga Kasongo

NORTHERN EUROPE AND EURASIA
CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Veli Loponen

WEST AFRICA CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Isa Dunah

NORTH CENTRAL JURISDICTION

Andrew Call

NORTHEAST JURISDICTION

Dawn Taylor-Storm

SOUTH CENTRAL JURISDICTION

Ra'Gene DeAndre Johnson

SOUTHEAST JURISDICTION

Ellen Beasley

WESTERN JURISDICTION

Monalisa Salakielu Tuitahi

YOUTH

Landon Balmos-Ruddock

Class of 2032

AFRICA CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Togara Bobo

Shepherd Mpemba

CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN EUROPE
CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Lea Hafner

CONGO CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Betty Musau Kazadi

Germain Mupasa

GERMANY CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Werner Philipp

PHILIPPINES CHARGE CONFERENCE

Rommel Montiel

WEST AFRICA CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Muriel Nelson

NORTH CENTRAL JURISDICTION

Luis Reyes-Rosario

NORTHEAST JURISDICTION*Lydia Muñoz***SOUTH CENTRAL JURISDICTION***Karli Pidgeon***SOUTHEAST JURISDICTION***Jasmine Rose Smothers***YOUNG ADULT**

Emma Austin

In addition, the chair of the local host committee for the next General Conference will also be a voting member of the Commission. Bishop Cynthia Fierro Harvey is the bishop named to the Commission by the Council of Bishops, *ex officio* (this is not an elected position).

General Boards and Agencies

The nominations for **General boards and agencies** were approved. The newly elected members of these bodies are listed here:

Newly Elected to the General Council on Finance and Administration

*Bishop David Graves (COB)**Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton (COB)**Francisco Bernardo Neto (Africa Region)*

Kai-Uwe Dannenberg (Europe Region)

Regan De Guzman (Philippines Region)

Bill Brownson (NCJ)

*Danita Anderson (NCJ)**William Williams (NEJ)*

Ken Ow (NEJ)

Reggie Clemons (SCJ)

John Esquivel (SCJ)

*Sheila Ahler (SEJ)**Stephen Love (SEJ)*

LaToya Redd Thompson (SEJ)

*Alex Shanks (SEJ)**Samuel Hong (WJ)*

Newly Elected to the General Board of Church and Society

*Bishop Daniel Lunge (COB, Congo CC)**Bishop LaTrelle Easterling (COB)**Bishop Robin Dease (COB)*

Maria de Lourdes de Carvalho (Africa Region)

*Tilmann Sticher (Germany CC)**Joel Bengbeng (Philippines CC)*

Newly Elected to the General Board of Discipleship

*Bishop Héctor A. Burgos-Núñez (COB)**Bishop Daniel Wandabula (COB, Africa Region)**Caleb Kanyimb Mbaz (Africa Region)**John Manalo (Philippines Region)*

Newly Elected to the General Board of Global Ministries

*Bishop Cedrick Bridgeforth (COB, WJ)**Bishop David Wilson (COB, SCJ)*

Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson (COB, SEJ)

Bishop Joaquina Nhanala (COB, Africa Region)

Bishop Israel Painit (COB, Philippines Region)

Newly Elected to the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry

Bishop Rodal Acdul (COB, Philippines Region)

Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai (COB, NCJ)

Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball (COB, NEJ)

Chipeng Kayemb Francois (Africa Region)

Christof Voigt (Europe Region)

Newly Elected to the General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits

Bishop Robert Schnase (COB, SCJ)

Bishop Tom Berlin (COB, SEJ)

Isaac Broune (West Africa CC)

Celeste Eubanks (SEJ)

Lynn Miller-Jackson (WJ)

Newly Elected to The United Methodist Publishing House

Bishop Rudy Juan (COB, Philippines CC)

Bishop Bill McAlilly (COB, SEJ)

John Yambasu, Jr. (Africa Region)

Ueli Frei (Europe Region)

Newly Elected to the General Commission on Archives and History

Bishop Cynthia Fierro Harvey (COB, SCJ)

Newly elected CC bishop (COB)

Shepherd Machuma (Africa CC)

Michael Wetzel (Europe Region)

Carol Noren (NCJ)

Stephanie Bennett (NEJ)

Sam Smith (NEJ)

Ted Campbell (SCJ)

Chris Brown (SCJ)

Jerome Del Pino (SEJ)

Anne Packard (SEJ)

Stephen Yale (WJ)

Newly Elected to General Commission on Communication

Bishop Robert Farr (COB)

Newly elected CC bishop (COB)

Roque Facela (Africa Region)

Annie Grace Chingonzo (Africa Region)

Betty Missy (Africa Region)

Karl Anders Ellingsen (Europe Region)

Klaus Ulrich Ruof (Europe Region)

Florentino Mina (Philippines Region)

Darryl Osias (Philippines Region)

Newly Elected to the General Commission on Religion and Race

Newly elected CC bishop (COB)

Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi (COB, NEJ)

Ilunga Dibu Irung (Africa Region)

Analeth Nungulo (Africa Region)

Matthew Barlow (Europe Region)

Jeric Cortado (Philippines Region)

Newly Elected to the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women

Newly elected CC bishop (COB)

Bishop Delores Williamston (COB, SCJ)

Angel A. Musaw Tshidj (Africa Region)

Helen Byholt Lovelace (Europe Region)

Jennifer Meneses (Philippines Region)

Newly Elected to the General Commission on United Methodist Men

Newly elected CC bishop (COB)

Bishop Leonard Fairley (COB, SEJ)

Bishop L. Jonathan Holston (COB, SEJ)

Alfred Kundasai Njau (Africa Region)

Romeo Barillo Valdez (Philippines Region)

Newly Elected to the Committee on Deaconess and Home Missioner Service

Bishop Ann Sherer-Simpson (COB)

GCFA Report No. 1 WORLD SERVICE FUND (May 3)

Introduction

When United Methodist congregations give their share of apportioned funds, they participate in God's work. The World Service Fund is the heart of our collective church ministry. Through this fund, individuals can partner with church agencies to be in mission and ministry at home and around the world. The World Service Fund truly makes a difference by supporting ministries across the globe.

World Service is God's people reaching out in love and compassion in the name of Christ. It represents a call and a challenge to each United Methodist. As *The 2016 Book of Discipline* states, the full payment of the World Service Fund is each congregation's "first benevolent responsibility." (§§ 247.14, 812)

Overview

For the 2025-2028 quadrennium, the program agencies will continue their programmatic emphasis centered around four areas of focus: (1) Making New Disciples in New Places, (2) Leading Where God Calls, (3) Overcoming Poverty Together, and (4) Seeking Health and Wholeness for All.

World Service Fixed Charges

General Council on Finance and Administration ("GCFA"). GCFA is accountable to The United Methodist Church connection through the General Conference for receiving, disbursing, and reporting all general funds. (§ 806) This line item is an estimate of the World Service Fund's share of GCFA's expenses for the quadrennium.

The Connectional Table ("CT"). As part of the total mission of the Church, CT facilitates the Church's program life as determined by the General Conference. Its task is to discern and articulate the vision for the Church and the stewardship of the mission, ministries, and resources of The United Methodist Church. (§ 904)

Interpretation Resources. Along with producing materials to interpret United Methodism's connectional funds, the Marketing Team of United Methodist Communications ("UMCom") uses money from this section of the budget for "Promotion of Giving," a joint effort of UMCom, GCFA and the General Board of Discipleship ("GBOD"). The Promotion of Giving goal is to develop comprehensive financial stewardship tools, leading to improved financial support of ministry at all levels of the connection.

Program Agencies

The World Service Fund provides basic financial support to program-related general agencies, which are especially important to the common vision, mission, and ministry of The United Methodist Church. Through World Service funding, agencies support annual conferences and local congregations in living out God's mission for the worldwide Church. General agencies also provide essential services and ministries beyond the scope of individual local congregations and annual conferences through services and ministries that are highly focused, flexible, and capable of rapid response.

Strategic Directions for 2025-2028

Whenever United Methodism has had a clear sense

of mission, God has used our Church to save persons, heal relationships, transform social structures, and spread scriptural holiness, thereby changing the world (¶ 121). The United Methodist Church's mission is discerned by the Council of Bishops and The Connectional Table.

Our vision remains to increase the number of vital congregations worldwide through sustained attention to the Four Areas of Focus. As such, United Methodist disciples will engage in mission and ministry throughout the connection to live out God's vision for a world where poverty is reduced and poor people and communities flourish; a world where children live to their full potential; a world where Christian leaders heed God's call to discipleship; and a world where new faith communities offer God's love and grace worldwide.

Our UMC Mission: VITAL CONGREGATIONS. *Our 2024 Vision looks forward to a United Methodist church that increases the number of highly vital congregations worldwide.*

A vital congregation is a body of Christ, making and engaging disciples for the transformation of the world. This is rooted in our understanding that local congregations provide the primary arena through which Christian disciples are called, formed, and nurtured. Five markers of vitality – disciples in worship, new disciples (professions of faith), disciples in small groups, disciples in mission, and giving to mission – help us gauge our progress together through a shared approach.

The global COVID-19 pandemic has created a world-wide challenge. This pandemic has impacted The United Methodist Church in numerous ways, including the postponements of the 2020 General Conference. Annual Conferences have had to adapt their sessions and various ministries. Most especially, life in local churches has changed dramatically. Worship, nurture, ministry, and engagement with the community have had to go through radical adaptations. Consequently, the pandemic has increased the critical necessity of empowering existing

congregations to become more vital in their ministries. It also demonstrates the need to help discover new ways to reach new people.

The challenging strain created by the departure of congregations to either independent status or affiliating with another denomination has impacted both the general Church and local congregations throughout the Connection. Our witness and ministry with and through those churches which intentionally choose to remain as a part of The United Methodist Church is at a crossroads. The Wesleyan theology and the practice of grace and discipleship of The United Methodist Church, as well as its distinctive approach to ministry, mission, and connection of the church and community, is necessary in the 21st Century. General Conference's investment in Vital Congregations is significant to the passion, vision, health, and well-being of our churches and communities.

The real measure of our missional impact will not be in membership increases or improved giving, but by the lives that are touched and drawn to Christ as disciples. These vital congregations are able to reach people with the gospel of Christ who we might not otherwise reach.

Our Mission Strategies: THE FOUR AREAS OF FOCUS. *Vital congregations are shaped by and witnessed through four focus areas: leading where God calls; making new disciples in new places; overcoming poverty together; and seeking health and wholeness for all.*

1. Leading Where God Calls: *Our 2024 Vision looks forward to a United Methodist Church equipping people across the connection to be "difference makers" by leading where God calls.*

Our United Methodist Church believes that Jesus is "calling you out" for something greater than any one person. The question for every United Methodist today and into our future is: "What difference will you make?"

