



Recently Asked Questions Received by GCFA
After the 2019 Special Session of the General Conference

Response to Inquiries About Delegate Counts, Cost of the Special Session,
Apportionments and Expenditures in Central Conferences,
and the Commission on the Way Forward

Special Session Costs:

The funding for and expenses of the 2019 Special Session of the General Conference are reported on page 17 of the ADCA, Volume 1. As stated in that report, the funding – from various sources – amounted to \$3,605,000.

Commission on the Way Forward Costs:

The Commission on the Way Forward had a budget of \$1,475,990. Through December, 2018, with expenses still being tabulated, the Commission used approximately 61% of the budget. The Commission was under budget by over \$575,000. The Commission anticipates that it will be under budget when all expenses are verified.

Cost Description	Total Budget	Through Dec. 2018	% of Total Budget	Unused Budget		
				Episcopal Fund	World Service Fund	Total
Total Travel Participants	\$ 797,625	\$ 636,655	79.8%	\$ 64,086	\$ 96,885	\$ 160,970
Meeting & Facilities Costs	\$ 534,365	\$ 224,555	42.0%	\$ 44,950	\$ 264,860	\$ 309,810
Coach Fees	\$ 50,000	\$ 25,838	51.7%	\$ 24,163	\$ -	\$ 24,163
Press Releases	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,745	34.9%	\$ 1,125	\$ 2,129	\$ 3,255
Project Manager Fees	\$ 14,000	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 4,813	\$ 9,188	\$ 14,000
2019 Special Session Design Team Meeting	\$ 75,000	\$ 11,271	15.0%	\$ -	\$ 63,729	\$ 63,729
Total Commission Costs	\$ 1,475,990	\$ 900,063	61.0%	\$ 139,135	\$ 436,791	\$ 575,927

Questions about delegate counts:

Question: How are delegates elected?

Answer: The Commission on the General Conference, in October 2017, set the [target number of delegates for the 2020 General Conference to be about 850](#). The final number is not yet exact because of final necessary calculations. The number, as it is for each General Conference, is calculated based on professing lay membership (defined in ¶ 215 of the *Book of Discipline*) and clergy members. Information for determining membership is provided by the annual conference journals.

[Statistical information about membership in jurisdictional and central conferences](#) can be found on the GCFA website. This data is verified and published each year.

Question about Delegate Costs:

Question: Does the Church pay for non-delegates to the General Conference?

Answer: No. The General Conference pays for the travel, housing, meal per diem, and the ADCA/DCA for primary delegates. The General Conference also provides the ADCA/DCA for first elected clergy and lay reserve delegates from each annual conference.

Questions about statistics:

Any statistics on membership that are included on the GCFA/Data Services statistical page or at UMCData.org are public information and available on those websites. Other statistical requests should be submitted to the Data Services department at dataservices@gcfa.org for evaluation and to determine if the information can be shared based on the GCFA Data Sharing Policy.

Question: Can I get the list of the top United Methodist churches in the US with membership and annual conference relationship?

Answer: Our Data Sharing Policy allows anyone to obtain this data. This information is posted on the GCFA website.

Question: Can I get information on membership by conference?

Answer: This information is publicly available on the GCFA website and UMdata.org.

Questions about journals:

Do we have 2018 journals for central conferences?

Answer: Yes, some of them. We receive them to use for our statistical reporting. Anyone is free to ask the annual conference to send them one.

Questions about apportionment payments:

Question: Can the apportionments paid be broken down by continent and not just listed as “Central Conferences” in the monthly report?

Answer: Yes. Beginning in 2019, central conference apportionment payments will be listed on the monthly report by Episcopal area and added to the monthly report.

Question: How much money is being spent in central conferences?

Answer: Each general Church agency or other entity receiving general Church apportioned funds has presented totals for 2018 by continent as shown in Chart 1. Information by fund is included in Chart 2. Chart 3 lists the expenses of the Commission on the General Conference by Episcopal area for the 2017-2020 quadrennium. (Charts are on the next page).

2018 General Church Spending in the Central Conference of U.S. Apportionment Dollars For All General Funds and Central Conferences				
Agency / Entity	Africa	Europe	Asia	Total
COSROW	\$ 82,200	\$ 10,200	\$ 20,000	\$ 112,400
GCORR	\$ 59,321	\$ 36,000	\$ -	\$ 95,321
GCAH	\$ -	\$ 6,100	\$ -	\$ 6,100
GCFA	\$ 533,557	\$ 20,637	\$ 45,879	\$ 600,073
GBCS	\$ 132,822	\$ 24,230	\$ 3,741	\$ 160,793
GBGM	\$ 5,547,017	\$ 2,051,726	\$ 3,558,847	\$ 11,157,590
UMCOM	\$ 739,353	\$ 52,306	\$ 209,461	\$ 1,001,120
GBHEM	\$ 2,364,320	\$ 382,173	\$ 435,173	\$ 3,181,666
DM	\$ 488,086	\$ 47,440	\$ 175,046	\$ 710,572
UMM	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
StCCM	\$ 264,774	\$ 21,935	\$ 16,451	\$ 303,160
Episcopal Fund	\$ 2,405,634	\$ 1,017,229	\$ 585,026	\$ 4,007,889
Africa University	\$ 2,224,337	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,224,337
Total U.S. Funds Spent in Central Conferences	\$ 14,841,421	\$ 3,669,975	\$ 5,049,625	\$ 23,561,021
Total Apportionments Received				\$ 132,859,100
Percent of Apportionments Received	11.2%	2.8%	3.8%	17.7%

