

# OUR SHARED MINISTRIES

Understanding the 2019 Shared Ministries of the Northwest  
Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church



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## A Guide to Our Connectional Ministries. . .



<sup>8</sup> And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.

(2 Corinthians 9:8)

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## Mission Statement

Our mission is to *Inspire and empower creative ministries through innovative leadership to make new and deeply rooted disciples of Jesus Christ.*

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

## What is connectionalism?

One word unique and basic to United Methodism is “connectionalism.” That means simply that all United Methodist leaders and congregations are connected by certain loyalties and commitments that call us to live in covenantal accountability and empower us to be in ministry around the world.

The United Methodist Church, which began as a movement and a loose network of local societies with a mission, grew into one of the most carefully organized and largest denominations in the world. The United Methodist structure and organization was designed to accomplish John Wesley’s goal of spreading “Scriptural holiness” over the land.

United Methodists may be amazed at the many organizational layers of church life, but members of other denominations have been heard to say: “If you want something done, get the United Methodists to do it.” Followers of the Wesleys are indeed “methodical” about their approach to mission and ministry.

One reason United Methodists can do great things is the church’s emphasis on “connectionalism.” Sometimes United Methodist leaders speak of the denomination as “the connection.” This concept has been central to Methodism from its beginning.

No local church is the total body of Christ. Therefore, local United Methodist congregations are bound together by a common task and common governance that reach out into the world. United Methodist churches and organizations join in ministry with each other and with other denominations.

Connectionalism comes to life through the clergy appointment system, through the outreach United Methodists do together and through giving.

An example of connectional is Africa University, founded by The United Methodist Church in 1992 and already changing the face of the continent. No one congregation could have developed the university, but together we make a tremendous difference!

## What is an Apportionment?

It is a congregation’s “fair share” of the connectional church’s budget for missional ministry. In Northwest Texas we refer to these as our Shared Ministries.

### How do Shared Ministries get divided?

In short, each church's share of the Conference Budget, i.e. its Shared Ministries, is proportional to that church's operating, programming and compensation costs to the total of those same costs for all the churches in the Conference. This calculation is referred to as "The Decimal." Specifically, the decimal is determined by dividing each church's total for Current Program Expense, Other Operating Expense, and all Staff Compensation as submitted on Table II of the statistical reports for the three most recent years available, by the corresponding amounts for all the churches in the Conference. (See Council on Finance and Administration Policies, Item E.1&2 page 121 in the 2018 Conference Journal.)

### Who approves the budget?

The budget is approved by Annual Conference, which is composed of all clergy, diaconal ministers, other designated lay members, and at least one lay member from every local church in the Northwest Texas Conference. The 2019 budget was approved at the 109th Session of the Annual Conference in Amarillo, Texas in June 2018.

### How are Shared Ministries collected allocated to the various ministries?

In 2017, in conjunction with the adoption of the Strategic Plan, the budget and, by extension, the means of apportioning and collecting Shared Ministries needed to be re-aligned to match that Strategic Plan. To do so, the traditional 25+/- funds by which Shared Ministries were collected had to be re-aligned into six broader categories, i.e. **Ministry Support & Leadership, District Ministry and Services, Clergy Care & Services, Strategic Priorities, Conference Ministries and Beyond Conference Ministries**. The Council on Finance and Administration and the Conference Leadership Team viewed this as the best method to focus on our strategies and mission and allow for flexibility as our ministries and strategies evolved.

As further explained in the following pages, each of the six ministry categories incorporates the work – and budget – of various boards, committees and task forces that may change from time-to-time.

For Shared Ministries that are retained and used by the Annual Conference, there is no need to allocate Shared Ministries to a particular group, committee or board. Rather, each group is constrained by their expense budget. As noted, this allows for some flexibility in funding as new or expanded ministries arise that were not contemplated at the time the Shared Ministries budget was developed a year or eighteen months prior.

For Shared Ministries that are remitted to other entities (e.g. Wesley Foundations, camps, denominational and jurisdictional apportionments), these are allocated on the basis of that entity's or ministry's expense budget to the total of the budgeted expenses in that ministry category. For example, if Ministerial Education, a denominational apportionment, makes up 21% of the Strategic Priorities expense budget, then 21% of the Shared Ministries collected for Strategic Priorities is remitted to the General Council on Finance and Administration, designated for Ministerial Education.

# 2019 SHARED MINISTRIES BUDGET

## HIGHLIGHTS

The Northwest Texas Conference Council on Finance and Administration is excited to propose a plan for **funding ministry** in and beyond the Conference for 2019.

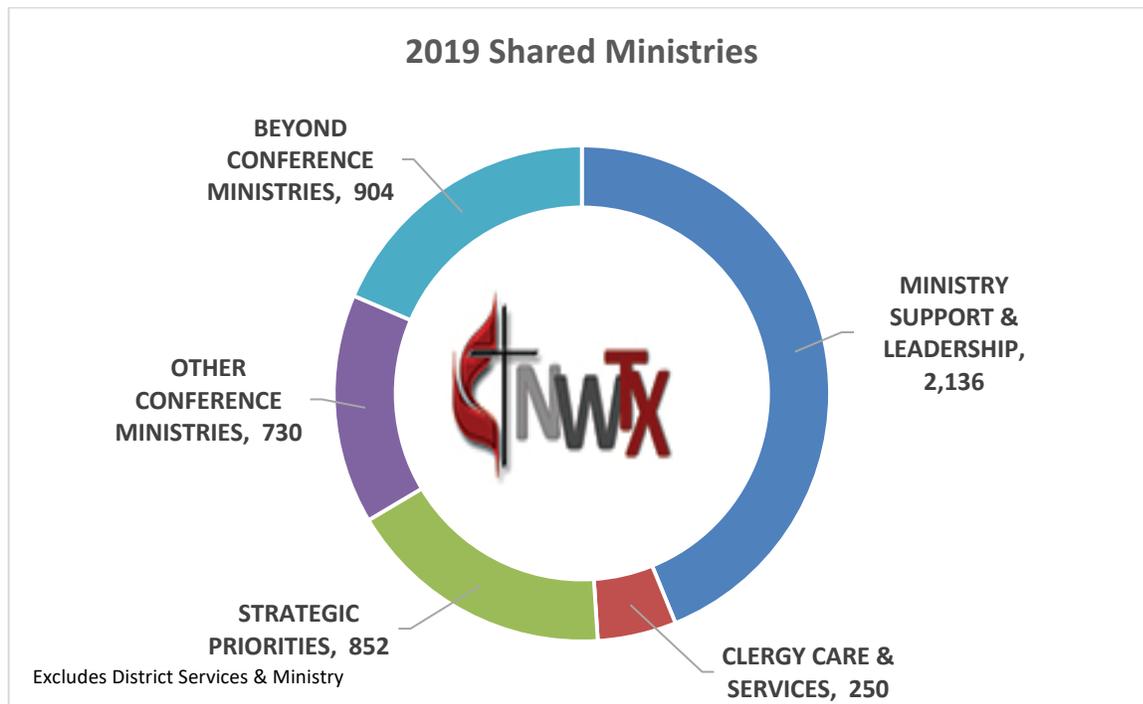
(000)	2017	2018	2019
<b>Ministry Support &amp; Leadership</b>	\$2,087	\$2,165	\$2,136
Clergy Care & Services	900	550	250
<b>Strategic Priorities</b>	890	925	852
Conference Ministries	867	834	730
<b>Beyond Conference Ministries</b>	884	906	904
<b>Total</b>	\$5,628	\$5,380	\$4,872

Excludes District Services and Ministries.

**This Budget of \$4.9 million (excluding District Ministry and Services) is \$500 thousand lower than last year's budget and \$2.0 MILLION LOWER than just seven years ago.**

As more fully explained in the sections that follow, **this budget challenges us to carefully and intelligently use the resources with which God has entrusted us to undertake the ministries to which God has called us.** As you will see, the 2019 Shared Ministry Plan has been constructed to allow for flexibility such that we can align our Conference Ministries with the strategic plan to be presented to the Annual Conference while fulfilling our commitments to the connectional structure and our retirees.

