

# A MESSAGE ABOUT CONNECTIONAL FUNDING

Dear Local GMC Church,

We are very grateful your church is a member congregation of the Global Methodist Church. Our prayer is that God will work through every local church so together we are making disciples of Jesus Christ and spreading scriptural holiness across the globe.

As a member congregation, you invest in this important work through Connectional Funding. We invite you to join with your sisters and brothers to provide the financial resources for the creation of a healthy and vibrant denomination dedicated to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed.

In the Global Methodist Church, local congregations will not receive a bill from either the Global Methodist Church or their annual conference. Instead, a local church calculates the amount it will pay for Connectional Funding and then, on a regular basis, sends a portion of that amount to the general church and a portion to their annual conference. The following information will guide you through that process.

Connectional funding is addressed in ¶349 of the *Book of Doctrines and Discipline*. The General Church, in this season, has set general Connectional Funding remittance at one percent (1%) of a local church's operating income. See the enclosed document for examples of what is and isn't considered to be operating income. **For 2026, the Great Lakes Annual Conference rate is set as three percent (3%).** Thus, there are two categories of Connectional Funding – one for the general church and one for the annual conference.

We have attached a **Connectional Funding Worksheet** you can use to determine your church's Connectional Funding payment to the Great Lakes Annual Conference. In addition, we have attached a **Connectional Funding Remittance Form** for communicating relevant payment information. Both of these forms can be accessed in a fillable format at this site:

<https://greatlakesgmc.org/connectional-funding>

Your local church treasurer or designee will calculate the amount to be paid based on your local church's **prior year** operating income. This means that for 2026 the calculation is based on your 2025 operating income.

- What constitutes “operating income” is defined in ¶349.3.  
¶349.3a provides that local church operating income includes:  
“Giving from identified and not identified donors, investment income utilized for operations, building use fees and rental income, and other unrestricted operating income.” You enter these amounts in the appropriate cells listed under “Included in Operating Income” on the worksheet. The worksheet automatically calculates “Total Operating Income” once you have entered the data.
- ¶349.3b for the exclusion of certain types of revenue from local church operating income. It excludes:  
“Benevolences (outside ministries supported by the local church),

capital campaign receipts, borrowed funds, fundraisers for non-operating expenses, receipts for reduction of indebtedness, memorials, endowments, and bequests whether restricted or non-restricted, receipts for Global Methodist Church special mission programs, grants and support from other organizations, sales of land, buildings or other church assets, and other non-operating income received.” Income from these sources should not be included in the categories which constitute operating income on the worksheet.

- The worksheet automatically calculates the local church’s “Yearly Annual Conference Connectional Funding” (Row 13). The worksheet then calculates the local church’s monthly payment for Annual Conference Connectional Funding (Row 14).
- Each January a local church treasurer will be provided a new worksheet based on the Connectional Funding rate set by the GMC and the annual conference members in the prior year’s annual conference session.

at their website:  
[globalmethodist.org/connectional\\_funding](http://globalmethodist.org/connectional_funding)

Your church then makes its Great Lakes Annual Conference Connectional Funding (Row 14) payment either through electronic transfer (our much-preferred method) using the following link: [greatlakesgmc.org/cf](http://greatlakesgmc.org/cf) or by check payable to:

Great Lakes Annual Conference  
 3100 West Stones Crossing Rd.  
 Greenwood, IN 46143

Payment of your Connectional Funding by electronic (ACH) is beneficial not only to the general church and annual conference, but also to your church. Since the amount of the payment does not change from month-to-month, paying electronically allows you to set up recurring payments once a year rather than expending the effort to generate and mail a check each month. Instructions for setting up electronic transfer payments are found in the following pages.

Local churches can send more than one month’s payment at a time. However, we encourage local churches to send Connectional Funding payments on a monthly basis.

We look forward to receiving your local church’s Connectional Funding Payment and to sharing with you the fruits of our connected ministry.

#### In Summary:

1. Within the first few weeks after receiving these instructions, complete the Connectional Funding Worksheet for 2025 and email to the Conference Treasurer at [mike.womack@greatlakesgmc.org](mailto:mike.womack@greatlakesgmc.org).

2. Then, either:
  - a. Set up your annual conference electronic ACH giving account at this address [greatlakesgmc.org/cf](http://greatlakesgmc.org/cf) (using the instructions enclosed below) and initiate the first Great Lakes Annual Conference payment.

Or,

- b. mail your first annual conference check along with the Remittance Form to:  
Great Lakes Annual Conference of the GMC  
3100 West Stones Crossing Rd.  
Greenwood, IN 46143
3. If paying Connectional Funding creates a financial hardship for your church, please contact the Great Lakes Annual Conference Financial Secretary, Mike Womack at (317) 501-5568 to discuss your situation.