



TREASURER'S NOTES

IOWA CONFERENCE
The United Methodist Church



February 2019

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Included in these Treasury Notes:

- Status of Apportionment Income Receipts
- Budget Team Update
- Reminders
- Iowa Annual Conference Annual Audit letters
- Vanco Services & Voucher Credits
- IRS Parking Issue Guidance

STATUS OF APPORTIONMENT INCOME RECEIPTS

Our office has closed the apportionment remittance system for 2018. We received a total of \$10,973,012 (current and prior year's) from a total budget of \$14,794,271 or 74.17% of the total. We received less monies in 2018 than in 2017 on a budget that was \$622,237 higher. This may require a dip into our cash reserves depending on how successful we were in lowering expenses in 2018 and if there are surpluses left in any programs. Soon we will be doing a final review of all programs and determine our final ending balances.

Percentage of Total Apportionments Collected (Current & Prior Years)

Year	Apportionment Budget	Total Collected	Percentage
2018	\$14,794,211	\$10,973,012	74.1%
2017	\$14,171,974	\$11,120,639	78.5%
2016	\$14,810,617	\$11,801,335	79.7%
2015	\$16,014,097	\$12,577,435	78.5%
2014	\$16,273,502	\$12,874,487	79.1%
2013	\$15,675,167	\$13,274,114	84.7%
2012	\$15,623,970	\$13,303,847	85.2%

Additional information I'd like to share with you is that out of 753 congregations apportioned for 2018:

415 (55%) paid 100% which totaled \$8,059,189 paid

45 (6%) paid greater than 80% of their apportioned amount leaving \$98K unpaid

155 (21%) paid greater than 20% of their apportioned amount leaving \$1.8M unpaid

69 (9%) paid less than 20% of their apportioned amount leaving \$1.3M unpaid

69 (9%) paid zero or less than .5% leaving just over \$1M unpaid

Thank you to churches who paid 100% and, also, thank you for those congregations that made progress toward that goal. I received calls from churches who wanted to pay more but are struggling with the reality of declining membership and increased local costs. Unfortunately, I also received communication from churches who are withholding all or a portion of their apportionments. During this time of unrest in our Conference and denomination, may God watch over us and provide us the wisdom to make good faith-filled decisions.

BUDGET TEAM UPDATE

Members of the Budget Team attended four listening sessions: one in December with the Boards and Agencies and three in January held at North Liberty, Carroll, and Ames. We've also received several comments and suggestions through the email address budget@iaumc.org. The Budget Team will meet again to finalize our recommendation in light of what feedback we've received and then it will go to the Bishop's Operational Team and then the Council on Finance and Administration (CFA).

REMINDERS

- The IRS mileage rate for 2019 is 58 cents per mile driven for business use.
- Postage rates increased beginning January 27, 2019, first class stamp is now 55 cents.
- Your church's 2018 annual statistical report is due Thursday, February 14, 2019. For more details, go to www.iaumc.org/stats. If questions, contact Roland Minshall, Statistician, at Roland.Minshall@iaumc.org.

IOWA ANNUAL CONFERENCE ANNUAL AUDIT LETTERS

Your church may receive a letter from me asking you to confirm your Church Statement as of December 31, 2018. This statement will include any amounts received up to our deadline of January 9, 2019. Please promptly reply as requested to our auditors, McGowan Hurst Clark & Smith P.C. If you have any questions, please feel free to call McGowan or our office.

VANCO SERVICES & VOUCHER CREDITS

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

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

IRS PARKING ISSUE RELATED TO UBIT (Unrelated Business Income Tax)

The following link takes you to information from the General Council on Finance and Administration (GCFA) concerning the IRS-issued interim guidance on the parking/UBIT issues. This may affect your church.

<http://www.gcfa.org/services/legal-services/additional-legal-resources/>

If questions, please contact Emily Graber at Emily.Graber@iaumc.org.

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