The simple answer is that you can make a difference by following God's call to leadership

wherever you are: at the local church, in the mission field, in each community and society across our world. We believe we can equip every United Methodist across our connection to be effective “difference makers” for Jesus.

2. Making New Disciples in New Places: *Our 2024 Vision looks forward to a United Methodist Church with **new disciples** who profess their faith through renewed and new faith communities around the world.*

Creating new, vital faith communities is critical to the task of making new disciples and transforming the world. A **faith community** is a group that gathers under the reign of Jesus Christ to worship, engage, and send. It is within faith communities that we receive new disciples through professions of faith and increase professions of faith. This multilayered strategy focuses on increasing the number of new faith communities in annual conferences across the world.

3. Overcoming Poverty Together: *Our 2024 Vision looks forward to a United Methodist Church with **vibrant, flourishing, and transforming communities addressing issues of poverty together.***

As faith disciples, we are called to love our neighbors – to walk, worship, and witness so that all may enjoy God’s vision of abundant life. As United Methodists, we will challenge and transform broken systems and structures that create and perpetuate poverty. Leveraging connections and partnerships within and beyond The United Methodist Church, we can transform communities and open doors for a more promising future.

4. Seeking Health and Wholeness for All: *Our 2024 Vision looks forward to a United Methodist Church that can reach **people around the world with life-saving interventions.***

Every child is a life filled with promise and potential, yet every five seconds, a child dies from preventable causes. Pre-pandemic, the United Nations Health Organization estimated that forty-

one million people die of preventable chronic illnesses each year around the world. The United Methodist Church has a sacred calling to ensure abundant health for all people, engaging disciples to be agents of God’s healing transformation in the world. Jesus said, “I have come that you might have life and have it abundantly.” (John 10:10)

There is a global movement to significantly improve health for all people by 2035, through education, direct health services to those in need, and increased access to medical care.

2016 General Conference Action

The 2016 General Conference approved the continuation of two initiatives which began in 2012:

Commission on Central Conference Theological Education. Paragraph 817 provides for a Commission on Central Conference Theological Education, elected by the Council of Bishops, to determine policies and procedures and approve disbursements from this fund. The Commission includes one person from each central conference, members of the Council of Bishops and Boards of Ordained Ministry, and representatives of theological schools, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (“GBHEM”), the General Board of Global Ministries (“GBGM”), and the Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters.

Proceeds from this fund are to be used in central conferences at the discretion of the Commission to: (1) develop theological schools; (2) develop courses of study; (3) develop libraries and contextually developed resources; (4) provide scholarships and faculty development; (5) support associations and networks of faculty and schools; and (6) support new and innovative approaches to theological education. GBHEM administers this designated fund.

Young Clergy Initiative Fund. This Fund provides support to increase the number of young

clergy among the jurisdictional conferences, and was a three-quadrennium effort, which ends in 2024. It was established to enable The United Methodist Church to focus efforts on encouraging young adults responding to the call to ordained ministry by providing a strong theological education in the United Methodist tradition. This initiative has been in addition to the funds the Church already has budgeted for discernment, recruitment, nurturing, education, and support of young clergy leaders.

Because the term of the fund ends in 2024, funding for 2025-28 is not included. The boards and commissions, in collaboration with annual conference boards of ordained ministry, seminaries, bishops, and cabinets, will continue to determine the most effective use of any remaining

funds in response to the needs of young clergy leaders. GBHEM administers this designated fund.

Other Ministries

Contingency Fund. The Contingency Fund for World Service provides funding for emerging needs in the World Service Fund areas that occur during a quadrennium. These funds are normally granted to program agencies for new programs to address unanticipated needs with the approval of The Connectional Table. Grants from the World Service Contingency Fund will not be given for general administrative costs, fixed charges, or capital outlay without approval from GCFA.

WORLD SERVICE FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% in 2025-2026 and 2.9% in 2027-2028 (3)

	2013-2016	2017-2020 (2)	2025-2028	\$ Change	% Change
Fixed Charges					
Interpretation Resources	\$ 1,442,000	\$ 1,432,197	\$ 806,588	\$ (625,609)	-43.7%
Connecional Table	2,155,000	2,140,350	2,214,951	74,601	3.5%
General Commission on Religion and Race ⁽¹⁾	7,404,806	7,354,467	7,666,468	312,001	4.2%
Core Action Plan Fund ⁽¹⁾	2,505,812	2,488,777	2,633,450	144,673	5.8%
General Commission on the Status and Role of Women ⁽¹⁾	3,984,606	3,957,518	4,094,158	136,640	3.5%
Native American Comprehensive Plan ⁽¹⁾	1,080,664	1,073,317	1,135,709	62,392	5.8%
Strengthening the Black Church ⁽¹⁾	1,989,960	1,976,432	2,091,323	114,891	5.8%
Asian American Language Ministry ⁽¹⁾	1,408,000	1,398,428	1,479,719	81,291	5.8%
Korean Ministry Plan ⁽¹⁾	3,082,000	3,061,048	3,238,988	177,940	5.8%
Plan for Hispanic/Latino Ministry ⁽¹⁾	2,382,000	3,143,830	3,326,582	182,752	5.8%
Pacific Island Ministry ⁽¹⁾	544,000	540,302	571,710	31,408	5.8%
General Council on Finance and Administration	7,423,000	7,372,537	3,920,585	(3,451,952)	-46.8%
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 35,401,848	\$ 35,939,203	\$ 33,180,231	\$ (2,758,972)	-7.7%
On-Ratio:					
General Board of Church and Society	\$ 11,178,712	\$ 11,021,677	\$ 5,606,110	\$ (5,415,567)	-49.1%
General Board of Discipleship	35,497,388	34,952,169	16,344,050	(18,608,119)	-53.2%
General Board of Global Ministries	112,100,584	111,338,501	56,370,786	(54,967,715)	-49.4%
General Board of Higher Education and Ministry	27,512,708	26,932,588	13,517,626	(13,414,962)	-49.8%
Central Conference Theological Education Fund	5,000,000	10,000,000	5,249,437	(4,750,563)	-47.5%
Young Clergy Initiative: Jurisdictional Conferences	7,000,000	6,952,413	-	(6,952,413)	-100.0%
General Commission on United Methodist Men	1,487,084	1,476,974	909,717	(567,257)	-38.4%
United Methodist Communications	72,141,492	71,651,059	36,035,780	(35,615,279)	-49.7%
Contingency Reserve	467,000	463,825	243,482	(220,343)	-47.5%
Total On-Ratio	\$ 272,384,968	\$ 274,789,206	\$ 134,276,988	\$ (140,512,218)	-51.1%
Grand Total	\$ 307,786,816	\$ 310,728,409	\$ 167,457,219	\$ (143,271,190)	-46.1%

(1) At the request of The Connecional Table, the allocations for these ministries are to fixed charges rather than on-ratio for 2025-2028. This change in classification is not intended to be a permanent change, but rather to sustain these missions during a period of uncertainty around collections.

(2) 2017-2020 was the last quadrennial budget approved by General Conference.

(3) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

WORLD SERVICE FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% in 2025-2026 and 2.9% in 2027-2028 (2)

	2025	2026	2027	2028
Fixed Charges				
Interpretation Resources	\$ 198,867	\$ 192,377	\$ 209,043	\$ 206,301
Connectional Table	546,104	528,281	574,048	566,518
General Commission on Religion and Race (1)	1,890,194	1,828,506	1,986,915	1,960,853
Core Action Plan Fund (1)	649,286	628,096	682,510	673,558
General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (1)	1,009,429	976,485	1,061,081	1,047,163
Native American Comprehensive Plan (1)	280,013	270,875	294,341	290,480
Strengthening the Black Church (1)	515,623	498,795	542,007	534,898
Asian American Language Ministry (1)	364,830	352,923	383,498	378,468
Korean Ministry Plan (1)	798,583	772,521	839,447	828,437
Plan for Hispanic/Latino Ministry (1)	820,180	793,413	862,149	850,840
Pacific Island Ministry (1)	140,957	136,357	148,170	146,226
General Council on Finance and Administration	966,633	935,087	1,016,096	1,002,769
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 8,180,699	\$ 7,913,716	\$ 8,599,305	\$ 8,486,511
On-Ratio:				
General Board of Church and Society	\$ 1,382,206	\$ 1,337,096	\$ 1,452,933	\$ 1,433,875
General Board of Discipleship	4,029,681	3,898,170	4,235,881	4,180,318
General Board of Global Ministries	13,898,409	13,444,825	14,609,593	14,417,959
General Board of Higher Education and Ministry	3,332,817	3,224,048	3,503,358	3,457,403
Central Conference Theological Education Fund	1,294,266	1,252,027	1,360,494	1,342,650
General Commission on United Methodist Men	224,294	216,974	235,771	232,678
United Methodist Communications	8,884,744	8,594,785	9,339,378	9,216,873
Contingency Reserve	60,031	58,072	63,103	62,276
Total On-Ratio	\$ 33,106,448	\$ 32,025,997	\$ 34,800,511	\$ 34,344,032
Grand Total	\$ 41,287,147	\$ 39,939,713	\$ 43,399,816	\$ 42,830,543

(1) At the request of The Connectional Table, the allocations for these ministries are to fixed charges rather than on-ratio for 2025-2028. This change in classification is not intended to be a permanent change, but rather to sustain these missions during a period of uncertainty around collections.