## OUR PLAN FOR 2019



As depicted above, approximately 45% of our Shared Ministries are spent on leadership of and support to the two-hundred-plus churches of the Northwest Texas Conference as well as in The United Methodist Connection. Another 5% (down from 20%+ a few years ago) provides support and services for our retirees and their families.

Approximately 15% of our Shared Ministries budgets goes to support Conference ministries such as our camps and our campus ministries. Furthermore, 19% of our Shared Ministries are sent beyond to physical boundaries of the Conference to support denominational initiatives like missionaries, United Methodist colleges and universities around the world, and other missional programs.

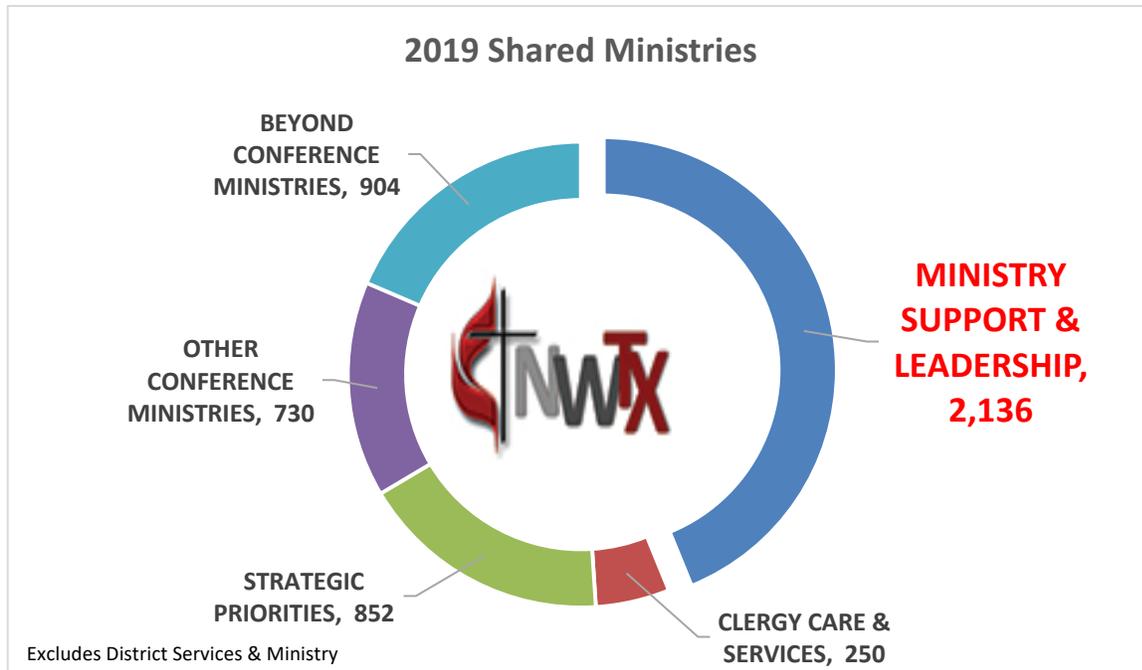
While all of our budget is spent directly or indirectly on ministry, we have identified five (5) strategic initiatives or priorities that we will concentrate on between now and 2022. These Strategic Priorities are new or revised and/or enhanced initiatives that will help move the Northwest Texas Conference toward its God-given mission. Strategic priorities require a commitment of Conference resources, including time and energy of the Conference leadership – staff, volunteers and communication. Many of these priorities will also require the commitment of financial resources. Therefore, the 2019 Shared Ministries budget allocates approximately 16% of our resources just to these five priorities:

- **Equip pastoral leaders** primarily through peer groups and other means to promote spiritual and leadership transformation.
- **Launch new churches and new worship communities** via church plants or new worship communities within existing congregations.
- **Inspire revitalization and innovation**, i.e. promoting new ideas for how to do ministry and the ways in which those ideas are made available to congregational leaders.
- **Expand Hispanic/Latino ministry** by supporting current programs plus adding new efforts to reach second, third and fourth-generation Hispanic/Latino people.
- **Grow the pipeline for future leaders** through a more sustainable process for bringing new ministry leaders to NWTX and to encourage churches to develop creative ministry roles for those leaders.

## A Closer Look

### Ministry Support and Leadership – 2019 Budget = \$2.136 million

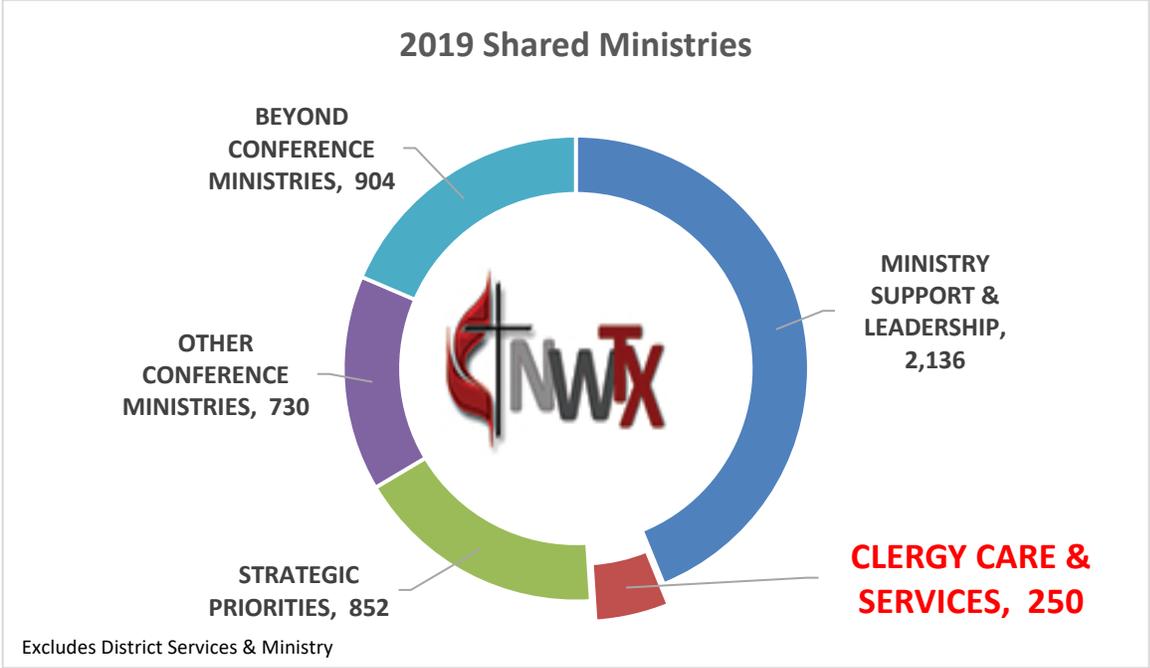
Funding for four District Superintendents - salary, travel, pension and benefits – who serve the Northwest Texas Conference as points of connection among the local churches, the district, and the annual conference is 35.6% of this budget category.



The remainder of the budget (\$1.3 million) provides for Episcopal leadership (10.9%) and leadership development through the Conference Service Center (53.5%).

