

To Bishop Leath, Supervisor, Dr. Susan Leath and the 120th Session of the East Tennessee Annual Conference, I beg leave to make the following report for the Conference Budget Committee.

After much deliberation, some admitted trepidation and consensus of the committee we have devised for consideration a proposal that takes into consideration factors that have been impacted by changes to the conference landscape.

Four East Tennessee Conference churches have made requests to either decommission or secede from the Connectional Church. Highlighted in the darker yellow, from the Chattanooga/Knoxville District, Clayborn Temple. From the Fayetteville/Pulaski District: Powell Chapel, Pulaski, Phoenix Chapel, Prospect and Friendship, Pulaski. The committee makes recommendation to reallocate the full budget, in an equitable manner.

Furthermore, the committee recommends moving Joseph Chapel below Mary's Chapel, Fayetteville.

In our deliberations, several concerns arose with the reallocations, namely, the increase that was assigned to 9 of the remaining 20 churches, especially the churches at the top of the budget. The proposed increases are as follows: Warren Chapel, \$1,673, Bethel Knoxville, \$1,658, St. Paul, Chattanooga \$1,439, St. Paul, Bethel Chattanooga, \$1,267, Fayetteville, \$1,013, Shorter Chapel, \$32, Campbell Chapel, \$114, St. Paul, Agnew, \$306, and St. John, Mulberry, \$878.

While our proposal is based on a poll of the majority's consensus, it was not without multiple revisions. Some factors that we discussed in our deliberations were the Conferences' desire to remain autonomous and not merge with the Tennessee Conference, which would have, at minimum, given us relief in the Annual Conference budget line item, the impact that an elongated pandemic may have on the financial practicality of budget expectations on the conference and the burden of increase to churches in general. Bishop, I would like to thank the committee members for their diligence and concern for the future of our church and the East Tennessee Conference.

Humbly submitted,

The Rev Lee Russell Brown, Chair
The Rev. Kenneth Love, Committee Secretary
The Rev. Coleman March
The Rev. AJ Holman
The Rev. Dickie Sebastian
Sis. Sharon Daniels
Sis Kath Green
Bro. Coleman March, Sr.
Sis. Frances Neal