(2) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

WORLD SERVICE FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% All Four Years (3)

	2013-2016	2017-2020 (2)	2025-2028	\$ Change	% Change
Fixed Charges					
Interpretation Resources	\$ 1,442,000	\$ 1,432,197	\$ 763,622	\$ (668,575)	-46.7%
Connectional Table	2,155,000	2,140,350	2,096,962	(43,388)	-2.0%
General Commission on Religion and Race ⁽¹⁾	7,404,806	7,354,467	7,258,078	(96,389)	-1.3%
Core Action Plan Fund ⁽¹⁾	2,505,812	2,488,777	2,493,168	4,391	0.2%
General Commission on the Status and Role of Women ⁽¹⁾	3,984,606	3,957,518	3,876,064	(81,454)	-2.1%
Native American Comprehensive Plan ⁽¹⁾	1,080,664	1,073,317	1,075,210	1,893	0.2%
Strengthening the Black Church ⁽¹⁾	1,989,960	1,976,432	1,979,919	3,487	0.2%
Asian American Language Ministry ⁽¹⁾	1,408,000	1,398,428	1,400,895	2,467	0.2%
Korean Ministry Plan ⁽¹⁾	3,082,000	3,061,048	3,066,448	5,400	0.2%
Plan for Hispanic/Latino Ministry ⁽¹⁾	2,382,000	3,143,830	3,149,376	5,546	0.2%
Pacific Island Ministry ⁽¹⁾	544,000	540,302	541,255	953	0.2%
General Council on Finance and Administration	7,423,000	7,372,537	3,711,737	(3,660,800)	-49.7%
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 35,401,848	\$ 35,939,203	\$ 31,412,734	\$ (4,526,469)	-12.6%
On-Ratio:					
General Board of Church and Society	\$ 11,178,712	\$ 11,021,677	\$ 5,307,475	\$ (5,714,202)	-51.8%
General Board of Discipleship	35,497,388	34,952,169	15,473,408	(19,478,761)	-55.7%
General Board of Global Ministries	112,100,584	111,338,501	53,367,935	(57,970,566)	-52.1%
General Board of Higher Education and Ministry	27,512,708	26,932,588	12,797,547	(14,135,041)	-52.5%
Central Conference Theological Education Fund	5,000,000	10,000,000	4,969,801	(5,030,199)	-50.3%
Young Clergy Initiative: Jurisdictional Conferences	7,000,000	6,952,413	-	(6,952,413)	-100.0%
General Commission on United Methodist Men	1,487,084	1,476,974	861,257	(615,717)	-41.7%
United Methodist Communications	72,141,492	71,651,059	34,116,168	(37,534,891)	-52.4%
Contingency Reserve	467,000	463,825	230,512	(233,313)	-50.3%
Total On-Ratio	\$ 272,384,968	\$ 274,789,206	\$ 127,124,103	\$ (147,665,103)	-53.7%
Grand Total	\$ 307,786,816	\$ 310,728,409	\$ 158,536,837	\$ (152,191,572)	-49.0%

(1) At the request of The Connectional Table, the allocations for these ministries are to fixed charges rather than on-ratio for 2025-2028. This change in classification is not intended to be a permanent change, but rather to sustain these missions during a period of uncertainty around collections.

(2) 2017-2020 was the last quadrennial budget approved by General Conference.

(3) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

WORLD SERVICE FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% All Four Years (2)

	2025	2026	2027	2028
Fixed Charges				
Interpretation Resources	\$ 198,867	\$ 192,377	\$ 187,418	\$ 184,960
Connectional Table	546,104	528,281	514,664	507,913
General Commission on Religion and Race (1)	1,890,194	1,828,506	1,781,372	1,758,006
Core Action Plan Fund (1)	649,286	628,096	611,906	603,880
General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (1)	1,009,429	976,485	951,314	938,836
Native American Comprehensive Plan (1)	280,013	270,875	263,892	260,430
Strengthening the Black Church (1)	515,623	498,795	485,938	479,563
Asian American Language Ministry (1)	364,830	352,923	343,826	339,316
Korean Ministry Plan (1)	798,583	772,521	752,608	742,736
Plan for Hispanic/Latino Ministry (1)	820,180	793,413	772,961	762,822
Pacific Island Ministry (1)	140,957	136,357	132,842	131,099
General Council on Finance and Administration	966,633	935,087	910,983	899,034
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 8,180,699	\$ 7,913,716	\$ 7,709,724	\$ 7,608,595
On-Ratio:				
General Board of Church and Society	\$ 1,382,206	\$ 1,337,096	\$ 1,302,630	\$ 1,285,543
General Board of Discipleship	4,029,681	3,898,170	3,797,686	3,747,871
General Board of Global Ministries	13,898,409	13,444,825	13,098,256	12,926,445
General Board of Higher Education and Ministry	3,332,817	3,224,048	3,140,941	3,099,741
Central Conference Theological Education Fund	1,294,266	1,252,027	1,219,754	1,203,754
General Commission on United Methodist Men	224,294	216,974	211,381	208,608
United Methodist Communications	8,884,744	8,594,785	8,373,236	8,263,403
Contingency Reserve	60,031	58,072	56,575	55,834
Total On-Ratio	\$ 33,106,448	\$ 32,025,997	\$ 31,200,459	\$ 30,791,199
Grand Total	\$ 41,287,147	\$ 39,939,713	\$ 38,910,183	\$ 38,399,794

(1) At the request of The Connectional Table, the allocations for these ministries are to fixed charges rather than on-ratio for 2025-2028. This change in classification is not intended to be a permanent change, but rather to sustain these missions during a period of uncertainty around collections.

(2) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

GCFA Report No. 2 MINISTERIAL EDUCATION FUND (May 3)

Background

The Ministerial Education Fund was established by action of the 1968 General Conference. Its mission is to engage the membership of the Church in an effort to equip annual conferences, theological schools, and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (“GBHEM”) to meet the need for increased resources for the recruitment and education of persons for ministry.

Every clergyperson who has served in The United Methodist Church over the past 54 years has been shaped in part by the ministries and institutions supported by the Ministerial Education Fund. Support is provided for the thirteen United Methodist seminaries in the United States, as well as the local pastor Course of Study, continuing education, and other programs that strengthen the ministry of every local church. Twenty-five

percent of the apportioned funds is retained by each annual conference to directly support ministerial education as approved by that conference; 56.25% is disbursed to the thirteen seminaries; and 18.75% is utilized by GBHEM to directly support connectional ministerial education and formation.

Recommendations

The Ministerial Education Fund was first apportioned in 1970 to the jurisdictional annual conferences as one of the Church’s general funds. During the 52-year period through 2022 almost \$900 million has been disbursed to support this important work. GCFA recommends that the General Conference approve the following amounts to be apportioned for the 2025-2028 quadrennium:

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% in 2025-2026 and 2.9% in 2027-2028 (2)

	2013-2016	2017-2020 (1)	2025-2028	\$ Change	% Change
On-Ratio					
Annual Conferences	\$ 26,417,000	\$ 26,237,412	\$ 14,480,745	\$ (11,756,667)	-44.8%
General Board of Higher Education and Ministry	79,251,000	78,712,235	43,442,233	(35,270,002)	-44.8%
Grand Total	\$ 105,668,000	\$ 104,949,647	\$ 57,922,978	\$ (47,026,669)	-44.8%

(1) 2017-2020 was the last quadrennial budget approved by General Conference.

(2) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% in 2025-2026 and 2.9% in 2027-2028 (1)

	2025	2026	2027	2028
On-Ratio				
Annual Conferences	\$ 3,570,277	\$ 3,453,758	\$ 3,752,969	\$ 3,703,741
General Board of Higher Education and Ministry	10,710,830	10,361,275	11,258,906	11,111,222
Total	\$ 14,281,107	\$ 13,815,033	\$ 15,011,875	\$ 14,814,963

(1) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% All Four Years (2)

	2013-2016	2017-2020 (1)	2025-2028	\$ Change	% Change
On-Ratio					
Annual Conferences	\$ 26,417,000	\$ 26,237,412	\$ 13,709,361	\$ (12,528,051)	-47.7%
General Board of Higher Education and Ministry	79,251,000	78,712,235	41,128,082	(37,584,153)	-47.7%
Grand Total	\$ 105,668,000	\$ 104,949,647	\$ 54,837,443	\$ (50,112,204)	-47.7%

(1) 2017-2020 was the last quadrennial budget approved by General Conference.

(2) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% All Four Years (1)

	2025	2026	2027	2028
On-Ratio				
Annual Conferences	\$ 3,570,277	\$ 3,453,758	\$ 3,364,730	\$ 3,320,596
General Board of Higher Education and Ministry	10,710,830	10,361,275	10,094,191	9,961,786
Total	\$ 14,281,107	\$ 13,815,033	\$ 13,458,921	\$ 13,282,382

(1) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

Amounts received by the annual conference treasurers for this fund will be distributed as described in ¶ 816.

GCFA Report No. 3 The Black College Fund (May 3)

Background

The 1972 General Conference established the Black College Fund as one of the apportioned general Church funds. The objective of the fund is to provide financial support for institutions of higher education that have historically served the educational needs of black students. This support helps the institutions maintain academic quality and financial stability while limiting individual student tuition costs. More than \$323 million has been disbursed to assist the programs and

ministries of these schools since the fund was established.

Recommendations

The General Council on Finance and Administration (“GCFA”) recommends:

1. That the 2025-2028 apportionments be set as follows:

BLACK COLLEGE FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% in 2025-2026 and 2.9% in 2027-2028 (2)

	2013-2016	2017-2020 (1)	2025-2028	\$ Change	% Change
On-Ratio					
General Board of Higher Education and Ministry	\$ 42,150,000	\$ 41,863,455	\$ 23,104,946	\$ (18,758,509)	-44.8%
Grand Total	\$ 42,150,000	\$ 41,863,455	\$ 23,104,946	\$ (18,758,509)	-44.8%

(1) 2017-2020 was the last quadrennial budget approved by General Conference.

(2) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

BLACK COLLEGE FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% All Four Years (2)

	2013-2016	2017-2020 (1)	2025-2028	\$ Change	% Change
On-Ratio					
General Board of Higher Education and Ministry	\$ 42,150,000	\$ 41,863,455	\$ 21,874,154	\$ (19,989,301)	-47.7%
Grand Total	\$ 42,150,000	\$ 41,863,455	\$ 21,874,154	\$ (19,989,301)	-47.7%

(1) 2017-2020 was the last quadrennial budget approved by General Conference.

(2) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% in 2025-2026 and 2.9% in 2027-2028 (1)

	2025	2026	2027	2028
On-Ratio				
General Board of Higher Education and Ministry	\$ 5,696,603	\$ 5,510,691	\$ 5,988,099	\$ 5,909,553
Total	\$ 5,696,603	\$ 5,510,691	\$ 5,988,099	\$ 5,909,553

(1) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

BLACK COLLEGE FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% All Four Years (1)

	2025	2026	2027	2028
On-Ratio				
General Board of Higher Education and Ministry	\$ 5,696,603	\$ 5,510,691	\$ 5,368,641	\$ 5,298,219
Total	\$ 5,696,603	\$ 5,510,691	\$ 5,368,641	\$ 5,298,219

(1) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

-
2. That GCFA remit monthly receipts for this fund to the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (“GBHEM”) for distribution to the colleges using the formula described in ¶ 815. GBHEM shall promote the Black College Fund. or designated gifts for current expense or capital funds purposes to one or more of these colleges, but only after it has met its full Black College Fund apportionment. There may be reasonable exceptions to this restriction, but such exceptions will be agreed to by GBHEM prior to implementation.
 3. That an annual conference may make direct and/

GCFA Report No. 4 AFRICA UNIVERSITY FUND (May 3)

Background

The 1988 General Conference approved the establishment of a United Methodist university on the continent of Africa. By the time the 1992 General Conference convened, the site selection process was complete, the Zimbabwe Annual Conference had gifted the university with a large tract of land on which to establish the main campus, and the university had been granted a charter by the government of Zimbabwe. On March 23, 1992, the College of Theology and the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources opened on a site near Old Mutare to 40 students from six African countries.