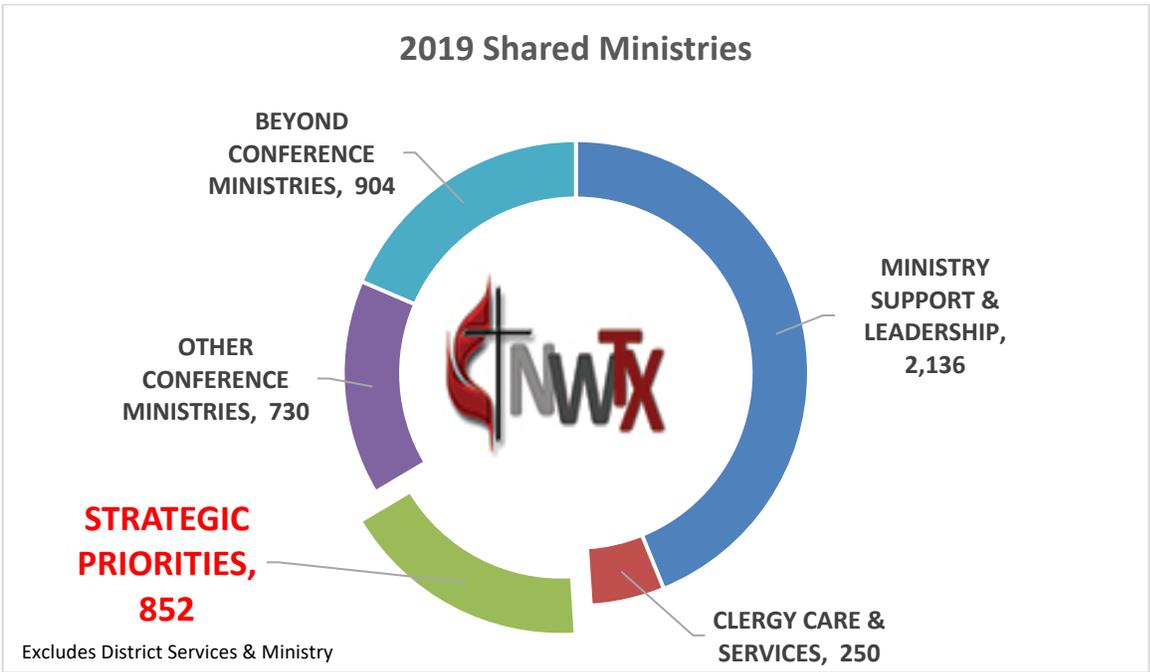
**Clergy Care and Benefits – 2019 Budget = \$250 thousand**

We provide these benefits out of love and respect, caring for those who cared for us.



More than twice this amount but, due to prudent investments and responsible stewardship, Shared Ministry funding necessary to assure these benefits is approximately a quarter of that amount, a decline of \$1.3 million since 2011.

**Strategic Priorities – 2019 Budget = \$852 thousand**



As noted, the NWTX Conference adopted a Strategic Plan in 2017 that established ministry priorities and goals through 2022. These priorities are:

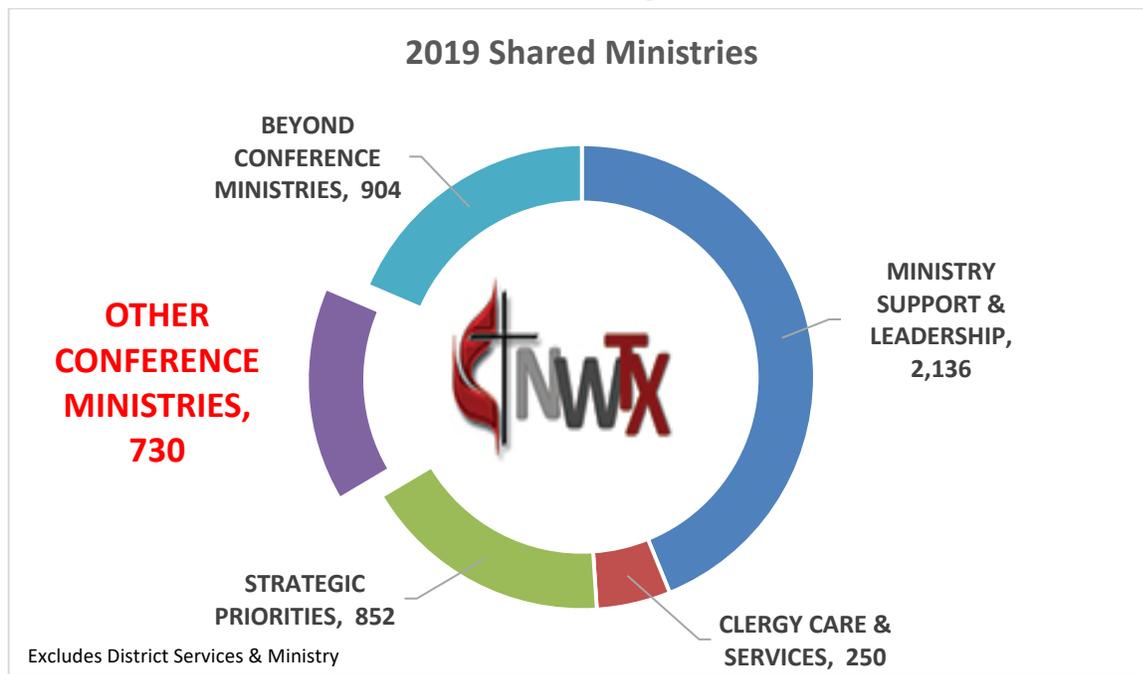
- **Equip pastoral leaders** primarily through peer groups and other means to promote spiritual and leadership transformation.
- **Launch new churches and new worship communities** via church plants or new worship communities within existing congregations.
- **Inspire revitalization and innovation**, i.e. promoting new ideas for how to do ministry and the ways in which those ideas are made available to congregational leaders.
- **Expand Hispanic/Latino ministry** by supporting current programs plus adding new efforts to reach second, third and fourth-generation Hispanic/Latino people.
- **Grow the pipeline for future leaders** through a more sustainable process for bringing new ministry leaders to NWTX and to encourage churches to develop creative ministry roles for those leaders.

In some cases, the Conference already had funding streams in place for these areas of focus. For example, Equitable Compensation funding, a disciplinary-required commission is now included in the priority of equipping pastoral leaders (5.4% of Strategic Priorities). Likewise, Hispanic and Latino ministries were funded in prior years’ budgets (9.8% of the 2019 budget). Launching new churches and new worship communities contains the previous church development initiatives of Path1 (now 30.5% of the 2019 Strategic Priorities budget). Under growing the pipeline for future leaders were historic funding streams for ministerial education (21.2%), clergy excellence (Board of Ministry) – 2.7%, the new clergy initiative (1.8%) and funding for scholarships through the Texas United Methodist College Association (TUMCA) – 15.9%.

The funding for these revitalized ministries comprises approximately 87% of the Shared Ministries budget

The remaining budget consists of new programming for leadership development (0.6%), innovation and revitalization (1.3%) and the leadership pipeline (10.8%). Programming and structure are being developed for these new areas.

## Other Conference Ministries – 2019 Budget = \$730 thousand



These ministries can be categorized into three important groupings:

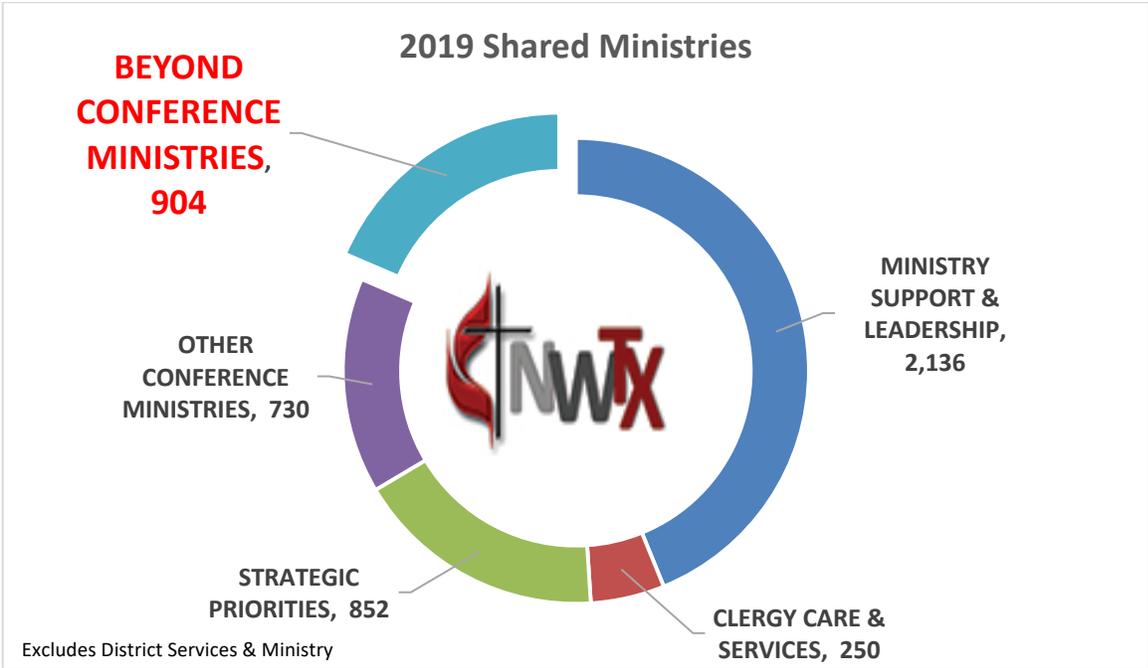
- Camping ministries – 29.7%
- Campus ministries – 53.3%
- Regional ministries – 17.0%

Camping ministries fund our Conference youth camping program and help support our two Conference camp sites, Ceta Canyon Camp and Retreat Center and Butman Methodist Camp. Campus ministries, as the name implies, help support our Wesley Foundations at South Plains College, Texas Tech University and West Texas A&M University as well as Christian campus ministries at McMurry University. Together, camping and campus ministries make up 83% of the Other Conference Ministries Shared Ministries.

