

DOLLAR\$ & \$SENSE

JUNE 2022

CONFERENCE TREASURER

USCIS Form I-9

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services requires the Form I-9 to be completed for all individuals hired for employment in the United States. Newly appointed pastors must complete this form at each new appointment prior to their first day. Go to <https://www.uscis.gov/i-9> to access the most recent form.

Moving Expenses

Effective 1/1/2018, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act removed the exclusion of moving expenses as a fringe benefit to employees. Employees (except for certain members of the Armed Forces) must pay taxes on moving expenses provided by employers, whether the employer directly pays for the moving expenses or the employee is reimbursed from the employer for the moving expenses.

This change impacts our clergy and churches in two ways:

1. Treasurers must add the moving expenses to the W2 box 1 and box 16 at the end of the year, so it is reported properly as taxable income. Keep in mind that pastors have 'dual-tax status' by IRS rules, meaning that they are 'common law' employees of their church, so they must receive a W2 at the end of the year. Pastors are 'self-employed' for Social Security and Medicare purposes, meaning the church does not withhold or pay Social Security or Medicare. Pastors are individually responsible for filing a quarterly tax estimate on Form 1040 ES.
2. Moving expenses are now considered 'pensionable compensation' by Wespeth. Pastors and treasurers will receive instructions to report moving expenses on the EVC website, so the pension amount is properly calculated for your pastor. An additional pension bill will come from VUMPI in the fall with the amount due by the church.

Moving expenses cannot be reported as Accountable Reimbursement or as Housing Exclusion. Please be sure that moving expenses are properly handled by your church to avoid penalties by the IRS or misrepresentation of the pensionable compensation. If you have questions, please give us a call at 804-521-1100.

Annual Conference Offering

You may bring your offering to Annual Conference in Hampton with a check made out to the Virginia United Methodist Conference, designated for **Fund #5500 - Annual Conference Offering**. Be sure to **include your church's GCFA# on the check** so we can apply it to your church statement. This offering will be taken up on Friday, June 17th during the worship service.

Churches can also remit this offering online to vaumc.acumatika.com or send a check to the Conference Treasurer's office.

Welcome New Treasurers

Many churches nominate leadership to start in coordination with the appointment year. If you are a new treasurer, please let us know by sending an email to treasurer@vaumc.org with your church GCFA#, church name, your name, email and contact phone number.

Special Offerings

The **Samaritan Fund Offering** is one of the five Virginia Annual Conference Special Offerings taken up anytime between Mother's Day and Father's Day. The Samaritan Fund is a benevolent fund that provides financial assistance to Pinnacle Living residents who have outlived their monetary resources and can no longer afford the full cost of their care. Go to <https://www.pinnacleliving.org> for materials or to learn more about this special ministry! Church treasurers can remit contributions to the Treasurer's office by notating **Fund #6411-Pinnacle Living (Samaritan Fund)** at the bottom of your apportionment statement or remitting a payment through vaumc.acumatika.com.

Peace with Justice Sunday is scheduled for Sunday, June 12th. The General Board of Church & Society awards these funds to support programs that advocate peace and justice at home and around the world. For additional information, go to www.umcsgiving.org and select Special Sundays. Church treasurers can remit contributions notating **Fund #4433 - Peace with Justice Sunday** on the apportionment statement or remitting a payment through vaumc.acumatika.com.