Subsequent General Conferences have heard and affirmed reports on the continuing development of this university for all of Africa. The vitality of the University was evidenced by the creation of additional courses (now over 1,500), increases in the number of faculty members and students, and the growth of the physical plant. There are currently three colleges and one school within the University, namely: (1) College of Health, Agriculture and Natural Sciences; (2) College of Business, Peace, Leadership and Governance; (3) College of Social Sciences, Theology, Humanity and Education; and (4) the School of Law.

Current Realities

The student body typically numbers about 2,500 full-time students and 300 part-time students from up to 28 African countries. All 14 Africa Central Conferences, where the United Methodist Church is experiencing significant growth, are well-represented in the student body. The university has a 95% graduation rate and more than 92% of the graduates remain on the continent of Africa.

Africa University's more than 12,000 alumni have

solidified the university's status as a leadership preparation institution. They are bishops, college and seminary presidents, faculty members, district superintendents, communicators, hospital and clinic managers, farmers and agricultural extension workers, and leaders in every walk of life.

Five core goals inform the priorities of Africa University's fifth vice chancellor (president) as he inspires the evolution of the institution's missional impact beyond its 30-year milestone. They are: (1) Enhance Student Access and Success, (2) Invest and Empower (faculty and administrators), (3) Increase Financial Stewardship and Institutional Sustainability, (4) Cultivate Strategic Partnerships and Economic Competitiveness, and (5) Internationalize Research, Teaching and Learning.

The Africa University Fund supports the ministry's core needs and amounts to 14 percent of the institution's \$14 million annual budget. Africa University is deeply thankful to the local churches for their ever faithful and generous contributions, leading to a significant number of annual conferences investing 100 percent or more of their asking in 2022. With 83.83% in overall giving in 2022, the Africa University Fund continues to be actively supported within the Church.

World Service Special Gifts have also been sought since 1988. These gifts have been held and invested as permanent endowment funds for the University. As of 2022, contributions and investment earnings have resulted in an endowment fund of more than \$100 million, with the proceeds going primarily to pay for student scholarships.

The Africa University Board of Directors is working to expand the basic infrastructure of the main campus and increase the permanent endowment fund.

Recommendations

Administration (GCFA) recommends the 2025-2028 apportionments as follows:

The General Council on Finance and

AFRICA UNIVERSITY FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% in 2025-2026 and 2.9% in 2027-2028 (2)

	2013-2016	2017-2020 (1)	2025-2028	\$ Change	% Change
On-Ratio					
Africa University	\$ 9,433,000	\$ 9,368,872	\$ 5,170,794	\$ (4,198,078)	-44.8%
Grand Total	\$ 9,433,000	\$ 9,368,872	\$ 5,170,794	\$ (4,198,078)	-44.8%

(1) 2017-2020 was the last quadrennial budget approved by General Conference.

(2) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

AFRICA UNIVERSITY FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% in 2025-2026 and 2.9% in 2027-2028 (1)

	2025	2026	2027	2028
On-Ratio				
Africa University	\$ 1,274,877	\$ 1,233,270	\$ 1,340,113	\$ 1,322,534
Total	\$ 1,274,877	\$ 1,233,270	\$ 1,340,113	\$ 1,322,534

(1) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

AFRICA UNIVERSITY FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% All Four Years (2)

	<u>2013-2016</u>	<u>2017-2020 (1)</u>	<u>2025-2028</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
On-Ratio					
Africa University	\$ 9,433,000	\$ 9,368,872	\$ 4,895,348	\$ (4,473,524)	-47.7%
Grand Total	\$ 9,433,000	\$ 9,368,872	\$ 4,895,348	\$ (4,473,524)	-47.7%

(1) 2017-2020 was the last quadrennial budget approved by General Conference.

(2) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

AFRICA UNIVERSITY FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% All Four Years (1)

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>	<u>2028</u>
On-Ratio				
Africa University	\$ 1,274,877	\$ 1,233,270	\$ 1,201,480	\$ 1,185,721
Total	\$ 1,274,877	\$ 1,233,270	\$ 1,201,480	\$ 1,185,721

(1) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

Also, an annual conference may make direct and/ funds purposes to Africa University.
or designated gifts for current expense or capital

GCFA Report No. 5 THE EPISCOPAL FUND (May 3)

The Episcopal Fund, raised in accordance with ¶ 818.3, provides for the salary and expenses of active bishops from the date of their consecration and for the support of retired bishops and surviving spouses and minor children of deceased bishops.

The General Council on Finance and Administration (“GCFA”) is recommending a budget for the Episcopal Fund that is 10-15% lower than the 2017-2020 budget approved in 2016. This compares to an overall recommended decrease of 39-47% to the other six general Church funds.

This revised report includes an additional \$10 million in funding to the Episcopal Fund compared to the version submitted in the Advanced Daily Christian Advocate (ADCA), which is an increase of \$15 million relative to a pro-rata share of the budget adjusted for higher disaffiliation than projected. This \$15 million increase was agreed to collaboratively by the agency General Secretaries, The Connectional Table, the Council of Bishops Executive Committee, and GCFA, in response to a request from the Council of Bishops for additional funding. The additional amount is intended to be temporary in nature to facilitate the necessary leadership to lead the denomination through this transitional period in the life of the Church. The increase to the Episcopal Fund came from two sources:

1. An increase to the base percentage originally recommended by GCFA, as printed in GCFA Report No. 8 in the the ADCA, from 2.54% to 2.595%. This increase adds \$7.5 million to the Episcopal Fund allocation.
2. A shift to the Episcopal Fund of \$7.5 million that was previously allocated to the general agencies. Wespeth has proposed legislation to the 2020 General

Conference that would terminate legacy pension plans that have excess funding. If that proposal is approved, this excess funding would be distributed during the upcoming quadrennium to offset the budget decrease to the agencies.

Currently there are 46 jurisdictional episcopal areas and 25 central conference episcopal areas. These figures include the five new areas in Africa approved by the 2016 General Conference. There are 39 active bishops in the jurisdictions and 19 in the central conferences. The budget presented below includes total projected apportionments of \$82.8 million across both the jurisdictions and central conferences. If all of the current episcopal areas are filled after General Conference, quadrennial spending would be approximately \$99.6 million. With an 85% collection rate in the jurisdictions and a 50% collection rate in the central conferences, this would create a quadrennial deficit in 2025-2028 of approximately \$33 million. Considering the projected beginning Episcopal Fund balance on January 1, 2025, is expected to be approximately \$15 million, this projects to a \$18 million negative fund balance at the end of 2028 (see the chart below). The deficit would need to be offset by reductions in costs in any of the cost structural items listed below, increased collection rates, or both. It is important to note that General Conference cannot delegate to GCFA the authority to move dollars between apportioned funds during the quadrennium.

The quadrennial cost structure of the Episcopal Fund with 46 jurisdictional and 25 central conference bishops includes:

1. Salaries and benefits - \$55.6 million
2. Office, equipment, and housing grants - \$26.4 million
3. Meetings and travel - \$6.0 million
4. Council of Bishops office & ecumenical

- work - \$5.8 million
- 5. Retiree benefits – \$2.8 million
- 6. GCFA fixed charges - \$1.8 million
- 7. Insurance coverages - \$0.6 million
- 8. All other costs - \$0.6 million

The quadrennial costs per episcopal area are \$1.4 million in the jurisdictions and \$0.9 million in the central conferences. Within the central conferences, the quadrennial costs are \$0.8 million in Africa and the Philippines and \$1.4 million in Europe.

GCFA presents the following recommendations concerning items in the Episcopal Fund for the 2025-2028 quadrennium. The items will be reviewed and set annually by GCFA. Section III-A below provides authority to GCFA to adjust the budget as necessary to respond to relevant changes in economic circumstances.

I. Bishops Elected by the Jurisdictional and Central Conferences

A proposed annual spending plan of estimated receipts on apportionment of the Episcopal Fund and expenses for each episcopal office will be submitted to GCFA on forms furnished by it. The proposed spending plan will include funding for salary, housing allowance, and office expense as recommended by the respective episcopal area, jurisdictional or central conference, or committee on episcopacy.

A. Salaries

1. **Active Bishops.** All salaries are set annually by GCFA. The salary of a bishop newly elected in 2024 or 2025 will begin on the date of his/her consecration, or 6 weeks prior to the assignment date, whichever is later, at the annual rate established by GCFA for 2024 or 2025.

a. **Jurisdictional Bishops.** The 2024 salary for jurisdictional bishops is \$180,900. Any salary adjustments for 2025 through 2028 will be set by GCFA annually. Considerations for determining

salary adjustments each year will include the percentage adjustment for workers in state and local government as published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the review of other relevant compensation studies as determined by GCFA, and the overall economic status of the Episcopal Fund and its reserves.

GCFA will notify each newly elected bishop’s current salary-paying unit of the date on which payment of salary from the Episcopal Fund will begin.

b. **Central Conference Bishops.** The salary of each bishop will be recommended by the respective central conference or its committee on episcopacy as included in the area spending plan. The 2024 salaries for central conference bishops are as follows:

Episcopal Area / Regions	2024 Salary
Africa	\$88,888.00
Philippines	\$88,888.00
Central and Southern Europe	\$140,551.00
Eurasia	\$73,507.00
Germany	\$67,051.00
Nordic and Baltic	\$102,031.00

Any salary adjustments for 2025 through 2028 will be set by GCFA annually after reviewing the recommendations. Considerations for determining salary adjustments will include the review of cost-of-living changes in each episcopal area, relevant compensation studies as determined by GCFA, and the overall economic status of the Episcopal Fund and its reserves.

2. Special Assignment (§ 408.1d)

a. Bishops who have retired pursuant to § 408.1 and who accept a special assignment from the Council of Bishops to a general agency or United Methodist Church-related institution of higher education as outlined in § 408.1d(2) will receive remuneration not to exceed 20% of an active bishop’s salary in the episcopal area from which they retired. The Episcopal Fund’s share will not

exceed 50% of the compensation established by the general agency or United Methodist Church-related institution of higher education. The agency or institution of higher learning will assume all responsibility for the bishop's operational and travel expenses related to the assignment.

b. Retired bishops who accept a special assignment from the Council of Bishops with a direct relationship and accountability to the Council of Bishops following mandatory retirement, as outlined in ¶408.1d(1), such as the COB Executive Secretary or Ecumenical Officer, will receive remuneration of 50% of an active bishop's current salary in the episcopal area from which the bishop retired, with the stipulation that GCFA can adjust this salary level if necessary due to the economic status of the Episcopal Fund and its reserves.

