

Penn West Conference Proposed 2017 Mission Spending Plan

Whenever we compose a budget/spending plan, we keep several principles in mind. First and foremost is mission. We in the Penn West Conference have a long-standing mission to serve Jesus Christ faithfully as a community of creative disciples living together in covenant as a Conference of the United Church of Christ. We help our churches live out the good news of the Gospel in their ministries. We have a wonderful brochure, “Why Give to ‘Our Church’s Wider Mission,’” which details the many amazing ministries of the Penn West Conference. To these ends, we have sought for years to faithfully fund our mission. Living into the fullness of our God-given potential requires that we be prudent with regard to our income and expenses.

While this year’s budget is similar to last, we are very excited about what we are proposing. In 2015, we reestablished our Mission Grants program. Over a dozen local churches participated and nearly \$30,000 worth of grant monies have since been distributed for important ministries throughout our Conference. We hope to continue to share the blessings of these grants in 2017 and are so enthused about the future that we are confident that we can extend the 2017 budget to reflect a \$6337 increase in Basic Support of our “Our Church’s Wider Mission” in Penn West Conference. We hope that as our churches take increased advantage of these grants that this will foster an increased sense of commitment to the Conference. We embrace the challenge of being responsible stewards of the gifts with which we have been entrusted and continue to work for the growth, health, and vitality of our churches.

As the daily work of the Conference evolves, below is a graph of our sense of how our time is used.



1. We spend 15% of our resources assisting local churches prepare to search for and find new spiritual leadership for their congregations.
2. We spend 30% of our budget supporting our various teams of passionate disciples who provide a broader footprint of God’s presence to our local congregations.
3. We focus 20% of our dollars on the mission of the wider church by working with our national office and other mission partners.
4. Connecting with our local churches and their pastors is key to keeping the focus on our mission and ministry of getting God’s word to the multitudes; this takes 25% of our blessings.
5. Only 10% of our gifts are spent on the maintaining the office and bookkeeping functions.