

DOLLARS & SENSE

MARCH 2019

CONFERENCE TREASURER

Special Call General Conference

In response to the Special Called Session by the General Conference that was held Feb 23rd thru Feb 26th in St. Louis, MO, through a livestream Bishop Lewis spoke at 10 am on Monday March 4, 2019. If you missed the live stream, you can still view the Bishop's address at <https://livestream.com/vaumc/stateofthechurch>.

Data Verification for 2020 Apportionments

The purpose of data verification is to review the expenses reported in year-end statistics that are used to calculate 2020 apportionments. Later in March, all pastors will receive an email with this information. As treasurers, if you currently receive church statements via email, then you will receive an email of your data verification. Paper copies will be mailed to those treasurers with only a physical address. If you have any questions on what is to be included in statistics, please reach out to our office. We want to make sure your statistics are reported correctly just as much as you do!

Disaster Response Fund

Bishop Sharma Lewis has issued an appeal addressing disaster recovery from historic flooding the 2018. A pdf copy of the letter can be downloaded from the conference website www.vaumc.org/Disaster. Our disaster team is still working its magic across the state of Virginia and could use your prayers and donations to continue doing God's work in the communities that have been hit by mother nature recently. Please consider giving to their continued efforts focusing in the Danville area by using the Virginia Conference Disaster Response Advance Special. (Fund #5037)

Local Church Audit

It is important that the finance team designate one or two people that are independent to conduct the audit. They can be members of your church but should not be related to the financial secretary or treasurer. Be sure to use the online audit guide under financial forms at www.gcfa.org/forms-and-resources

Recurring EFT Transactions

We currently have 35 churches taking advantage of paying their apportionments via EFT on a monthly basis. Thank you to those who are participating! If you are looking for a "set it and forget it" type of payment, this is for you! This method gives us authorization to take out an amount you specify each month for apportionments, and forget about it the rest of the year. If this is something you'd like to look into, please contact Jennifer at JenniferHoneycutt@vaumc.org and she will be happy to help you!

Record Retention

After the close of a year, we receive many questions about record retention. "How long do I have to keep church offering envelopes?" "How long should we keep bank statements?" "Do we have to keep meeting minutes?" These are just a few questions that can be answered by going to our business webpage <https://vaumc.org/BusinessOffice> and hovering your mouse over "Resources." You will then click the PDF link for Record Retention Guidelines.

Daylight Savings Time

Don't forget to SPRING FORWARD March 10th!!

UMCOR Sunday – March 31st

UMCOR Sunday is one of the six General Church Special Sundays. The funds are sent to the General Council on Finance & Administration (GCFA). This allows the church to meet the needs of those who are in desperate need after disaster strikes. For additional information go to www.umcgiving.org and select Special Sundays. Record contributions for this cause at the bottom of your apportionment statement, designated as **Fund #4431 – UMCOR Sunday** and include the amount in your apportionment check. Please be sure that you are writing the check to VAUMC and not the fund itself!