The remaining 17% of this portion of the budget provides support for regional ministries in Amarillo (Wesley Community Center), Hereford (King's Manor Retirement System), and Lubbock (Spiritual Care at Covenant Hospital).

While not included in our "Strategic Priorities," these ministries are essential and strategic and represent many of the core values of the people called United Methodists in the Northwest Texas Conference.

**Beyond Conference Ministries – 2019 Budget = \$904 thousand**



Ministries resourced by this portion of our Shared Ministries budget are mostly located beyond the geographic borders of the NWTX Conference, yet the impact of these ministries occurs locally as well as around the world.

A large part of our Beyond Conference Ministries goes to supporting Christian education here and around the world.

- Through the denomination we and the other 8 million United Methodists in the United States support historically **black colleges** (9.9% of Beyond Conference Ministries).
- On the continent of Africa, **Africa University** in Zimbabwe (2.2% of Beyond Conference Ministries) is helping students become leaders in African government, agriculture, education, business, medicine and the church.
- The **Lydia Patterson Institute** (2.8% of Beyond Conference Ministries) is an accredited high school with a reputation for providing an excellent education for the whole person—intellectual, physical, moral, and spiritual. LPI is located in El Paso and is ministry of the South Central Jurisdiction with a mission directed toward the Hispanic people in a cross-cultural, bilingual learning situation.

Another part of our Methodist heritage that we are carrying forward into the twenty-first century is the work of the **World Service Fund** (72.9% of the Beyond Conference Ministries budget). Through our support we join with other United Methodist churches in undergirding a network of over 300 missionaries and others who serve in the name of Christ and The United Methodist Church in over 60 countries around the world. Our Shared Ministries contributed here help strengthen evangelism efforts, stimulate church growth, expand Bible studies, nurture spiritual development plus support and enrich local congregational life with worship, retreat and camping resources, leader training and stewardship development work. The general church also provides resources for our work with children, youth, singles, students, persons who are mentally and physically challenged, adults and older persons.

Furthermore, we continue a proud history of **interdenominational and ecumenical** work (1.9%). Your gifts help assure United Methodists speak and work to help build a more ethical, just and humane world. Through these Shared Ministries we can express our commitment to God's reign through ministries of peace and justice, and efforts to build a church and a society truly inclusive of all persons regardless of race, ethnicity, gender or handicapping condition.

## ***These are your Shared Ministries***

Through our Shared Ministries we are **feeding hungry mouths and filling hungry minds**. We are **rebuilding broken walls and reviving broken souls**. We are **raising up tomorrow's church leaders and tearing down cultural barriers**. **These are ministries that no one congregation could accomplish alone**. That's the strength of our Conference and the mission of our calling.

*Together, we can... inspire and empower creative ministries through innovative leadership to make new and deeply rooted disciples of Jesus Christ.*

# 2019 BUDGET ALIGNMENT WITH OUR STRATEGIC PLAN

## ***Background and Rationale***

At the June 2017 session of Annual Conference, a Strategic Plan was adopted that had five (5) major strategic priorities for the next five years:

1. Leadership Development
2. New Worship Communities
3. Innovation & Revitalization
4. Hispanic/Latino Ministries
5. Future Leadership Pipeline

Since the Annual Conference had adopted its Shared Ministries Budget for 2017 in June 2016 and the Shared Ministries Budget for 2018 was prepared using the historical breakout of the budget across 25 different ministries/funds, the 2017 and 2018 Shared Ministries budgets did not align clearly and completely with the strategic priorities listed above.

Therefore, the Annual Conference authorized the Conference Leadership Team (CLT) in conjunction with the Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CF&A) to devise a plan and a methodology to align the “old” budget (containing the 25 different ministry funds) into a system of funding ministry that provides flexibility for funding the strategic priorities as well as simplifies the number of funding categories.

Furthermore, it was recognized that there are components of the annual Shared Ministries budget which are explicitly required by The Book of Discipline (BOD) or are fixed and do not change in the short-run and, therefore, fall outside of these priorities. These ministries fall into five (5) broad categories:

1. Ministry Support & Leadership (District Superintendents and Conference Service Center staff and services)
2. District Ministries & Services (ministries specific to a given district plus office expense and support)
3. Clergy Care & Benefit Services (post-retirement benefits – medical and pension – and the administration thereof)
4. Other Conference Ministries (primarily camping and campus ministries)
5. Beyond Conference Ministries (connectional ministries apportioned by the General Church and the South Central Jurisdiction)

Within all of these broad categories – both strategic priorities and other – there are individual ministries that fall under the auspices of auxiliary boards and agencies (e.g. camps, Wesley Foundations) that are remitted to them on a dollar-received-dollar-paid basis each month. The same is true of General Church and Jurisdictional Apportionment ministries (e.g. World Service Fund, Lydia Patterson Institute). Therefore, guidelines and methods were developed to objectively allocate ministry funding between those funds that will be retained by the Annual Conference, and those that must be remitted to third parties to fund our connectional ministries.

For 2019 and thereafter the Conference will budget the ministry expenses of the Annual Conference in discreet and somewhat historical buckets of costs (e.g. Board of Ordained Ministry, Commission on Equitable Compensation, Communications Department, etc.). However, those cost buckets will then be organized and funded using the six (6) broader categories of ministry, i.e.

- 1) Ministry Support & Leadership,

- 2) District Ministries & Services,
- 3) Clergy Care & Benefit Services,
- 4) Strategic Priorities,
- 5) Other Conference Ministries, and
- 6) Beyond Conference Ministries.

The Shared Ministries (funding) budget will contain only these six categories and will be apportioned to the churches in the Conference accordingly.

### ***Methodology and Process***

For Shared Ministries retained by the Annual Conference, no allocation is necessary. Funds collected will be reported in one of the six (6) broad ministry categories and used to fund the individual ministries (cost buckets) that fall within the purview of that category.

In 2019 and thereafter, the proportion of Shared Ministries receipts that must be allocated in order to determine funds to be paid to a 3rd party, such allocation will be calculated as follows:

- (a) Within each ministry category the Shared Ministries expense budget/cost centers will be designated as either retained by the Conference or remitted to a 3rd party.
- (b) The proportion of the expense budget designated as remitted to 3rd parties to the total Shared Ministries expense budget for that ministry category will be used to determine the amount of Shared Ministries receipts/remittances allocated to Shared Ministries remitted to the 3rd parties.

Churches are encouraged to pay 100% of their Shared Ministries. However, if churches remit Shared Ministries with explicit instructions for funding then the Treasurer's office will honor those donor designations/restrictions.

