

General Administration Fund Talking Points

The **General Administration Fund** supports the following:

Archives & History

Have you ever wanted to research in depth the history of The United Methodist Church? Wanted to know when the first General Conference of American Methodist's was held? Have you wanted to know when John Wesley was born? Ever wondered who the first ordained Native American minister was? These are all questions that the General Commission on Archives and History can answer!

The General Commission on Archives and History is located on the campus of Drew University in Madison, New Jersey. Their mission is to collect, preserve, use and interpret records, documents, photos, CDs, audio clips, DVDs, conference minutes and periodicals. This ministry is made possible by your contributions to the General Administration Fund.

Without your faithful support of the General Administration Fund, vital pieces of history could not be preserved for generations to come, scholars would not have a central place for research and confirmation classes would not be able to learn about how The United Methodist Church came into existence.

To learn more about the General Commission on Archives and History, please visit the [website](#).

Answers

1. The first General Conference of American Methodist's was held in 1792.
2. John Wesley was born in 1703.
3. The first ordained Native American minister was Turtle Fields in 1833.

General Conference

Did you know that without the General Administration Fund, General Conference could not happen? That's because the General Administration Fund provides financial support for General Conference, the governing body of The United Methodist Church.

General Conference meets every four years. In 2008, General Conference is being held in Ft. Worth, Texas from April 23rd to May 2nd. Here, up to 1,000 delegates, half clergy and half lay persons, from across the United States and around the globe will come together and revise the Book of Discipline. The Book of Discipline is the "record of laws" which dictates church regulations, membership, ordination, administration, property and judicial procedures.

Without the critical funding of the General Administration Fund, delegates from across the connection could not come together and make forward changes to the Book of Discipline and outline the future of the church for the next four years. Your 100% support to the General Administration Fund provides the financial support for General Conference and other areas of ministry that are administrative in nature.

To learn more about General Conference, please visit The United Methodist Church [website](#).

Judicial Council

The Judicial Council is the highest judicial body or “court” of The United Methodist Church. It is comprised of nine members. The majority alternates every eight years between a majority of clergy and a majority of lay persons. Members of the Judicial Council are elected by the General Conference.

The funding for the Judicial Council is made possible by the General Administration Fund. The General Administration Fund provides financial support for ministries that are administrative in nature, rather than program in nature. This vital support makes possible the Judicial Council meetings and supports their ministry as our high court.

Your 100% giving to the General Administration Fund makes the ministry of the Judicial Council a reality. Without your support, the Judicial Council would not be able to meet and uphold the laws of The United Methodist Church.

To learn more about the Judicial Council, please visit the [website](#).