

The Connectional Table 2023 Spending Plan Summary

- The CT budgeted to spend \$819,891 in 2022. We are projecting to spend, in 2022, \$616,000 with a savings of \$203,000.
- The spending plan for 2023 is estimated to be \$926,525. The increases in the 2023 budget are largely due to preparations for General Conference (including reproduction of promotional materials), increased staff travel, increased use of consultants, in-person meetings and the possibility of recruiting and onboarding new staff.
- The pre-printed materials prepared for General Conference 2020 were discarded because they were out of date. CT printed materials on the UMC budget and CT legislation will be updated and reproduced in 2023 for distribution during pre-General Conference briefings, delegate meetings, General Conference, and a host of other events. The cost to produce these materials is estimated at ~\$20,000.
- Collaborating with GCFA to prepare the budgets of the apportioned funds the CT allocates requires staff and board members travel to joint meetings of GCFA and CT along with meetings of the CT Budget Allocations Team. The CT is budgeting for an in-person board meeting in Atlanta, February 23-28, 2023. These additional meetings and an in-person CT Board meeting are budgeted at an estimated \$290,000.
- At its 2023 meeting, the Connectional Table will welcome a new board chair, new board members, and possibly new staff. We have budgeted consultants for recruiting of new staff, onboarding of new board members, accounting, and translation services. If new staff are lay persons, that would increase our payroll taxes as well.
- The GCFA GAEM committee has recommended increasing the benefit trust payout to 8% from the current payout of 6%. The additional funds will help cover increased healthcare costs. The GCFA and Wespeth boards will have to approve this change.
- Inflation is at approximately 13%, however we are budgeting to offer staff a 4% cost of living increase across the board in line with recommendations from the Committee on Personnel Policies and Practices (CPPP). This would increase pension and benefits too.
- **Reserves:** In 2021 the CT Board voted to designate \$110,000 for a future in person CT board meeting, \$122,928 for General Conference and six months of CT expenses or \$274,000 per the CT reserves policy. The addition of the \$506,928 brings our current reserves to ~\$781,000. We are expected to receive \$526,890 from World Service fixed charges in 2023. Considering, we may end 2022 with a reserve addition of approximately \$203,000. The additional spending for 2023 will be covered leaving approximately \$584,000 in CT reserves.

Respectfully submitted: Frances Roberts