			2019		
			Expense Budget	% of Ministry Category	Shared Ministries Budget
<b>MINISTRY SUPPORT &amp; LEADERSHIP</b>					
	District Superintendents		640,294	35.6%	
	Conference Service Center		962,594	53.5%	
	Episcopal Leadership		195,085	10.9%	
	<b>Total Ministry Support &amp; Leadership</b>		<b>1,797,972</b>		<b>2,135,500</b>
<b>DISTRICT SERVICES &amp; MINISTRY</b>					
<b>CLERGY CARE &amp; SERVICES</b>			<b>358,900</b>		<b>250,000</b>
<b>STRATEGIC PRIORITIES</b>					
	Leadership Development				
	Leadership Development		5,000	0.6%	
	Equitable Compensation		42,000	5.4%	
			47,000		
	New Worship Communities		239,575		
	Innovation & Revitalization		10,000	1.3%	
	Hispanic Ministries		76,700	9.8%	
	Ministerial Pipeline				
	Leadership Pipeline		85,000	10.8%	
	Ministerial Education		166,355	21.2%	
	Board of Ministry		21,100	2.7%	
	New Clergy Initiative		14,000	1.8%	
	Texas UM College Assoc. Scholars		125,000	15.9%	
			411,455		
	<b>Total Strategic Priorities</b>		<b>784,730</b>		<b>851,600</b>
<b>OTHER CONFERENCE MINISTRIES</b>					
	Conference Ministries		42,948	5.9%	
	Camping & Youth Ministries		213,000	29.2%	
	Campus Ministries		389,452	53.3%	
	Chaplaincy		20,010	2.7%	
	Homes for the Aging		31,349	4.3%	
	Wesley Community Center		33,350	4.6%	
	<b>Total Other Conference Ministries</b>		<b>730,109</b>		<b>730,100</b>
<b>BEYOND CONFERENCE MINISTRIES</b>					
	World Service		658,758	72.9%	
	Africa University		19,862	2.2%	
	Black College		88,752	9.8%	
	General Administration		78,222	8.7%	
	Inter-denominational Cooperation		17,401	1.9%	
	Lydia Patterson Institute		25,451	2.8%	
	Mission & Administration		15,682	1.7%	
	<b>Total Beyond Conference Ministries</b>		<b>904,128</b>		<b>904,200</b>
<b>TOTAL SHARED MINISTRIES</b>			<b>4,575,839</b>		<b>4,871,400</b>

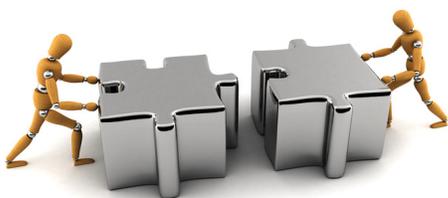
# SHARED MINISTRIES DESCRIPTIONS

## Ministry Support & Leadership

### District Superintendents

Four District Superintendents serve the Northwest Texas Conference by acting as points of connection among the local churches, the district, and the annual conference.

This fund provides funding for their salary, travel, continuing education, insurance, pension, and moving expenses.



### Conference Services

Coordinated through the Conference Service Center, this Shared Ministry category provides ministry resources and coordinates support for local churches.

As the only source of funding for the basic services and support offered by the Annual Conference, it covers expenses of the Conference Service Center office as well as the Conference staff.

“You may be a church of 14 members or a church of 5,000 members, but your Conference Center is a personal treasure eager to serve your church. Regardless of your size or your need for resources or assistance, the staff of our Conference Center is there to assist you with audio-visual resources, information about our Conference Camps, leadership training courses that are available, information about scholarships and loans for those seeking higher education, information about insurance and pensions, and consultants to help you in your local church. Our Conference Center staff is an ‘equal access’ center equipped to serve

you as you go about the ministry to which God has called you.” (Rev. Ava Berry, former Director of Missions and Administration)

For more information visit the Conference website at [www.nwtxconf.org](http://www.nwtxconf.org)



### Episcopal Leadership

Bishops have a very special role as they are elected and consecrated to speak to the church and from the church into the world. Bishops are called by God from many settings and bring to the church "..varieties of gifts... the same Spirit...varieties of service...varieties of activities...the same God" (1Corinthians 12:4-6, NRSV). Their role is both practical and visionary since bishops oversee and promote the church's spiritual and temporal interests.

#### Reasons to Give:

Why give to the Episcopal Fund? Bishops oversee the United Methodist faith community. Their guidance depends on our financial support. The fund supports the office operations, travel salaries, health insurance, pensions and other expenses of the bishops' office. The fund supports 69 active bishops and approximately 125 retired bishops and surviving spouses in the five U.S. Jurisdictions and the Central Conferences (Europe, Africa and the Philippines).

The bishops in The United Methodist Church oversee and are responsible for the congregations in their respective episcopal areas. Bishops determine pastoral appointments. Bishops counsel with pastors, encourage congregations and lead in many ways. Supported by your gifts to the Episcopal Fund, bishops not only lead in the connectional ministry of the church, but you will also find them on the forefront of world

issues encourage secular leaders to incorporate faith in their decision making. For more information go to <http://www.umcgiving.org/ministry-articles/the-episcopal-fund>

## **District Ministries and Services**

(Not Included in Shared Ministries Totals)

This apportionment is based on the district budget approved annually at each District Conference.

The District Service and Ministry budget for each district is apportioned only to the churches in that district.

The District Service and Ministry Fund is used in four ways:

**District Administration:** Includes the cost of operating the District Office and expenses including the ministry assistant's salary, office rent, utilities, and office supplies.

**District Ministry Team:** Involves the program of the District Ministry Team,

along with other events and projects of the district in regard to programming.

**District Parsonage:** Covers the expenses for everything related to the District Parsonage, including utilities, insurance, and maintenance.

**District Committee on Ordained Ministry:** Helps underwrite the district's participation in the Ministerial Development Program, a joint effort of the Cabinet, Board of Ordained Ministry, and Covenant Chaplaincy Department intended for personal and professional development of clergy.

For more information see:

<http://www.abilenedistrict.com/site/>

<http://www.amarillodistrict.org/>

<http://www.bigspringdistrictumc.com/>

<http://www.lubdistumc.com/>

## Clergy Care & Benefits Services

### **Clergy Benefits**

This apportioned item provides funding for pension obligations for those retired ministers with years of service prior to 1982. It also pays for Retiree benefits such as moving expenses upon retirement and travel expenses to Annual Conference and for the administrative expenses of the Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits.

This fund also supplements the health insurance costs for retired pastors, retired spouses, surviving spouses, students appointed to attend school, persons on incapacity leave and Conference evangelists. For more information, please refer to the Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits report in the 2018 Conference Journal (pp 130-141).



