

FAQ: Have apportionments been increased for the churches that remain United Methodist to compensate for the churches that left the Conference?

Short answer:

No. Apportionments **have not** been increased to cover funds lost by disaffiliated churches.

Long answer:

The 2025 and 2026 operating budgets proposed to the 2023 and 2024 Annual Conferences were reduced by the amounts previously apportioned to churches that chose to disaffiliate.

What happened with the 2025 budget?

The 2025 budget—approved at the 2023 Annual Conference—represented a **24.5% decrease**, or about **\$3.5 million**, from the 2024 budget.

What about the 2026 budget?

The 2026 budget—approved at the 2024 Annual Conference— included an additional **7.56% decrease**, trimming just over **\$900,000** from the already-reduced 2025 budget.

Did the Conference keep its commitment during disaffiliations?

Yes! During the challenging season of church disaffiliations, the Conference Council on Finance and Administration committed to **not increasing the overall financial responsibility of the remaining churches**. Both the 2025 budget and the 2026 budget faithfully honor that commitment.

If apportionments didn't go up, how were the reductions made?

To stay true to this commitment, the Conference made reductions within its own operations, such as:

- Lowering budgets for various Conference ministries
- Reducing staff-related expenses

- Reprioritizing funding across ministries

These choices were thoughtful, prayerful, and sometimes difficult—but all made with the goal of supporting mission and ministry in a sustainable way.

What priorities shaped these budgets?

The Conference Council, working closely with the Connectional Table, continued to focus on our shared goals of:

- **Disciple making**
- **Leader forming**
- **Peace building**

These remain at the heart of our work together, even as resources are carefully and creatively stewarded.

Final takeaway

Your church is **not** being asked to pay more because others disaffiliated. Budgets were reduced, commitments were honored, and we continue moving forward—together—with hope, clarity, and a shared sense of purpose.