Chart 1

2018 General Church Spending in the Central Conference of U.S. Apportionment Dollars By Fund For All Central Conferences								
Agency / Entity	World Service	Episcopal Fund	Africa University	General Admin Fund	MEF	Black College Fund	ICF	Total Apportioned Funds
COSROW	\$ 112,400							\$ 112,400
GCORR	\$ 95,321							\$ 95,321
GCAH				\$ 6,100				\$ 6,100
GCFA				\$ 600,073				\$ 600,073
GBCS	\$ 160,793							\$ 160,793
GBGM	\$ 11,157,590							\$ 11,157,590
UMCOM	\$ 1,001,120							\$ 1,001,120
GBHEM	\$ 3,181,666							\$ 3,181,666
DM	\$ 710,572							\$ 710,572
UMM	\$ -							\$ -
StCCM				\$ 303,160				\$ 303,160
Episcopal Fund		\$ 4,007,889						\$ 4,007,889
Africa University			\$ 2,224,337					\$ 2,224,337
Total U.S. Funds Spent in Central Conferences	\$ 16,419,462	\$ 4,007,889	\$ 2,224,337	\$ 909,333	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23,561,021
Total Apportionments Received	\$ 71,226,535	\$ 21,490,920	\$ 2,224,337	\$ 8,416,763	\$ 17,997,741	\$ 9,631,502	\$ 1,871,300	\$ 132,859,100
Percent of Apportionments Received	23.1%	18.6%	100.0%	10.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	17.7%

Chart 2

General Conference Costs for Central Conference Delegates - 2017-2020 Quadrennium									
	2019 SPECIAL SESSION				Grand Totals by Central Conference				
	Africa	The Philippines	Europe	Sub-Total	Africa	The Philippines	Europe	Grand Totals	
Travel-GC Commission	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 120,366	\$ 22,514	\$ 17,319	\$ 160,199	
Total Office of the Treasurer Expenses	\$ 3,521	\$ 677	\$ 542	\$ 4,740	\$ 9,906	\$ 1,872	\$ 1,460	\$ 13,238	
Delegate-Insurance	\$ 3,714	\$ 714	\$ 571	\$ 5,000	\$ 14,985	\$ 2,822	\$ 2,193	\$ 20,000	
Print'g Daily Christian Advoc/ General BOD	\$ 52,662	\$ 10,127	\$ 8,102	\$ 70,891	\$ 125,548	\$ 23,761	\$ 18,589	\$ 167,898	
ADCA/DCA Translations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 490,021	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 490,021	
Onsite Facilities-Rental Eqpt-Interpretation	\$ 22,569	\$ 4,340	\$ 3,472	\$ 30,382	\$ 22,569	\$ 4,340	\$ 3,472	\$ 30,382	
Interpreters' Consulting Fees	\$ 137,726	\$ 26,486	\$ 21,189	\$ 185,400	\$ 937,040	\$ 180,200	\$ 144,160	\$ 1,261,400	
Interpreters-Interpreter/Translation Exp	\$ 225,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 225,000	\$ 225,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 225,000	
Interpreters' Travel Expenses	\$ 22,145	\$ 4,259	\$ 3,407	\$ 29,810	\$ 311,859	\$ 59,973	\$ 47,978	\$ 419,810	
Interpreters-Meals/Lodging	\$ 44,415	\$ 8,541	\$ 6,833	\$ 59,790	\$ 44,415	\$ 8,541	\$ 6,833	\$ 59,790	
Travel (Central Conference)	\$ 936,743	\$ 180,143	\$ 144,114	\$ 1,261,000	\$ 1,897,109	\$ 364,829	\$ 291,863	\$ 2,553,800	
Travel Per Diem	\$ 197,106	\$ 37,905	\$ 30,324	\$ 265,336	\$ 682,271	\$ 131,206	\$ 104,965	\$ 918,442	
Totals	\$ 1,645,602	\$ 273,193	\$ 218,554	\$ 2,137,348	\$ 4,881,090	\$ 800,058	\$ 638,833	\$ 6,319,981	

Chart 3