3. **Salary Payment.** Due to the variation in time of election, consecration, and assignment, there may be up to six weeks of salary and benefits provided from the Episcopal Fund prior to the date of assignment for any newly elected bishop.

B. Episcopal Residence/Housing. The annual conference(s) constituting the episcopal area to which the bishop is assigned will be responsible for providing an episcopal residence or allowance for the bishop.

1. **Jurisdictional Bishops.** The Episcopal Fund will provide a grant of \$10,000 annually per active bishop to assist in the cost of providing an episcopal residence or allowance. This annual grant will be paid to the annual conference in the episcopal area designated by the area's episcopal residence committee. This annual grant will continue during any period in the quadrennium where the episcopal area is being served by an interim bishop. The amount of this grant can be adjusted by GCFA if necessary due to the overall economic status of the Episcopal Fund and its reserves.

2. **Central Conferences Bishops.** The Episcopal Fund will provide a grant annually per active bishop to assist in the cost of providing an episcopal residence or allowance. The amount for

each episcopal area will be set annually by GCFA. This annual grant will be paid to the annual conference in the episcopal area designated by the area's episcopal residence committee. This annual grant will continue during any period in the quadrennium where the episcopal area is being served by an interim bishop. The amount of this grant can be adjusted by GCFA if necessary.

3. Guidelines will be developed by the respective jurisdictional or central conference committees on episcopacy for transition in episcopal residences.

4. If a bishop dies while in active service and the episcopal residence is provided by the annual conference, the surviving spouse may continue to occupy the episcopal residence for up to 120 days following the date of death of the bishop.

C. Office Expense

1. Each episcopal area will receive an annual grant as set by GCFA to be applied towards the operation of the episcopal office. The number of annual grants within a jurisdiction or central conference shall not exceed the number of currently elected bishops serving within the jurisdiction or central conference. This annual grant will continue during any period in the quadrennium where the episcopal area is being served by an interim bishop. Such grants will be paid quarterly in the jurisdictions and monthly in the central conferences.

D. Travel Expense

The Episcopal Fund will pay the travel expenses of all members of the Council of Bishops in accordance with the Episcopal Fund Travel Expense Policies and Procedures then in effect. These travel expense policies are in accordance with the General Agency Expense and Reimbursement Policies for all general funds of The United Methodist Church as approved by GCFA.

II. MISCELLANEOUS OTHER MATTERS

A. Council of Bishops Staff Office

The Council of Bishops will submit an annual spending plan to GCFA providing for the expenses related to the Council of Bishops staff and the office located in Washington, D.C. The administrative costs and other expenses incurred by the Council of Bishops staff in the performance of the duties of this office will also be included in the spending plan. The spending plan will be subject to the approval of GCFA.

B. Ecumenical and Interreligious Ministries

The Council of Bishops will submit an annual spending plan to GCFA to provide for expenses pertaining to the Ecumenical and Interreligious ministries of the Council of Bishops. The spending plan is subject to the approval of GCFA.

C. Faith and Order Ministries

The Council of Bishops will submit an annual spending plan to GCFA to provide for expenses pertaining to the Faith and Order ministries of the Council of Bishops. The spending plan is subject to the approval of GCFA.

III. FUNDING

A. Changes During Quadrennium

If, in the judgment of GCFA, economic conditions require increasing or decreasing the amounts authorized in this report, GCFA is authorized to make such adjustments.

B. Apportionment for the Episcopal Fund

Both the jurisdictional and central conferences will be apportioned based upon the formulas recommended by GCFA in its Report No. 8. GCFA recommends the apportionment for the Episcopal Fund during the 2025-2028 quadrennium be:

EPISCOPAL FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% in 2025-2026 and 2.9% in 2027-2028 (2)

	2013-2016	2017-2020 (1)	2025-2028	\$ Change	% Change
Jurisdictional Fixed Charges					
General Council on Finance and Administration	3,000,000	2,979,605	1,900,000	(1,079,605)	-36.2%
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 2,979,605	\$ 1,900,000	\$ (1,079,605)	-36.2%
Jurisdictional On-Ratio	\$ 89,649,184	\$ 89,039,730	\$ 80,642,341	\$ (8,397,389)	-9.4%
Total Jurisdictional Apportionments	\$ 92,649,184	\$ 92,019,335	\$ 82,542,341	\$ (9,476,994)	-10.3%
Central Conference On-Ratio	\$ 3,664,928	\$ 3,690,081	\$ 4,875,222	\$ 1,185,141	32.1%
Grand Total	\$ 96,314,112	\$ 95,709,416	\$ 87,417,563	\$ (8,291,853)	-8.7%

(1) 2017-2020 was the last quadrennial budget approved by General Conference.

(2) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

EPISCOPAL FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% in 2025-2026 and 2.9% in 2027-2028 (1)

	2025	2026	2027	2028
Jurisdictional Fixed Charges				
General Council on Finance and Administration	475,000	475,000	475,000	475,000
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 475,000	\$ 475,000	\$ 475,000	\$ 475,000
Total Jurisdictional On-Ratio	\$ 19,876,096	\$ 19,211,925	\$ 20,917,467	\$ 20,636,853
Total Jurisdictional Apportionments	\$ 20,351,096	\$ 19,686,925	\$ 21,392,467	\$ 21,111,853
Central Conference On-Ratio	\$ 1,146,534	\$ 1,254,358	\$ 1,239,116	\$ 1,235,214
Grand Total	\$ 21,497,630	\$ 20,941,283	\$ 22,631,583	\$ 22,347,067

(1) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

EPISCOPAL FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% All Four Years (2)

	2013-2016	2017-2020 (1)	2025-2028	\$ Change	% Change
Jurisdictional Fixed Charges					
General Council on Finance and Administration	3,000,000	2,979,605	1,900,000	(1,079,605)	-36.2%
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 2,979,605	\$ 1,900,000	\$ (1,079,605)	-36.2%
Jurisdictional On-Ratio	\$ 89,649,184	\$ 89,039,730	\$ 76,245,342	\$ (12,794,388)	-14.4%
Total Jurisdictional Apportionments	\$ 92,649,184	\$ 92,019,335	\$ 78,145,342	\$ (13,873,993)	-15.1%
Central Conference On-Ratio	\$ 3,664,928	\$ 3,690,081	\$ 4,619,257	\$ 929,176	25.2%
Grand Total	\$ 96,314,112	\$ 95,709,416	\$ 82,764,599	\$ (12,944,817)	-13.5%

(1) 2017-2020 was the last quadrennial budget approved by General Conference.

(2) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

EPISCOPAL FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% All Four Years (1)

	2025	2026	2027	2028
Jurisdictional Fixed Charges				
General Council on Finance and Administration	475,000	475,000	475,000	475,000
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 475,000	\$ 475,000	\$ 475,000	\$ 475,000
Total Jurisdictional On-Ratio	\$ 19,876,096	\$ 19,211,925	\$ 18,704,451	\$ 18,452,870
Total Jurisdictional Apportionments	\$ 20,351,096	\$ 19,686,925	\$ 19,179,451	\$ 18,927,870
Central Conference On-Ratio	\$ 1,146,534	\$ 1,254,358	\$ 1,110,931	\$ 1,107,433
Grand Total	\$ 21,497,630	\$ 20,941,283	\$ 20,290,382	\$ 20,035,303

(1) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

GCFA Report No. 6 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION FUND (May 3)

The General Administration Fund (§ 813) finances general Church activities that are specifically administrative in nature. In the 2025-2028 quadrennium, the jurisdictional apportionments for these General Administration Fund activities will decrease by 23.3%-27.4% from the 2017-2020 quadrennium. Without the additional funding allocated for a General Conference to be held in between 2024 and 2028, the decrease from 2017-2020 would be 46.5%. Central Conference apportionments are increasing by 6.9% as membership in these areas are growing at a time when the U.S. is decreasing. The General Council on Finance and Administration's ("GCFA") Report No. 8 describes the role of professing membership in the Central Conference apportionments. At the request of the Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters, the 2025-2028 budget allocates the Central Conference apportionments across all line items in the General Administration Fund in the same ratio as the jurisdictional apportionments. In 2017-2020, they were allocated 100% to the Contingency Fund.

Discussion of Specific Budget Items

GCFA. GCFA reports to and is amenable to the General Conference and is responsible for receiving and distributing general Church funds. In addition, GCFA provides certain administrative services to the general funds and most General Agencies, including general ledger processing and maintenance, accounts payable functions, cash management, and group insurance plan administration. The 2025-2028 jurisdictional budget decreases by 59.1% compared to 2017-2020. A more detailed description of GCFA's activities and funding is found in its Report No. 14.

General Conference. The apportionments for General Conference fund delegate expenses, operation costs (convention center and equipment rental, publishing, petition tracking software, worship, labor), language services (printed translation of advance materials and spoken interpretation on site), expenses of the offices of the secretary, business manager, and treasurer of the General Conference and expenses of the several commissions and committees which support the event.

The changing global nature of the Church is due in part to the rapidly growing membership in the central conferences. The percentage of delegates from central conferences has changed significantly since the start of this millennium, which was 16% in 2000 and had increased to 29% in 2008, 38% in 2012, 42% in 2016, and 44% in 2024 (for the postponed 2020 General Conference). This change in representation has resulted in two of the four major cost drivers increasing significantly:

1. Language and translation services for the postponed 2020 General Conference are budgeted at \$1,570,000 for oral interpretation and \$695,000 for written interpretation, which represents a 10% increase to total interpretation costs compared to the 2016 General Conference.
2. In 2016, the average travel cost for delegates from within the United States was approximately \$765 for each delegate, while the average travel cost for delegates from Central Conferences was approximately \$3,365 each. As the percentage of the total delegates coming from Central Conferences increases, so does the total cost of travel for delegates.

An additional \$7 million has been added to the proposed budget for a special called session. This

funding level assumes the additional session will have a duration of one week.

The General Commission on Archives and History (GCAH). GCAH promotes and preserves the historical interests of The United Methodist Church and its predecessors. GCAH accomplishes this uniquely administrative and programmatic mission by gathering, preserving, and holding title to and disseminating materials representing the history of the denomination.

GCAH's "Ministry of Memory" serves these functions for all levels of the connection. In addition, it serves UMC seminary students and professors worldwide in basic preparatory and more highly academic Wesleyan-Methodist studies. It also anticipates increased support for Central Conference historians and leaders, many beginning basic archival collections of their own.

GCAH also manages a Historic Sites and Heritage Landmarks (§ 1712) program, supervising more than 500 denominational historic sites and nearly

50 heritage landmarks across the global connection.

The Judicial Council. The Judicial Council is the highest judicial body in The United Methodist Church connection. It determines the legality and/or constitutionality of actions by agencies, boards, conferences, and officials of the Church. Paragraph 813.3 provides that the expenses of the Judicial Council will be paid from the General Administration Fund, within a budget submitted annually to GCFA for its approval.

