

A Connectional Denomination working together as United Methodists

As United Methodists we are part of a worldwide community of other United Methodist churches.

We are a “connectional” church, joined with all the other believers in our denomination who have professed their faith in Christ, and as such we pledge our support, including financial support, to this broad faith community.

Our financial support comes in the form of annual Shared Ministries which we pay to our North Central New York Conference of 392 United Methodist Congregations.

For United Methodist churches in the United States, each doing their fair share, that expense typically works out to be about 14 percent of each church’s annual operating budget.

That money is spent in many ways.

Some of it certainly is used to fund the operation of the district, the conference, the jurisdiction and the national church.

We should also think about the financial support to programs those shared ministries provide, and here are just a few:

- Education of future ministers in the form of financial aid for seminary students
- Support of United Methodist missionaries in countries around the world
- Support of specific local church programs for work with children and youth, students, people who are mentally and physically challenged, and senior citizens.
- Cooperative interdenominational work with other faiths to help build a more ethical, just, moral, and human world
- Africa University fund which supports a United Methodist University which educates 1,300 students annually in practical subjects such as agriculture and management, as well as theology.

Please think about all these good works, and many more that haven’t been mentioned. Remember that God wants us to manage our money well. It’s one of the gifts He provides to us.



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