

Because of our faithful commitment to connectional giving through apportionments, Northern Illinois Conference congregations are connected in mission and ministry, and connected to transform lives.

Starting April 2019, your monthly apportionment statement looks a little different. Please use this document to familiarize yourself with the three Northern Illinois Conference funds and seven General Conference funds designated on the statement.

Apportionment contributions to the three Northern Illinois Conference funds will bring your church to first-mile giving Rainbow Covenant status. We encourage all churches to go the second mile to become a Rainbow Covenant church by participating in **The Advance** mission giving and continuing to support the good work across the connection.

# Fund Descriptions NORTHERN ILLINOIS CONFERENCE FUNDS

#### Support for Ordained Ministry

This fund is used by the Northern Illinois Conference to credential, support, develop and supervise clergy for their effectiveness in ministry. This fund supports District Superintendents, support staff, and offices; District events; missional appointments; the Board of Ordained Ministry; Cabinet meetings and expenses; clergy relocation expenses; and more.

#### **Mission and Evangelism**

Support of this fund is an investment in the future of the church by equipping leaders to make disciples of Jesus Christ. This fund includes all committees and boards of the NIC (about 60), each representing a touchpoint for the Conference to impact your congregation or individual lives in your community. Your support impacts Campus Ministries, ChildServ, Disaster Response, Older Adult Ministries, Outdoor and Retreat Ministries, Justice For Our Neighbors, and Safe Sanctuaries, to name a few. This fund is also essential for equipping and revitalizing local churches and developing new faith communities.

#### **Reconnecting the Connection**

This fund supports critical conference infrastructure for all the ministries of the connection, including computer systems, software, and support; digital and print communications; treasurer's office; administration; property and liability insurance; archives and history; clergy benefits administration; and office expenses and equipment.

## **GENERAL CONFERENCE FUNDS**

#### World Service Fund

Supports all of the general agencies and boards of the United Methodist Church worldwide, including missionary personnel and administrative costs.

#### **Ministerial Education Fund**

Supports recruitment of clergy candidates and provides financial support for 13 United Methodist seminaries, including Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston.

#### The Episcopal Fund

Provides for United Methodist bishops worldwide, including salaries, housing, office expenses and travel costs of active bishops, as well as pension and health benefit coverage.

#### Interdenominational Cooperation Fund

Supports UMC's work with ecumenical and inter-religious partners such as the World Council of Churches, Churches Uniting in Christ, and World Methodist Council.

#### **Black College Fund**

This fund supports the programs and ministries of 11 historically black colleges and universities, including one medical school. These gifts reflect the value our Church has on education, especially for those who have been historically excluded.

#### Africa University Fund

Supports Africa University in Zimbabwe, the first fully accredited United Methodist-related institution on the African continent. It promotes independence and empowerment through a diverse student body from across the continent.

#### **General Administration Fund**

This fund helps maintain a system of management oversight and fiscal accountability. It underwrites General Conference and the Judicial Council. The June 2019 Northern Annual Conference voted to withhold payments to this fund.

### **LEARN MORE**

Visit **www.umc.org/how-we-serve/apportioned-funds** to learn more about how apportioned funds support the mission and ministry of the United Methodist Church.

For the expression on UMC giving, visit **www.umcgiving.org**.

For a free online course providing church leaders with a holistic and biblical view of generosity, as well as an understanding of the connectional church, please be sure to visit



www.umctraining.org/product?catalog=Connectional-Giving.