Pension and Salary Aid – Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference. This line item funds salary and pension assistance programs. The apportionments in the 2025-2028 are 20.7% lower in total.

Contingency Reserve. This allocation provides funding for unforeseen or emergency situations that fall within the scope of general administration.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION FUND - JURISDICTIONS - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% in 2025-2026 and 2.9% in 2027-2028

(3)

	2013-2016	2017-2020 (1)	2025-2028	\$ Change	% Change
Fixed Charges					
General Commission on Archives & History					
Historic Shrines, Landmarks & Sites (2)	\$ 4,162,000	\$ 4,133,706	\$ 3,955,739	\$ (177,967)	-4.3%
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 4,162,000	\$ 4,133,706	\$ 3,955,739	\$ (177,967)	-4.3%
On-Ratio					
General Council on Finance					
and Administration	\$ 16,844,000	\$ 16,729,491	\$ 7,237,327	\$ (9,492,164)	-56.7%
General Conference	11,903,000	11,822,081	14,434,572	2,612,491	22.1%
Standing Committee Central					
Conference Matters	293,000	291,008	290,629	(379)	-0.1%
Judicial Council	587,000	583,009	348,754	(234,255)	-40.2%
Pension and Salary Aid - Rio Grand Conf.	805,000	-	-	-	
Pension and Salary Aid - Oklahoma Conf.	1,694,000	1,682,484	1,259,392	(423,092)	-25.1%
Contingency Reserve	861,000	1,654,674	775,011	(879,663)	-53.2%
Total On-Ratio	\$ 32,987,000	\$ 32,762,747	\$ 24,345,685	\$ (8,417,062)	-25.7%
Grand Total	\$ 37,149,000	\$ 36,896,453	\$ 28,301,424	\$ (8,595,029)	-23.3%

(1) 2017-2020 was the last quadrennial budget approved by General Conference.

(2) The allocations for these ministries are to fixed charges rather than on-ratio for 2025-2028. This change in classification is not intended to be a permanent one, but rather to sustain this mission during a period of uncertainty around collections.

(3) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION FUND - CENTRAL CONFERENCES - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% in 2025-2026 and 2.9% in 2027-2028 (3)

	2013-2016	2017-2020 (1)	2025-2028	\$ Change	% Change
Fixed Charges					
General Commission on Archives & History					
Historic Shrines, Landmarks & Sites (2)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 233,639	\$ 233,639	
Total Fixed Charges	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 233,639	\$ 233,639	
On-Ratio					
General Council on Finance and Administration	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 427,460	\$ 427,460	
General Conference	-	-	852,552	852,552	
Standing Committee Central				-	
Conference Matters	-	-	17,166	17,166	
Judicial Council	-	-	20,599	20,599	
Pension and Salary Aid - Oklahoma Conf.	-	-	74,384	74,384	
Contingency Reserve	-	1,479,590	45,775	(1,433,815)	-96.9%
Total On-Ratio	\$ -	\$ 1,479,590	\$ 1,437,936	\$ (41,654)	-2.8%
Grand Total	\$ -	\$ 1,479,590	\$ 1,671,575	\$ 191,985	13.0%

(1) 2017-2020 was the last quadrennial budget approved by General Conference.

(2) The allocations for these ministries are to fixed charges rather than on-ratio for 2025-2028. This change in classification is not intended to be a permanent one, but rather to sustain this mission during a period of uncertainty around collections.

(3) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%. The base rate in the Jurisdictions also effects the Central Conference Apportionments as explained in Report Number 8.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION FUND - TOTAL - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% in 2025-2026 and 2.9% in 2027-2028 (3)

	2013-2016	2017-2020 (1)	2025-2028	\$ Change	% Change
Fixed Charges					
General Commission on Archives & History Historic Shrines, Landmarks & Sites (2)	\$ 4,162,000	\$ 4,133,706	\$ 4,189,378	\$ 55,672	1.3%
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 4,162,000	\$ 4,133,706	\$ 4,189,378	\$ 55,672	1.3%
On-Ratio					
General Council on Finance and Administration	\$ 16,844,000	\$ 16,729,491	\$ 7,664,787	\$ (9,064,704)	-54.2%
General Conference	11,903,000	11,822,081	\$ 15,287,124	3,465,043	29.3%
Standing Committee Central Conference Matters	293,000	291,008	307,795	16,787	5.8%
Judicial Council	587,000	583,009	369,353	(213,656)	-36.6%
Pension and Salary Aid - Rio Grand Conf.	805,000	-	-	-	-
Pension and Salary Aid - Oklahoma Conf.	1,694,000	1,682,484	1,333,776	(348,708)	-20.7%
Contingency Reserve	861,000	3,134,264	820,786	(2,313,478)	-73.8%
Total On-Ratio	\$ 32,987,000	\$ 34,242,337	\$ 25,783,621	\$ (8,458,716)	-24.7%
Grand Total	\$ 37,149,000	\$ 38,376,043	\$ 29,972,999	\$ (8,403,044)	-21.9%

(1) 2017-2020 was the last quadrennial budget approved by General Conference.

(2) The allocations for these ministries are to fixed charges rather than on-ratio for 2025-2028. This change in classification is not intended to be a permanent one, but rather to sustain this mission during a period of uncertainty around collections.

(3) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%. The base rate in the Jurisdictions also effects the Central Conference Apportionments as explained in Report Number 8.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION FUND - JURISDICTIONS - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% in 2025-2026 and 2.9% in 2027-2028
(2)

	2025	2026	2027	2028
Fixed Charges				
General Commission on Archives & History				
Historic Shrines, Landmarks & Sites (1)	\$ 975,301	\$ 943,471	\$ 1,025,207	\$ 1,011,760
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 975,301	\$ 943,471	\$ 1,025,207	\$ 1,011,760
On-Ratio				
General Council on Finance				
and Administration	\$ 1,784,388	\$ 1,726,153	\$ 1,875,695	\$ 1,851,091
General Conference	3,558,893	3,442,746	3,741,002	3,691,931
Standing Committee Central				
Conference Matters	71,656	69,317	75,322	74,334
Judicial Council	85,987	83,180	90,387	89,200
Pension and Salary Aid - Oklahoma Conf.	310,507	300,374	326,396	322,115
Contingency Reserve	191,082	184,845	200,859	198,225
Total On-Ratio	\$ 6,002,513	\$ 5,806,615	\$ 6,309,661	\$ 6,226,896
Grand Total	\$ 6,977,814	\$ 6,750,086	\$ 7,334,868	\$ 7,238,656

(1) The allocations for these ministries are to fixed charges rather than on-ratio for 2025-2028. This change in classification is not intended to be a permanent one, but rather to sustain this mission during a period of uncertainty around collections.

(2) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION FUND - CENTRAL CONFERENCES - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% in 2025-2026 and 2.9% in 2027-2028 (3)

	2025	2026	2027	2028
Fixed Charges				
General Commission on Archives & History				
Historic Shrines, Landmarks & Sites (1)	\$ 54,946	\$ 60,114	\$ 59,383	\$ 59,196
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 54,946	\$ 60,114	\$ 59,383	\$ 59,196
On-Ratio				
General Council on Finance				
and Administration	\$ 100,528	\$ 109,982	\$ 108,646	\$ 108,304
General Conference	200,501	219,356	216,688	216,007
Standing Committee Central				
Conference Matters	4,037	4,417	4,363	4,349
Judicial Council	4,844	5,300	5,235	5,220
Pension and Salary Aid - Oklahoma Conf.	17,493	19,138	18,907	18,846
Contingency Reserve	10,765	11,777	11,635	11,598
Total On-Ratio	\$ 338,168	\$ 369,970	\$ 365,474	\$ 364,324
Grand Total	\$ 393,114	\$ 430,084	\$ 424,857	\$ 423,520

(1) The allocations for these ministries are to fixed charges rather than on-ratio for 2025-2028. This change in classification is not intended to be a permanent change, but rather to sustain this mission during a period of uncertainty around collections.

(2) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION FUND - TOTAL - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% in 2025-2026 and 2.9% in 2027-2028 (3)

	2025	2026	2027	2028
Fixed Charges				
General Commission on Archives & History Historic Shrines, Landmarks & Sites (1)	\$ 1,030,247	\$ 1,003,585	\$ 1,084,590	\$ 1,070,956
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 1,030,247	\$ 1,003,585	\$ 1,084,590	\$ 1,070,956
On-Ratio				
General Council on Finance and Administration	\$ 1,884,916	\$ 1,836,135	\$ 1,984,341	\$ 1,959,395
General Conference	3,759,394	3,662,102	3,957,690	3,907,938
Standing Committee Central Conference Matters	75,693	73,734	79,685	78,683
Judicial Council	90,831	88,480	95,622	94,420
Pension and Salary Aid - Oklahoma Conf.	328,000	319,512	345,303	340,961
Contingency Reserve	201,847	196,622	212,494	209,823
Total On-Ratio	\$ 6,340,681	\$ 6,176,585	\$ 6,675,135	\$ 6,591,220
Grand Total	\$ 7,370,928	\$ 7,180,170	\$ 7,759,725	\$ 7,662,176

(1) The allocations for these ministries are to fixed charges rather than on-ratio for 2025-2028. This change in classification is not intended to be a permanent change, but rather to sustain this mission during a period of uncertainty around collections.

(2) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION FUND - JURISDICTIONS - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% All Four Years (3)

	2013-2016	2017-2020 (1)	2025-2028	\$ Change	% Change
Fixed Charges					
General Commission on Archives & History					
Historic Shrines, Landmarks & Sites (2)	\$ 4,162,000	\$ 4,133,706	\$ 3,745,018	\$ (388,688)	-9.4%
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 4,162,000	\$ 4,133,706	\$ 3,745,018	\$ (388,688)	-9.4%
On-Ratio					
General Council on Finance					
and Administration	\$ 16,844,000	\$ 16,729,491	\$ 6,851,797	\$ (9,877,694)	-59.0%
General Conference	11,903,000	11,822,081	13,665,649	1,843,568	15.6%
Standing Committee Central					
Conference Matters	293,000	291,008	275,148	(15,860)	-5.5%
Judicial Council	587,000	583,009	330,176	(252,833)	-43.4%
Pension and Salary Aid - Rio Grand Conf.	805,000	-	-	-	
Pension and Salary Aid - Oklahoma Conf.	1,694,000	1,682,484	1,192,305	(490,179)	-29.1%
Contingency Reserve	861,000	1,654,674	733,726	(920,948)	-55.7%
Total On-Ratio	\$ 32,987,000	\$ 32,762,747	\$ 23,048,801	\$ (9,713,946)	-29.6%
Grand Total	\$ 37,149,000	\$ 36,896,453	\$ 26,793,819	\$ (10,102,634)	-27.4%

(1) 2017-2020 was the last quadrennial budget approved by General Conference.

