

Total Number of Pages: 5  
Suggested Title: Proportional Payment  
*Discipline* ¶¶: 615, 622, 639, and 818  
General Church Budget Implications: None  
Global Implications: None

Amend these four interrelated and interdependent paragraphs of *The Book of Discipline* as follows.

Delete ¶ 615 as follows, and renumber subparagraphs as necessary.

¶ 615.

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~~5. If an annual conference establishes an apportioned fund that combines funds subject to proportional payment under ¶ 622 with funds not subject to proportional payment, it shall establish procedures to ensure that the proportional payment provisions of ¶ 622 are observed.~~

Delete ¶ 622 as follows, and renumber subsequent paragraphs as necessary:

~~¶ 622. When the apportionments for bishops, district superintendents, conference claimants, and the Equitable Compensation Fund for the several districts and charges have been determined, payments made to the same in each pastoral charge shall be exactly proportional to the amount paid on the clergy base compensation (¶ 818.3). The treasurer or treasurers of each pastoral charge shall accordingly make proportional distribution of the funds raised in that charge for the support of the ordained ministry and shall remit monthly if practicable and quarterly at the latest the items for bishops, district superintendents, conference claimants, and the Equitable Compensation Fund to the proper treasurer or treasurers.~~

Amend ¶639.4 as follows:

¶ 639.

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4. *Proportional Payment by Churches and Charges*—The board shall compare the records of the amounts paid by each pastoral charge for the support of pastors and for pension and benefit programs, ~~computing the proportional distribution thereof and keeping a permanent record of defaults of the churches of the conference that have failed to observe the following provisions pertaining to make requiredproportional payments,~~ and shall render annually to each church that is in default a statement of the amounts in default for that and preceding years.

a) ~~When the apportionment to the pastoral charges for the pension and benefit program of the annual conference has been determined, payments made thereon by each pastoral charge shall be exactly proportionate to payments made on the salary or salaries of the ordained minister or clergy serving it.~~

b) ~~The treasurer of the pastoral charge shall be primarily responsible for the application of proportional payment; but in the event of the treasurer's failure to apply it, the pastor shall adjust cash salary and payment according to the proper ratio, as provided above, before the pastor enters the respective amounts in the statistical report to the annual conference.~~

c) ~~The conference statistical tables shall provide separate columns for reporting the amount apportioned to each pastoral charge for pension and benefit purposes and the amount paid thereon.~~

~~d) It shall not be permissible for a pastor to receive a bonus or other supplementary compensation tending to defeat proportional payment.~~

\* \* \*

Amend ¶818 as follows:

¶ **818. Purpose**—1. The Episcopal Fund, ~~raised in accordance with ¶ 818.3,~~ shall provide for the salary and expenses of effective bishops from the date of their consecration and for the support of retired bishops and surviving spouses and minor children of deceased bishops. Subject to the approval of the General Council on Finance and Administration, the treasurer shall have authority to borrow for the benefit of the Episcopal Fund such amounts as may be necessary for the proper execution of the orders of the General Conference. The General Commission on Communication shall promote the Episcopal Fund.

2. *Requirements*—The council shall recommend to each quadrennial session of the General Conference for its action and determination: (1) the amounts to be fixed as salaries of the effective bishops or a formula by which the council shall fix the salaries; (2) a schedule of such amounts as may be judged adequate to provide for their office expense; (3) provision for an annual operating budget for the Council of Bishops, including the salaries and office and travel expenses of the executive secretary and the ecumenical officer of the Council of Bishops; (4) guidelines governing the payment of bishops' travel expenses, including all travel authorized by the Council of Bishops; (5) the amounts needed to fund the Clergy Retirement Security Program or the Global Episcopal Pension Program (or, in either case, any successor bishop pension or retirement plan or program); and (6) provisions for allowance for the surviving spouses and for the support of minor children of deceased bishops. From the facts in hand, the council shall

estimate the approximate total amount required annually during the ensuing quadrennium to provide for the items of episcopal support mentioned above and shall report the same to the General Conference. This amount as finally determined shall be the estimated episcopal budget. The administration of the Episcopal Fund budget as determined by the General Conference shall be under the direction and authority of the General Council on Finance and Administration, including annual fiscal statements and audits. Nothing in this paragraph shall preclude the annual conference or conferences of an episcopal area from including in their budgets amounts for an area expense fund.

~~3. *Proportionality*—The amount apportioned to a charge for the Episcopal Fund shall be paid in the same proportion as the charge pays its pastor (see also ¶ 622).~~

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Date: September 18, 2019

Identification of Petitioners: R. Mark King  
President, National Association of Annual Conference Treasurers

Identification of Petitioners: Clare Wilson  
Presider, Association of United Methodist Conference Pension and  
Benefits Officers

Identification of Petitioners: Barbara A. Boigegrain  
General Secretary, General Board of Pension and Health Benefits