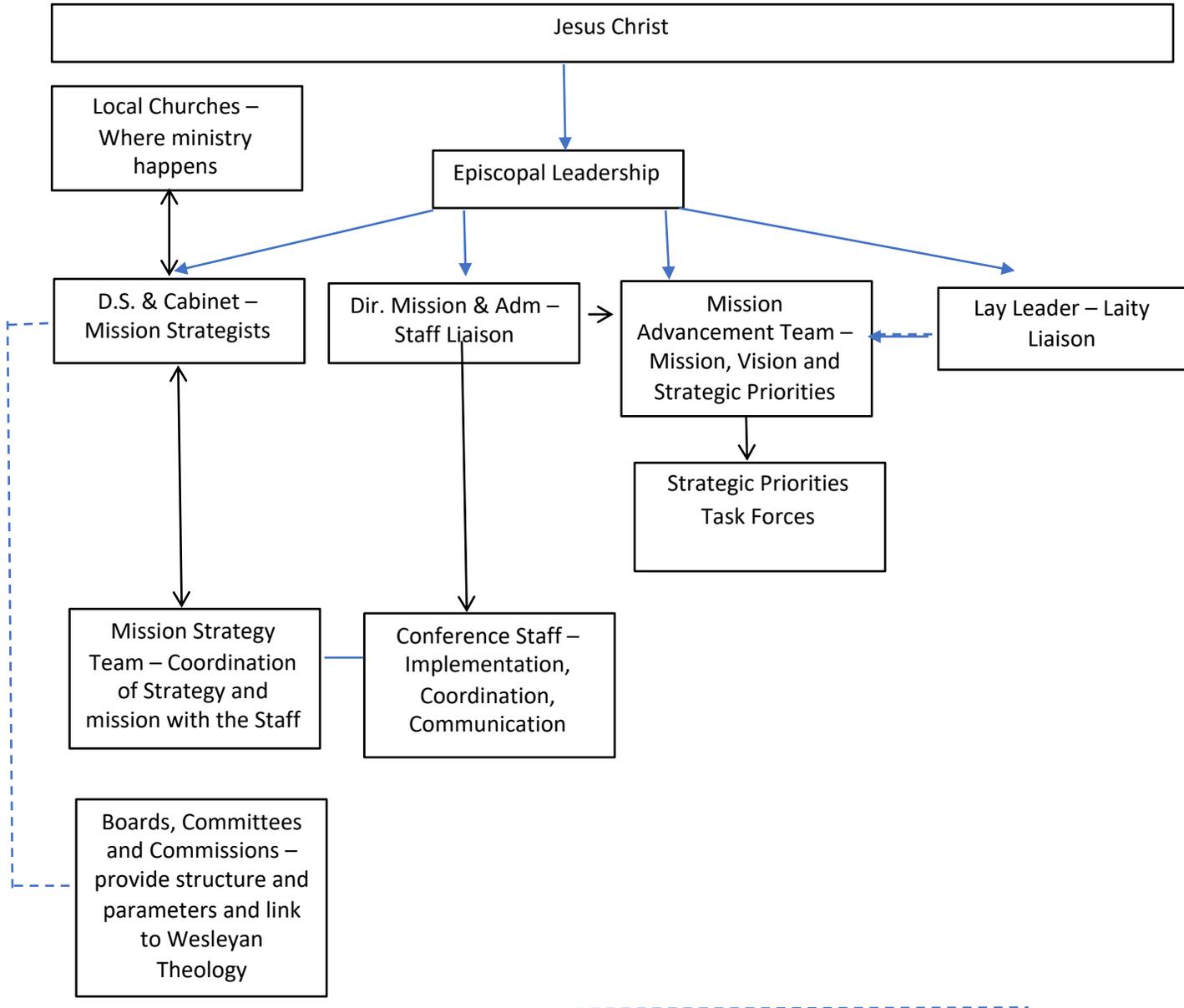
## Strategic Priorities

Strategic priorities are a limited number of new or revised/enhanced initiatives that will best move NWTX toward its mission. Strategic priorities require a commitment of conference resources, which can include funds, time and energy by conference leadership, staff (hiring or redirecting staff), volunteers, and communications. The strategic planning team identified five strategic priorities for NWTX. In selecting these priorities, the team did not suggest that NWTX should abandon all of its other programming but is simply identifying the areas where focused energy can produce the greatest benefits.

- **Equip pastoral leaders.** Pastors are a key point of leverage for congregational health and growth. Peer groups for pastoral leaders are the best means to promote spiritual and leadership transformation. The objective is to develop pastoral and lay leadership in local congregations that is more energized, innovative, and resilient.
- **Launch new churches and new worship communities.** Creating new communities for faith development and worship is one of the most effective ways to make new disciples. This can be a church plant or a new worship community within an existing congregation that is intentionally designed to reach a different segment of the population.
- **Inspire revitalization and innovation.** Innovation is necessary for the revitalization of individual churches within NWTX. This can encompass many aspects of congregational ministry, including worship, discipleship, children's and youth ministry, and outreach. Innovation can encourage and equip lay and clergy leadership. These efforts should include new ideas for how to do ministry and the ways in which those ideas are made available to congregational leaders.
- **Expand Hispanic/Latino ministry.** Given the large and growing portion of the population in NWTX's geographic area that is Hispanic, the conference should accelerate the growth of this ministry. This includes support for current programs plus new efforts to reach second, third, and fourth-generation Hispanics (who are often English-speakers) and to partner with existing congregations.
- **Grow the pipeline for future leaders.** Due to NWTX's aging clergy population and concerns about a future "clergy shortage," this priority emphasizes clergy recruitment, college ministry, and creative pathways into vocational ministry. In each area, expanded support is needed both to build a more sustainable process for bringing new ministry leaders to NWTX and to encourage churches to develop creative ministry roles for them to fill.

These priorities are being developed by teams dedicated to adding greater specificity to the means and goals and then launching them. Often, the structure needed for that implementation, execution and outcome measurement does not fully exist and will have to be developed or adapted from already existing teams, boards and councils. The following structure will be proposed to the Annual Conference at its 2019 meeting in June:

# NWTX Functional Organizational Chart



In other cases, these priorities are already imbedded, at least partially, in existing ministries of the Conference. Those ministries and the structure necessary to execute those high-priority ministries are described in the pages that follow.

## Equitable Compensation Fund

This fund offers short-term grants for churches so that no full-time pastor will have to live below a minimal economic standard. The Commission on Equitable Compensation administers this fund and helps each church work toward becoming self-supporting.

## Clergy Excellence (Board of Ordained Ministry)



The Board of Ordained Ministry monitors the progress of those individuals entering and proceeding toward Conference relationship and ministry.

This fund provides for training sessions, Pastor's School, development of clergy mentors, and other related matters. Your gift to this fund helps ensure the integrity of the United Methodist ordination process and helps men and women fulfill their call to ministry.

## New Worship Communities

Your giving to Congregational Excellence is used to revitalize existing churches and begin new mission and ministry opportunities.

New faith communities model the way the church grew both in New Testament times and in the early Wesleyan movement. Funds are used for training and for matching grants to churches that choose to undertake this challenge.

In addition funds are used for new church pastor support, grants to churches and districts for strategic growth, demographic research, workshops which develop leadership, and administrative costs.



## Cultural & Ethnic Ministries

The Hispanic/Latino population is the fastest growing segment of the population in the United States, and Northwest Texas is no exception. Your Shared Ministries support leadership training and development, and cultural and ethnic ministry programming in the Conference.

## Ministerial Education (MEF)



The Ministerial Education Fund provides educational support for clergy through funding for theological schools, recruitment, professional development and continuing education.

### United Methodist Seminaries:

Boston School of Theology, Boston, MA  
Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, GA  
Claremont School of Theology, Claremont, CA  
Drew University, The Theological School, Madison, NJ  
Duke University, The Divinity School, Durham, NC  
Gammon Theological Seminary, Atlanta, GA

Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary,  
Evanston,  
Iliff School of Theology, Denver, CO  
Methodist Theological School in Ohio,  
Delaware, OH  
Perkins School of Theology, Southern  
Methodist University, Dallas, TX  
Saint Paul School of Theology, Leawood, KS  
United Theological Seminary, Dayton, OH  
Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington,  
DC

Seventy-five percent of this fund goes to the denomination and the remainder is retained by the Conference.

Of the 75% of the funds earmarked for the United Methodist Seminaries,

- 40 percent is divided among the seminaries based on the number of United Methodist students enrolled in candidacy for ordination and the number of graduates ordained after completing seminary.
- 25 percent is distributed among the seminaries for basic support.
- 3.5 percent, based on the number of United Methodist faculty and senior administrators;
- 3.5 percent, based on gender and ethnic inclusiveness of faculty, administrators and students; and
- 3 percent for grants to be used in programs of spiritual formation, continuing education and other theological education initiatives.

This ministry was featured in the 2011 Shared Ministries video. You can view this on the Conference website or request a copy of the DVD through the Area Resource Center or the Treasurer's office.

For more information go to

<http://www.umcsgiving.org/ministry-articles/the-ministerial-education-fund>



## Texas United Methodist College Association

TUMCA's mission statement – “Helping Texas United Methodist students attend Texas United Methodist colleges and universities” – reflects the strong commitment to faith-based Christian higher education. Through TUMCA, every United Methodist congregation in Texas has a unique opportunity to make a vital difference in the lives of students from our congregations.

For over 50 years, Methodist churches of Texas have been providing scholarships to deserving United Methodist students in our United Methodist colleges and universities in Texas.

Paying in full the TUMCA apportionment means that deserving United Methodist students for their academic accomplishments, life-skills training, and faith enrichment.

Conference funds go into a general pool and are allocated by formula to five United Methodist educational institutions. However, no funds go to bricks and mortar or for institutional administration.

## Other Conference Ministries

### Camps Operations and Programming



#### Butman Methodist Camp & Retreat Center



This fund is used to help underwrite the cost of the Conference camping program. The Conference has two facilities, Butman Methodist Camp and Retreat near Abilene and Ceta Canyon Camp and Retreat near Amarillo.

In addition to hosting the Conference camps, both facilities offer a complete retreat setting to serve spiritual, business, professional, and educational needs.

For more information visit

<http://www.butmancamp.org/facilities.htm>

<http://www.cetacanyon.org/>



### Chaplaincy Services Through Covenant Health System

The work of the Spiritual Care Department at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock and its satellite hospitals in West Texas is funded, in

part, by this fund. Your gifts help take the healing touch of Jesus Christ to persons during times of crisis. Clinical pastoral education, ministry development/support, and community education are also provided.

