Regional Listening Session

A Conversation on the 2021 Proposed Conference Budget
Thank You!
What’s Ahead

1. Review the 2021 Budget Process
2. Assess Current Trends
3. Look at the 2021 Proposed Budget
4. Consider Future Possibilities
For 2021 Budget Resources

www.GreatPlainsUMC.org/conferencebudget/
Check-In #1

1. What are your questions?
2. *What is your role?*
3. *Why did you join us tonight?*
4. *What is your district?*
The Process

CFA 7/21/202
• Set bottom line
• Set payout projection

Mission Alignment 7/31/2020
• Adjust total requested
• Adjust distribution of requests
• Recommend budget process

CFA 8/5/2020
• Review and approve MAT budget recommendations
• Approve budget process

Connecting Council 8/15/2020
• Review and approve CFA
• Approve CFA/MAT budget recommendations

Regional Listening Sessions 9/8-22
• Communicate budget proposal
• Answer questions
• Collect feedback and suggestions

Mission Alignment Team 9/22-30
• Receive and review Listening Session feedback
• Recommend further adjustments to budget

Connecting Council 10/6
• Review and approve MAT adjustments
• Recommend final budget proposal to CFA

CFA 10/8
• Approve budget recommendations and send to AC for balloted approval

Conference Budget Review 10/15
• Receive and review any formal amendments to final budget proposal
• Provide forum for discussing final budget and all amendments

Annual Conference Ballot(s) 10/16-11/30
• If there are amendments to the budget proposed, they will be handled in a first round of balloting.
• Following the handling or any amendments, Annual Conference will vote on final budget proposal and any proposed amendments
Budget Voting Process

- **Budget Proposed**
- **Amendments Accepted**
  - There are Amendments
  - There are NO Amendments
- **Ballot Round #1**
  - Ballot on Amendments
  - Ballot on Budget
- **Ballot Round #2**
  - Ballot on Budget as Amended
  - Ballot on Budget with NO Amendments
What Happens Then?
How Are You?
In-Person & Online Attendance

2020 – All Churches

- **January 5**: 13% Online, 87% In-Person
- **July 26**: 21% Online, 79% In-Person

Graph showing attendance trends from 5-Jan to 26-Jul 2020 for all churches.
Weekly Offering

Consistently-Reporting Churches 2019 vs. 2020

Thousands

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 Jan</td>
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<td>12 Jan</td>
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<td>26 Jul</td>
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<td>Week 31</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Cumulative % Change in Weekly Attendance & Offering

Consistently-Reporting Churches 2020

Attendance: -3.67%
Offering: -5.00%
Check-In #2

1. What are your questions?
2. How are worship attendance trends at your church(es)?
3. How are offering trends at your church(es)?
4. Are the conference-wide trends in attendance and income...
Cumulative Spending by Month

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Y2018</th>
<th>Y2019</th>
<th>Y2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>$0.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>$1.80</td>
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<td>Mar</td>
<td>$2.74</td>
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<td>Apr</td>
<td>$3.67</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>$4.37</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun</td>
<td>$5.23</td>
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<td>Jul</td>
<td>$6.46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>$7.73</td>
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</table>
Mission Shares % Paid by Month, 2020

January: 5.6%  
February: 7.1%  
March: 7.4%  
April: 4.3%  
May: 5.7%  
June: 3.8%  
July: 9.2%  
August: 8.3%
Mission Shares Cumulative % Paid by Month, 2019
Mission Shares Cumulative % Paid by Month, 2020

January: 5.6%
February: 12.7%
March: 20.1%
April: 23.9%
May: 28.2%
June: 33.9%
July: 43.1%
August: 51.4%
The Budget Proposal
2021 Mission Shares Formula

Total 2019 Local Church Operating Expenditures \times 10\% = 2021 Conference Budget
Reported Local Church Operating Income

$156.17

$140.21


Millions

$160

$150

$140

$130

$120

$110

$100
Total Apportioned & Paid, 2014-2021

*Includes Mission Shares Moratorium
**As Currently Proposed
Check-In #3

1. What are your questions?
2. *In your opinion, does a 10% Mission Share...*
“We’re Great Together,” the 2021 Great Plains Conference narrative budget.

www.greatplainsumc.org/conferencebudget/
2021 Budget – Major Sources of Income

- Mission Shares: 87%
- Use of Reserves: 13%
2021 Budget – Connectional Funding

- Conference Ministries: 67%
- Denominational Ministries: 32%
- Jurisdictional Ministries: 1%
2021 Budget – Personnel & Other Ministries

- Personnel: 41%
- Other Conference Ministries: 59%
Changing & Adapting

• Spending plan for 2020 reduced from 91% to 80% prior to beginning of this year
• Total Mission Shares reduced by 2-month Mission Share moratorium (~ 16.7% reduction)

