



Michigan Conference

The United Methodist Church

Treasury and Benefits
1161 E. Clark Road, Suite 212
DeWitt, MI 48820
517.347.4030

August 19, 2019

Dear Pastor and Treasurer:

I have enclosed the 2020 Ministry Shares calculation for your church. Please use this calculation in preparing your 2020 local church budget and that payment of these Ministry Shares is the first benevolent responsibility of the local church as outlined in the 2016 Book of Discipline (paragraph 812).

1. The calculation of the Ministry Share is based upon the operating expenses for each local church in relation to the total operating expenses of all local churches in the conference and is based upon a four-year rolling average for both.
2. This will give you the church's grade figure which is multiplied against the Common Budget that is approved at Annual Conference.
3. An example of this is that a local church has a rolling average for operating expenses of \$150,000 and the total of all local churches rolling average for operating expenses is \$107,500,00 then the local churches grade figure is .001395.
4. This is multiplied by the Common Budget of \$14,700,910 to give the local church their 2020 Ministry Shares number of \$20,508.
5. Please remember that funds paid to non-United Methodist Benevolences are added into the formula for those years when the local church did not pay 100% of their Ministry Shares.
6. For a more detailed explanation of this formula, please consult the Conference Journal under the Council of Finance & Administration Policies.

The Council of Finance & Administration decided that no church should have more than a 25% increase or decrease in their 2020 Ministry Shares versus their 2019 Ministry Shares. The actual dollar and percentage differences are reported on the 2020 Ministry Shares sheet.

We use the Donor Direct system for the collection and reporting of payments for Ministry Shares. This is an online system where local churches will be able to make online payments to their Ministry Shares as well as donations to any of the items listed in the MI Engage book and Special Sundays. This system will allow each church to produce a giving history of their donations. This online payment system will be available shortly and Rich Pittenger will notify everyone when it is available. Please understand that while churches can go online to make a payment, the conference uses a Lockbox to collect payments that churches want to send through the mail.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at ddobbs@michiganumc.org, or my cell phone at 810-444-1725.

Sincerely,

David Dobbs

Director of Administrative Services and Conference Treasurer