For more information go to

<http://www.covenanthealth.org/About-Us/Spiritual-Care.aspx>

### Conference Ministries

Your giving makes a difference in supporting local churches in making disciples for Jesus Christ through the services and ministries of the Conference Leadership Team (CLT) Among those programs included in the Conference Ministries are Conference youth ministries, Texas IMPACT, Religion and Race, and Higher Education and Ministry, Disaster Ministries, Womens' Ministries and Ethnic Scholarships.



### Homes for the Aging (King's Manor, Hereford)

This fund helps provides chaplaincy and other supporting services as well as support for the multi-generational/child care program for residents of King's Manor in Hereford.

This ministry was highlighted on the 2010 Shared Ministries DVD. This video is can be viewed on the Conference website or a copy of the DVD is available through the Area Resource Center or the Treasurer's office.



## **Wesley Community Center, Amarillo**

Wesley Community Center is located in the heart of the Hispanic Barrio at 1615 S. Roberts, Amarillo, TX 79102. Wesley's Mission is to serve as a neighborhood center where people come to learn, to play and to work together. Wesley Community Center strives to create an environment where positive self-worth can be realized. The Center seeks to maximize both individual potential and community empowerment through educational, recreational, and spiritual activities for children, youth, and adults of all races and faiths.

Wesley was established in 1951 by a group of women volunteers from Polk Street United Methodist Church. The original services provided to the community by Wesley included sewing classes, English as a Second Language classes, arts and crafts and athletic activities for youth, and day care.

To learn more visit their website:  
<http://www.wesleyamarillo.org/>

## **Wesley Foundation and Campus Ministries**



Your giving makes possible Christian outreach to students through campus ministries at McMurry University in Abilene, and through the Wesley Foundations at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, South Plains College in Levelland, Texas Tech University in Lubbock, and West Texas A&M University in Canyon.

Contributions to this Shared Ministry help develop and nurture the future leaders of our church and nation by providing financing for programs, staff, administration, and building maintenance.

**“Through the Wesley, God has taught me about love. He has shown me what love really is.”**

**Student, SPC, Levelland**

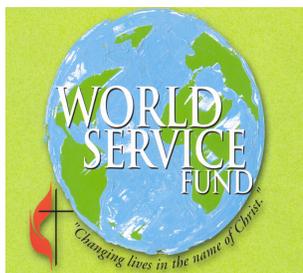
Please visit each or the Wesley Foundation websites to see what exciting things are happening:

<http://ttuwesley.org/>

<http://www.wtwesley.com/>

<http://ww2.mcm.edu>

## Beyond Conference Ministries



### **World Service Fund**

**Through this apportionment, United Methodist churches:**

- ✓ undergird a network of missionaries and others who serve in the name of Christ and The United Methodist Church around the world;
- ✓ certify United Methodist professional Christian educators, communicators and musicians; help build a more ethical, just and humane world;
- ✓ assure United Methodists speak and work to help build a more ethical, just and humane world;
- ✓ strengthen evangelism efforts, stimulate church growth, expand Bible studies and nurture spiritual development; continue a proud tradition of cooperation and dialogue with other faith traditions through interdenominational and ecumenical work;
- ✓ support specific local church work with children, youth, singles, students, persons who - are mentally and physically challenged, adults and older persons;
- ✓ give our denomination a presence in the mass media and make new communications technologies accessible to the church;
- ✓ enrich our congregational life with worship, retreat and camping resources, leader training and stewardship development;

- ✓ express our commitment to God's reign through ministries of peace and justice, and efforts to build a church and a society truly inclusive of all persons regardless of race, ethnicity, gender or handicapping condition.
- ✓ provide leadership and coordination for denominational ministry with youth;
- ✓ continue nearly 200 years of commitment to quality college and graduate education

To learn more follow this link:

<http://www.umcsgiving.org/ministry-articles/the-world-service-fund>



### **Africa University Fund**

Changing Africa: Learning Here. Staying Here. Leading Here.

Africa University is helping to meet Africa's vital needs:

- Sustainable Agriculture
- Disease prevention
- Peace
- Leadership and Governance
- Education
- Church growth and development
- Business management and administration
- Ethical leadership

We Are Africa University.

Africa University students are destined to change the world. Here are a few facts about the students and the university:

- Approximately 4,000 students have graduated from Africa University since it opened in the spring of 1994. The first graduation included 18 graduates in Agriculture and Natural Resources, and nine students in Theology
- Recognizing that by the turn of this century, fully one-fifth of the world's population will live in Africa, the University believes its purpose is to help African Christians train leaders for their churches and societies.
- Today Africa University has 1,500 students. These students choose one of six undergraduate or five postgraduate programs. The Management & Administration and Humanities & Social Sciences programs have the most students. Nearly 100 students are currently enrolled in the Health Sciences area. Africa University has 135 faculty members and, additionally, multiple permanent and visiting lecturers.
- Students come from 29 countries across the continent of Africa. The official language at Africa University is English, which is also the official language of Zimbabwe. On campus, you find similarities to the American university experience: dormitories, staff housing, a student health center, a student union, dining hall and educational buildings. Prominently placed on campus are the Jokomo/Yamada Library and the Kwang Lim Chapel. You would also find a building where students are enrolled in one of the university's newest programs of study, the Institute of Peace, Leadership and Governance program.

To learn even more please visit the following website:

<http://www.umcgiving.org/minist>

[ry-articles/the-africa-university-fund](#)



## Black College Fund

Following the Civil War, the former Methodist Episcopal Church organized the Freedmen's Aid Society to help educate Black people newly freed from slavery. Between 1866 and 1882, the society established more than 70 schools in the U.S. South and Southwest. Today, 11 colleges from that group—some created by mergers with other institutions—continue to educate people from all backgrounds.

The 1972 General Conference established the Black College Fund apportionment, which provides a constant reliable way to support United Methodist-related historically Black colleges' operations, programs and capital improvements. Today The United Methodist Church supports 11 historically Black colleges and universities, more than any other religious denominations.

The Black College Fund helps:

- Maintain solid, challenging academic programs; strong faculties; and well-equipped buildings.
- Create vibrant spiritual environments that encourage pride and self-esteem in the accomplishments of African Americans.
- Provide the opportunity for approximately 16,000 students to interact with academic staffs that serve as strong cultural and spiritual mentors.
- Prepare and educate people for the new global technological world---never veering from an academic excellence based on the Christian perspective of

community, service and social responsibility.

For more information please go to [gbhem.org](http://gbhem.org)

## General Administration Fund

Through the General Administration Fund, we . . .

- Implement a trustworthy system of administrative oversight and fiscal accountability.
- Underwrite the legislative work of the General Conference.
- Fund the work of the Judicial Council to adjudicate questions of church law.
- Maintain United Methodism’s official documents.

<http://www.umcsgiving.org/ministry-articles/the-general-administration-fund>

## Interdenominational Cooperation Fund



The Interdenominational Cooperation Fund supports United Methodist participation in the World and National councils of churches and the Consultation on Church Union. It also pays the travel expenses of United Methodist delegates to those bodies.

<http://www.umcsgiving.org/ministry-articles/the-interdenominational-cooperation-fund>



## Lydia Patterson Institute

An accredited high school with a reputation for providing an excellent education for the whole person—intellectual, physical, moral, and spiritual—LPI is an institution of the South Central Jurisdiction with a mission directed toward the Hispanic people in a cross-cultural, bilingual learning situation.

For over 100 years, Lydia Patterson Institute, or “La Lydia” as it is commonly known to its friends, has been dedicated to building bridges between two countries, two cities, and two cultures. As the only United Methodist institution on the border, it is committed to form bilingual and bicultural leaders for the church and society.

<http://www.lpi-elp.com/>

## Mission and Administration Fund

Takes care of operational administrative expenses—as well as the program and meeting costs of the South Central Jurisdictional Missions Council.

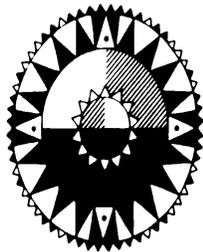
The expenses of Jurisdictional Conference and support of Volunteers in Mission and Korean Missions in the Jurisdiction are also covered by the money from this fund.