• Developed new resources for local churches and leaders
  https://www.greatplainsumc.org/coronavirus
• Offered new ways for offering support and community
• Purchased Zoom licenses for all pastors in Great Plains
• Found new ways to celebrate milestones and ministries
2021 2021 – Proposed In-Conference Spending by Ministry Areas

**Ministry areas include personnel expenses**
2021 2021 – Proposed In-Conference Spending by Ministry Areas *(includes personnel expenses)*

**Episcopal Office & DSs**
- Oversee the work of the church at every level of the connection
- Includes offices of bishop and districts and compensation for DSs and district administrative assistants
- Nearly a quarter of this budget supports pastors, churches, and networks
Clergy Excellence

• Focuses on the development and support of clergy leaders for every congregation

• Includes support for work
  • Board of Ordained Ministry
  • Residency for new clergy
  • Transition Into Ministry
  • Programs for professional development, wellness, support
2021 2021 – Proposed In-Conference Spending by Ministry Areas *(includes personnel expenses)*

**Congregational Excellence**

- Includes a wide range of ministries including:
  - Age-level ministries
  - Vital Congregations
  - Lay leadership development
  - Disaster Response
  - Campus Ministries
  - Camping
  - New Church Development
# 2021 – Proposed In-Conference Spending by Ministry Areas (includes personnel expenses)

**Mercy & Justice**
- Includes support for mission partnerships with Zimbabwe, Nigeria, and Haiti
- Micah Corps
- Does not account for our support of the World Service Fund or Seeking Justice Initiative

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ministry Area</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Episcopal Office &amp; District</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clergy Excellence</td>
<td>11%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Congregational Excellence</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communications &amp; Administration</td>
<td>26%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Missional Opportunities</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mercy &amp; Justice</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2021 2021 – Proposed In-Conference Spending by Ministry Areas (includes personnel expenses)

**Communications & Administration**

- Includes support for:
  - All communications resources
  - Zoom licenses
  - Administrative infrastructure
  - Insurance
  - Legal fees
  - Sessions of annual conference
2021 2021 – Proposed In-Conference Spending by Ministry Areas (includes personnel expenses)

**Missional Opportunities**

- Will be combined with other funding sources to initiate a new grants program that partners with local churches as they seek to adapt to changing ministry realities
2021 Budget - % Change by Ministry Area

- Personnel: -4.2%
- Episcopal Office: -1.5%
- Clergy Excellence: -1.0%
- Congregational Excellence: -3.2%
- Mercy and Justice: -1.6%
- Administrative Services: -0.6%
# 2021 Budget - $$ Change by Ministry Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ministry Area</th>
<th>Change</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Episcopal Office</td>
<td>-$22,810</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clergy Excellence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Congregational Excellence</td>
<td>-$83,133</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mercy and Justice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative Services</td>
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</table>

<table>
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<th>$0</th>
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<td>-$180,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>-$170,914</td>
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</table>
Check-In #4

1. What are your questions?
2. Do you have concerns around how this budget distributes funds?
3. What are some ways ministries supported by the Great Plains Conference have made a difference for you in 2020?
4. What are some ways you or your congregation need support that you don’t currently have?
## Remittance Zones

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0% to +5% above Projected Payout</td>
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<tr>
<td>0% to -5% off Projected Payout</td>
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<tr>
<td>-5% to -10% off Projected Payout</td>
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<tr>
<td>-10% to -15% off Projected Payout</td>
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<tr>
<td>-15% to -20% off Projected Payout</td>
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<tr>
<td>&lt;-20% off Projected Payout</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Cumulative % Paid Mission Shares, 2019
Zone Analysis

January  February  March  April  May  June  July  August  September  October  November  December

- 4.3%
- 10.8%
- 17.0%
  23.7%
  30.1%
  35.2%
  41.4%
  47.6%
  54.1%
  61.0%
  67.2%
  84.9%

91% Payout
Cumulative % Paid Mission Shares, 2020
Zone Analysis

80% Payout

- January: 4.6%
- February: 10.6%
- March: 16.7%
- April: 19.9%
- May: 23.5%
- June: 28.3%
- July: 36.0%
- August: 44.2%
Cumulative % Paid Mission Shares (with PPP)
Zone Analysis

January: 5.6%
February: 12.7%
March: 20.1%
April: 34.9%
May: 39.1%
June: 44.9%
July: 54.1%
August: 62.4%

80% Payout

Legend:
+5  0  -5  -10  -15  -20  -25
Questions for Building Scenarios

• When will we get the all-clear on COVID-19?
• What changes are temporary vs. permanent?
  • Online worship & discipleship
  • Economic & social consequences
• Will there be a 2021 General Conference and what will be its outcome?
  • General Church budget reduction?
  • Passage of the Protocol?
Check-In #5

1. What questions should we add to our list?
2. What questions have we not yet addressed?
3. What additional comments do you have?
4. *If you were asked to vote on this budget proposal tonight…*
Thank You!