(2) The allocations for these ministries are to fixed charges rather than on-ratio for 2025-2028. This change in classification is not intended to be a permanent one, but rather to sustain this mission during a period of uncertainty around collections.

(3) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION FUND - CENTRAL CONFERENCES - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% All Four Years (3)

	2013-2016	2017-2020 (1)	2025-2028	\$ Change	% Change
Fixed Charges					
General Commission on Archives & History					
Historic Shrines, Landmarks & Sites (2)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 221,372	\$ 221,372	
Total Fixed Charges	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 221,372	\$ 221,372	
On-Ratio					
General Council on Finance and Administration	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 405,018	\$ 405,018	
General Conference	-	-	807,792	807,792	
Standing Committee Central				-	
Conference Matters	-	-	16,264	16,264	
Judicial Council	-	-	19,517	19,517	
Pension and Salary Aid - Oklahoma Conf.	-	-	70,478	70,478	
Contingency Reserve	-	1,479,590	43,371	(1,436,219)	-97.1%
Total On-Ratio	\$ -	\$ 1,479,590	\$ 1,362,440	\$ (117,150)	-7.9%
Grand Total	\$ -	\$ 1,479,590	\$ 1,583,812	\$ 104,222	7.0%

(1) 2017-2020 was the last quadrennial budget approved by General Conference.

(2) The allocations for these ministries are to fixed charges rather than on-ratio for 2025-2028. This change in classification is not intended to be a permanent one, but rather to sustain this mission during a period of uncertainty around collections.

(3) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%. The base rate in the Jurisdictions also effects the Central Conference Apportionments as explained in Report Number 8.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION FUND - TOTAL - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% All Four Years (3)

	2013-2016	2017-2020 (1)	2025-2028	\$ Change	% Change
Fixed Charges					
General Commission on Archives & History					
Historic Shrines, Landmarks & Sites (2)	\$ 4,162,000	\$ 4,133,706	\$ 3,966,390	\$ (167,316)	-4.0%
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 4,162,000	\$ 4,133,706	\$ 3,966,390	\$ (167,316)	-4.0%
On-Ratio					
General Council on Finance and Administration	\$ 16,844,000	\$ 16,729,491	\$ 7,256,815	\$ (9,472,676)	-56.6%
General Conference	11,903,000	11,822,081	\$ 14,473,441	2,651,360	22.4%
Standing Committee Central					
Conference Matters	293,000	291,008	291,412	404	0.1%
Judicial Council	587,000	583,009	349,693	(233,316)	-40.0%
Pension and Salary Aid - Rio Grand Conf.	805,000	-	-	-	
Pension and Salary Aid - Oklahoma Conf.	1,694,000	1,682,484	1,262,783	(419,701)	-24.9%
Contingency Reserve	861,000	3,134,264	777,097	(2,357,167)	-75.2%
Total On-Ratio	\$ 32,987,000	\$ 34,242,337	\$ 24,411,241	\$ (9,831,096)	-28.7%
Grand Total	\$ 37,149,000	\$ 38,376,043	\$ 28,377,631	\$ (9,998,412)	-26.1%

(1) 2017-2020 was the last quadrennial budget approved by General Conference.

(2) The allocations for these ministries are to fixed charges rather than on-ratio for 2025-2028. This change in classification is not intended to be a permanent one, but rather to sustain this mission during a period of uncertainty around collections.

(3) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%. The base rate in the Jurisdictions also effects the Central Conference Apportionments as explained in Report Number 8.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION FUND - JURISDICTIONS - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% All Four Years (2)

	2025	2026	2027	2028
Fixed Charges				
General Commission on Archives & History				
Historic Shrines, Landmarks & Sites (1)	\$ 975,301	\$ 943,471	\$ 919,151	\$ 907,095
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 975,301	\$ 943,471	\$ 919,151	\$ 907,095
On-Ratio				
General Council on Finance and Administration	\$ 1,784,388	\$ 1,726,153	\$ 1,681,658	\$ 1,659,598
General Conference	3,558,893	3,442,746	3,354,002	3,310,008
Standing Committee Central Conference Matters	71,656	69,317	67,530	66,645
Judicial Council	85,987	83,180	81,036	79,973
Pension and Salary Aid - Oklahoma Conf.	310,507	300,374	292,631	288,793
Contingency Reserve	191,082	184,845	180,081	177,718
Total On-Ratio	\$ 6,002,513	\$ 5,806,615	\$ 5,656,938	\$ 5,582,735
Grand Total	\$ 6,977,814	\$ 6,750,086	\$ 6,576,089	\$ 6,489,830

(1) The allocations for these ministries are to fixed charges rather than on-ratio for 2025-2028. This change in classification is not intended to be a permanent one, but rather to sustain this mission during a period of uncertainty around collections.

(2) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION FUND - CENTRAL CONFERENCES - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% All Four Years (2)

	2025	2026	2027	2028
Fixed Charges				
General Commission on Archives & History Historic Shrines, Landmarks & Sites (1)	\$ 54,946	\$ 60,114	\$ 53,240	\$ 53,072
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 54,946	\$ 60,114	\$ 53,240	\$ 53,072
On-Ratio				
General Council on Finance and Administration	\$ 100,528	\$ 109,982	\$ 97,407	\$ 97,101
General Conference	200,500	219,356	194,274	193,662
Standing Committee Central Conference Matters	4,037	4,417	3,912	3,898
Judicial Council	4,844	5,300	4,694	4,679
Pension and Salary Aid - Oklahoma Conf.	17,493	19,138	16,950	16,897
Contingency Reserve	10,765	11,777	10,431	10,398
Total On-Ratio	\$ 338,167	\$ 369,970	\$ 327,668	\$ 326,635
Grand Total	\$ 393,113	\$ 430,084	\$ 380,908	\$ 379,707

(1) The allocations for these ministries are to fixed charges rather than on-ratio for 2025-2028. This change in classification is not intended to be a permanent change, but rather to sustain this mission during a period of uncertainty around collections.

(2) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION FUND - TOTAL - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% All Four Years (2)

	2025	2026	2027	2028
Fixed Charges				
General Commission on Archives & History				
Historic Shrines, Landmarks & Sites (1)	\$ 1,030,247	\$ 1,003,585	\$ 972,391	\$ 960,167
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 1,030,247	\$ 1,003,585	\$ 972,391	\$ 960,167
On-Ratio				
General Council on Finance				
and Administration	\$ 1,884,916	\$ 1,836,135	\$ 1,779,065	\$ 1,756,699
General Conference	3,759,393	3,662,102	3,548,276	3,503,670
Standing Committee Central	-	-	-	-
Conference Matters	75,693	73,734	71,442	70,543
Judicial Council	90,831	88,480	85,730	84,652
Pension and Salary Aid - Oklahoma Conf.	328,000	319,512	309,581	305,690
Contingency Reserve	201,847	196,622	190,512	188,116
Total On-Ratio	\$ 6,340,680	\$ 6,176,585	\$ 5,984,606	\$ 5,909,370
Grand Total	\$ 7,370,927	\$ 7,180,170	\$ 6,956,997	\$ 6,869,537

(1) The allocations for these ministries are to fixed charges rather than on-ratio for 2025-2028. This change in classification is not intended to be a permanent change, but rather to sustain this mission during a period of uncertainty around collections.

(2) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

GCFA Report No. 7

INTERDENOMINATIONAL COOPERATION FUND (May 3)

As part of the church universal, The United Methodist Church believes that the Lord of the church is calling Christians everywhere to strive toward unity; and therefore it will seek, and work for, unity at all levels of church life: through world relationships with other Methodist churches . . . through councils of churches and through plans of union and covenantal relationships with churches of Methodist or other denominational traditions. ¶ 6)

The Interdenominational Cooperation Fund allows The United Methodist Church to fulfill our Disciplinary mandate to continually strive toward unity with Christians everywhere. Specifically, it offers the financial resources necessary to partner with Christian sisters and brothers throughout the world to fulfill a shared ecumenical mission. Our relationships with ecumenical partners enable us to witness together while respecting our unique traditions and distinctions, engaging in ministries that foster justice, mercy, and peace in God’s world.

In partnership with other Christian communions, the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund gives

operating and other support for organizations that relate to the ecumenical responsibility of the Council of Bishops. It also allows for United Methodist representation at ecumenical and interreligious events and provides resources for our official dialogues and special ecumenical projects. The General Council on Finance and Administration (“GCFA”) recommends the annual budgeted amounts for the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund to the General Conference from recommendations developed in consultation with the Council of Bishops (¶ 814.2).

GCFA, working collaboratively with The Connectional Table (CT), proposes that the funding for the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund be significantly below previous levels. This reduction is designed to reduce the fund balance that has increased over the past several years, with the expectation that the next General Conference may choose to increase the funding as fund balances diminish during 2025-2028. At the end of 2023 there was a total fund balance of \$5,983,145. These funds are restricted for specific purposes as shown in the chart below.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL COOPERATION FUND BALANCES AT 12/31/2023

	2023 Ending Fund Balance
Organization / Activity	
National Councils of Churches / Regional Ecumenical Organizations	\$ 3,913,642
World Council of Churches / International Ecumenical Organizations	10,327
Pan Methodist Commission	210,762
Ecumenical / Multilateral Conversations	347,348
Ecumenical Representative Travel	1,045,635
Interreligious Relations	361,270
Churches Uniting In Christ	33,876
Contingency Reserve	60,285
Total Fund Balances	\$ 5,983,145

As a result of the increasing balances for the restricted purposes shown above and the significant decrease in funding for 2025-2028, the total of all Interdenominational Cooperation Fund balances at the end of 2024 will be transferred to a single line item called “Ecumenical & Interreligious Activity & Relations.” Each year the Council of Bishops will present an annual spending plan for the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund to GCFA for approval. This spending plan will show the specific areas of funding, including some which are currently included in the restrictions listed above. This process provides greater flexibility in support of organizations and areas as needs change and develop.

Explanation of Items Historically Funded by the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund

All of these engagements help The United Methodist Church fulfill its calling to commit ourselves to the “...cause of Christian unity at local, national, and world levels” (§ 105).

General Council on Finance and Administration. GCFA, which reports to and is amenable to the General Conference, is also responsible for receiving and distributing general Church funds. Part of the Council’s expenses is charged as a direct charge to the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund as provided in ¶ 805.6a and Report No. 14.