# GENERAL ADVANCE SPECIALS

The Advance for Christ (Advance Specials) gives churches and individuals the opportunity to support mission and relief ministries with voluntary gifts. Every dollar given to the Advance goes to the ministry designated by the donor. There are hundreds of ministries and missions that are supported through The Advance and a complete list can be found at [www.advanceinghope.org](http://www.advanceinghope.org). A catalog of Advance Specials, Strength in Numbers, is available through the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church. A brief sampling of some of the Advance Specials include:

## Four Corners Native American Ministry

This vital program supports a cooperative parish ministry in the states of New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah, sending the Gospel to our Native American people. Efforts to establish new Navajo churches in these areas, and to revitalize existing ones, carry benefits untold. The ministry is located in Shiprock NM.



## McCurdy School, Espanola, NM

McCurdy School is a project of the General Board of Global Ministries, The United Methodist Church. McCurdy School is located in Northern New Mexico, and serves students in grades K-12.

McCurdy provides “a quality education with a Christian emphasis” because of your gifts and prayers. Just as Jesus taught his disciples how to pray and minister to others, McCurdy teaches students in a setting with a spiritual emphasis.

## UMCOR



UMCOR is the humanitarian relief and development agency of the United Methodist Church. Compelled by Christ, UMCOR responds to natural or human-made disasters – those interruptions of such magnitude that they overwhelm a community’s ability to recover on its own.

Every time you give to a designated emergency or program 100% of your gift supports the intended need. UMCOR does not use any of your designated gifts for administrative or home office costs.

United Methodists support UMCOR's "costs of doing business" through the One Great Hour of Sharing offering and undesignated giving (UMCOR receives no apportionment or world service funds). This helps to keep administrative and fundraising costs low and allows UMCOR to focus on programs that help people in need in the US and around the world.

## Other Programs/Projects:

**Sager-Brown**  
**Imagine No Malaria**  
**Maua Service Fund**  
**Maua Hospital**  
**Domestic and International Disaster Relief**

# SPECIAL CONFERENCE FUNDS

Your gifts to Conference Special Offerings benefit many worthwhile organizations and causes. The Conference Specials change with the particular needs and missions within the Conference but a sampling of these ministries would include:

## **Area Methodist Outreach Service (AMOS)**

This volunteer cooperative agency responds to the physical and spiritual needs of persons in the Midland area. Your dollars lend vital badly needed support to this worthwhile outreach center in West Texas.

## **Hope Community of Shalom**

HOPE Community of Shalom is a multicultural coalition focused on the Heart of Lubbock that builds on the assets of the community and seeks to empower the people of the community.

This ministry was developed and is established within the framework of the United Methodist Church General Board of Global Ministries Shalom Communities movement and shares space with Asbury United Methodist Church in Lubbock.

<http://www.hopeshalom.org/>

## **Abilene Methodist Service Center & Food Pantries**

Jeannine stepped through the doors of the church, confident that she would be leaving with food. "I always pray to the Lord," she said, "and God always answers. That Tuesday evening, Jeannine said, she found the answer to her prayers at the United Methodist Food Pantries. "I prayed to the Lord because I didn't know how I was going to have any food to eat and share with my two sons," Jeannine said, "one who is disabled, and one who has just been laid off from his job." The Service Center portion of the ministry provides limited financial assistance for rent,

utilities, prescriptions and transportation, as funds are available.

In 2011, the staff and volunteers of this ministry were able, through donations of food, time and money, to feed 6,877 families in the Abilene area and offer 4,566 more with financial assistance.

## **Youth Service Fund**

A means of stewardship education and mission support by youth in The United Methodist Church. Youth raise funds at the local church level with 70 percent of funds remaining in the Annual Conference for the Conference Council on Youth Ministry to use in support of mission projects.

## **Methodist Children's Home, Waco**

The mission of the Methodist Children's Home is to express God's love by providing superior services that protect, support, and enhance the lives of children, youth and their families.

This non-profit childcare ministry is affiliated with the seven United Methodist Conferences in Texas and New Mexico. Funds donated to The Methodist Children's Home go toward residential care for elementary and high school students, for the Boys Ranch, and Foster Care, primarily for infants and toddlers.

<http://www.methodistchildrenshome.org>



## **Providence Place**

Methodist Family and Rehabilitation Services provides an environment where people can change their lives. We serve clients from all over the US in three main areas:

1. The Southwest Maternity Center – Works with adoptive couples and birth parents.
2. The Southwest Center for the Hearing-Impaired – Houses the hearing impaired while they receive the special training to live independently and to obtain employment.
3. The Southwest Center for Community Re-Entry – Helps persons who have suffered a traumatic brain injury and have finished the medical portion of their recovery, but still need assistance in cognitive retraining and living skills. Our goal is to help young people to become independent Christian adults and productive members of society.

<http://www.provplace.org/>

# SPECIAL SUNDAYS

Several Special Sundays throughout the year give us the opportunity to learn about important causes which The United Methodist Church supports. Offerings on these important days provide a tangible expression of the commitment we make for these worthwhile causes. More information on all of the Special Sundays can be found at [www.umcgiving.org](http://www.umcgiving.org).

## **Human Relations Day**

**January**

The Sunday before Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday observance, supports Community Developers, United Methodist Voluntary Services, and the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program.

## **Peace With Justice Sunday**

**May/June**

The first Sunday after Pentecost, supports peace with justice ministries through the General Board of Church and Society and the annual conference.

## **UMCOR Sunday (formerly One Great Hour of Sharing)**

**March/April**

The fourth Sunday in Lent, provides major support of the United Methodist Committee on Relief, which aids the alleviation of hunger, disaster relief, healthcare, and refugee ministries.

## **World Communion Sunday**

**October**

The first Sunday in October, supports Crusade Scholarships, the Ethnic Scholarship Program, and the Ethnic In-Service Training Program.

## **Native American Ministries Sunday**

**April**

The second Sunday after Easter, funds urban ministries with Native Americans, scholarships for Native Americans attending United Methodist seminaries, and annual conference Native American ministries.

## **United Methodist Student Day**

**November**

The last Sunday in November, provides loan and scholarship funds for United Methodist college, university and graduate students.

# FOR MORE INFORMATION:

## Northwest Texas Conference Service Center:

(806)762-0201 Fax (806)762-0205

Rev. Wendell Horn – Director of Mission and Administration, [horn@nwtxconf.org](mailto:horn@nwtxconf.org)

Rev. Mindy McLanahan – Assistant Director of Mission and Administration and Board of Ordained Ministry Registrar, [mclanahan@nwtxconf.org](mailto:mclanahan@nwtxconf.org)

Rev. David W. Andersen—Chief Financial Officer & Conference Benefits Officer, [andersen@nwtxconf.org](mailto:andersen@nwtxconf.org)

Rev. Dr. Jorge Ochoa—Director of Hispanic/Latino Ministry, [ochoa@nwtxconf.org](mailto:ochoa@nwtxconf.org)

Janie Davis—Accountant & Assistant CBO, [davis@nwtxconf.org](mailto:davis@nwtxconf.org)

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Jorie Welch, Office Assistant, [welch@nwtxconf.org](mailto:welch@nwtxconf.org)

## President of Council on Finance and Administration

Rev. Dr. Craig Curry, First United Methodist Church, 1411 Broadway, Lubbock, TX 79401

For more information please check out the following websites:

[www.nwtxconf.org](http://www.nwtxconf.org) – Northwest Texas Conference

[www.umcgiving.org](http://www.umcgiving.org) – United Methodist Giving

[www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org) – The United Methodist Church

[www.umcdiscipleship.org](http://www.umcdiscipleship.org) – Discipleship Ministries

[www.gcfa.org](http://www.gcfa.org) – General Council on Finance and Administration

[www.umcmision.org](http://www.umcmision.org) – Global Ministries (information about The Advance can be found here as well)

[www.wespath.org](http://www.wespath.org) – Wespath Benefits and Investments (formerly General Board of Pension and Health Benefits)

[www.tmf-fdn.org](http://www.tmf-fdn.org) - Texas Methodist Foundation