National Councils of Churches/Regional Ecumenical Organizations. Supports the work of councils or organizations whose membership is limited to a specific country or geographic region. Among the specific organizations currently receiving support is the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. This council has thirty-eight member denominations and communions in the United States representing more than 40 million Christians and about 100,000 local congregations.

World Council of Churches/International Ecumenical Organizations. Supports the work of councils or organizations whose membership is not limited to a specific country or geographic region. The Interdenominational Cooperation Fund supports the World Council of Churches, founded in 1948. The council includes 350 member

communions throughout the world representing more than 500 million Christians. These funds support United Methodist participation in the work and life of the World Council of Churches, with a focus on justice and peace. This fund also supports the work of the newer Global Christian Forum, which every few years brings together a wide variety of Christians from around the world for conversation and discernment on a topic of interest to all.

Christian World Communions/Methodist Unity.

This category includes funds to support the work of ecumenical organizations whose members trace their origins to religious traditions started by John Wesley. One such conciliar partner, dedicated to nurturing unity in the Methodist family, is the World Methodist Council. Established in 1881, the World Methodist Council is a worldwide association of 80 Methodist, Wesleyan, and related Uniting and United Churches representing more than 80 million people in 138 countries. The Interdenominational Cooperation Fund supports United Methodist participation in the work and life of the Council. It also supports the Methodist Ecumenical Office in Rome and other projects of the World Methodist Council.

Pan-Methodist Commission. This allocation of funding relates to ongoing ministry on matters of mutual interest among representatives of The United Methodist Church, The African Methodist Episcopal Church, The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, The African Union Methodist Protestant Church, The Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, and The Union American Methodist Episcopal Church. The commission is currently engaged in fulfilling the vision of full communion among its member churches, including joint chaplaincy endorsement, the Campaign for Children in Poverty, and Pan-Methodist young adult engagements.

Ecumenical/Multilateral Conversations. Provides funding for ongoing and proposed meetings with representatives of other denominations for dialogue, including but not limited to the Episcopal Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Moravian Church (Northern and Southern Provinces) and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The ICF provides funds for multi-lateral expressions of ecumenism, such as Christian Churches Together and the Wesleyan Holiness Connection.

Ecumenical Representative Travel. To ensure a United Methodist voice and presence in worldwide deliberations and meetings of funded ecumenical bodies, travel expenses for United Methodist representatives named by the Council of Bishops are paid from the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund (¶ 814.4). Costs and expenses are paid in accordance with guidelines adopted by GCFA. Covered meetings include those of the governing board, convening tables, and other units of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.; the central and executive committees of the World Council of Churches, including other structural units and periodic assembly; the executive committee members and at-large delegates of the World Methodist Council; meetings of Churches Uniting in Christ, Christian Churches Together, and the Pan-Methodist Commission; and United Methodist participation in concordant relationships and other ecumenical activities of recognized bodies.

Interreligious Relations. This funding provides resources for United Methodists to engage more directly with neighbors of other faith communities. Funding is used to provide information, materials, and support for dialogues locally and regionally, and to support ecumenical programs involving interfaith partners, such as Religions for Peace USA, Shoulder to Shoulder, and the Parliament of the World's Religions.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL COOPERATION FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% in 2025-2026 and 2.9% in 2027-2028 (2)

	2013-2016	2017-2020 (1)	2025-2028	\$ Change	% Change
Fixed Charges					
General Council on Finance and Administration	206,000	204,600	31,969	(172,631)	-84.4%
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 206,000	\$ 204,600	\$ 31,969	\$ (172,631)	-84.4%
On-Ratio					
National Councils of Churches/ Regional Ecumenical Organizations	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 2,483,005	\$ -	\$ (2,483,005)	-100.0%
World Council of Churches/ International Ecumenical Organizations	2,192,000	2,177,098	-	(2,177,098)	-100.0%
Christian World Communions/ Methodist Unity:					
World Methodist Council	1,940,000	1,926,812	-	(1,926,812)	-100.0%
Pan Methodist Commission	100,000	99,320	-	(99,320)	-100.0%
Ecumenical/Multilateral Conversations	316,000	313,852	-	(313,852)	-100.0%
Ecumenical Representative Travel	760,000	754,833	-	(754,833)	-100.0%
Interreligious Relations	150,000	148,980	-	(148,980)	-100.0%
Ecumenical & Interreligious Relations & Activity	-	-	2,365,022	2,365,022	
Contingency Reserve	100,000	99,320	-	(99,320)	-100.0%
Total On-Ratio	\$ 7,958,000	\$ 7,903,900	\$ 2,365,022	\$ (5,538,878)	-70.1%
Grand Total	\$ 8,164,000	\$ 8,108,500	\$ 2,396,991	\$ (5,711,509)	-70.4%

(1) 2017-2020 was the last quadrennial budget approved by General Conference.

(2) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL COOPERATION FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% in 2025-2026 and 2.9% in 2027-2028 (1)

	2025	2026	2027	2028
Fixed Charges				
General Council on Finance and Administration	7,882	7,625	8,285	8,177
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 7,882	\$ 7,625	\$ 8,285	\$ 8,177
On-Ratio				
Ecumenical & Interreligious Activity & Relations	583,104	564,074	612,942	604,902
Total On-Ratio	\$ 583,104	\$ 564,074	\$ 612,942	\$ 604,902
Grand Total	\$ 590,986	\$ 571,699	\$ 621,227	\$ 613,079

(1) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL COOPERATION FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% All Four Years (2)

	2013-2016	2017-2020 (1)	2025-2028	\$ Change	% Change
Fixed Charges					
General Council on Finance and Administration	206,000	204,600	30,266	(174,334)	-85.2%
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 206,000	\$ 204,600	\$ 30,266	\$ (174,334)	-85.2%
On-Ratio					
National Councils of Churches/ Regional Ecumenical Organizations	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 2,483,005	\$ -	\$ (2,483,005)	-100.0%
World Council of Churches/ International Ecumenical Organizations	2,192,000	2,177,098	-	(2,177,098)	-100.0%
Christian World Communions/ Methodist Unity:					
World Methodist Council	1,940,000	1,926,812	-	(1,926,812)	-100.0%
Pan Methodist Commission	100,000	99,320	-	(99,320)	-100.0%
Ecumenical/Multilateral Conversations	316,000	313,852	-	(313,852)	-100.0%
Ecumenical Representative Travel	760,000	754,833	-	(754,833)	-100.0%
Interreligious Relations Ecumenical & Interreligious Relations & Activity	150,000	148,980	-	(148,980)	-100.0%
	-	-	2,239,038	2,239,038	
Contingency Reserve	100,000	99,320	-	(99,320)	-100.0%
Total On-Ratio	\$ 7,958,000	\$ 7,903,900	\$ 2,239,038	\$ (5,664,862)	-71.7%
Grand Total	\$ 8,164,000	\$ 8,108,500	\$ 2,269,304	\$ (5,839,196)	-72.0%

(1) 2017-2020 was the last quadrennial budget approved by General Conference.

(2) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL COOPERATION FUND - Base Percentage Rate of 2.6% All Four Years (1)

	2025	2026	2027	2028
Fixed Charges				
General Council on Finance and Administration	7,882	7,625	7,428	7,331
Total Fixed Charges	\$ 7,882	\$ 7,625	\$ 7,428	\$ 7,331
On-Ratio				
Ecumenical & Interreligious Activity & Relations	583,104	564,074	549,534	542,326
Total On-Ratio	\$ 583,104	\$ 564,074	\$ 549,534	\$ 542,326
Grand Total	\$ 590,986	\$ 571,699	\$ 556,962	\$ 549,657

(1) Report Number 8 has a contingent Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028. It will be 2.6% if the total apportionment collection rate is below 90% for the period of 2025 to 2026. If the collection rate in this time period is 90% or greater, then the Base Percentage Rate for 2027 and 2028 will be 2.9%.

Corrections to the Calendar

426-IC36-R9999-A-G

Subject: Apology from General Conference to the Victims/Survivors of Sexual Misconduct in The UMC

Petition: 20593-IC-R9999-G

Membership: 32; Present: 31;

For: 28; Against: 2; Not Voting: 1;

Date: 4/27

The Petition is amended as follows:

Add a new 5th par. that reads We encourage and support the reporting of sexual misconduct. The abuse of power in the leadership position will not be tolerated.

Make the following changes in the 6th par:
-Strike "~~the General . . . GC~~" and add the President of the Council of Bishops; then strike "~~this resolution. . . this sin~~" and add the following apology statement to all delegates and guests during a plenary session of the General Conference--all in the first sentence.

-In the 2nd sentence strike "~~Additionally, . . . annual meetings.~~" Add Furthermore, this same action shall be repeated at the next annual conference session for all conferences in the Jurisdictional and Central Conferences with the bishop of the annual conference reading the apology statement during one of the conference's plenary or worship sessions.

Strike paragraph--"~~We encourage. . . not be tolerated.~~"

Add Statement of Apology as follows:

Statement of Apology

Introduction

Sexual misconduct is a current and real problem within The United Methodist Church. Today, we acknowledge there are people here who have been mistreated, abused, and assaulted by clergy and lay leaders in the Church.

We honor those who have shared their stories and those who have sat with their stories in silence. We commend the courage of all survivors of sexual misconduct to walk a path they did not choose. Too often those who suffer from sexual misconduct are silenced, ignored, or not believed by the Church.

Sexual misconduct includes psychological, emotional, and spiritual abuse. This apology is a beginning point for confession and hope in prevention and response to sexual misconduct in The United Methodist Church.

Apology

The United Methodist Church apologizes for the times we allowed our desire to protect the Church to outweigh our desire to care for victims and survivors of sexual misconduct. We have allowed polity and protection of the institutional Church prevent us from holding persons accountable, thus perpetuating harm within our local churches and other ministry settings, and damaging the whole United Methodist connection.

We apologize for the times we have not listened to you, doubted your stories, ignored your wounds, and have not tended to your pain. We believe this has contributed to allowing an unsafe culture to exist.

An apology is worthless without a commitment to the challenging work which must follow. The United Methodist Church pledges to:

1. Apologize in every annual conference across the connection.
2. Educate Church leaders regarding sacred trust in ministerial relationships and power imbalance within those relationships.
3. Provide healing resources to all affected in accordance with ¶ 362. *Complaint Procedures*.
4. Develop a trauma-informed response to complaints of sexual misconduct.

This apology alone is insufficient for healing. The United Methodist Church accepts our responsibility and publicly states our commitment to carry out the steps named to do no more harm. May God's blessing and never-ending love guide our work and see it through.

Following Resources add:

Information and guidance for all parties involved in a complaint process related to sexual misconduct is available at www.donomoreharm.org.

Committee Moves to Adopt the above

[] Adopted [] Not Adopted Date /

Correction Reason: Editorial Correction of missing amendment text.

