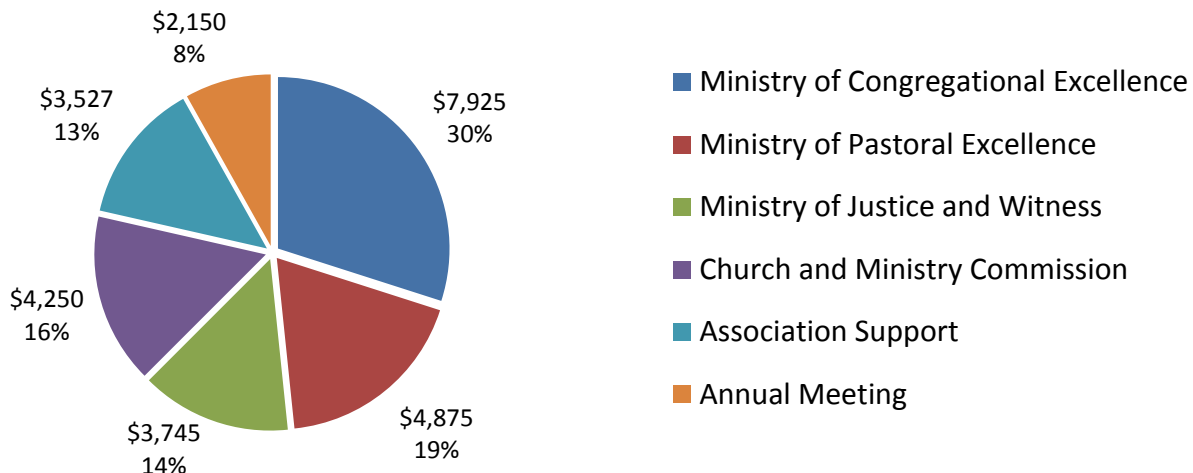


Proposed Ministry Plan

Western North Carolina Association
Southern Conference
United Church of Christ

FY 2015 (January – December 2015)



Ministry of Congregational Excellence

The heart of the Church is a vital congregation. WNCA with other Associations and the Conference strives to help each congregation attain and sustain EXCELLENCE by:

- Equipping lay leaders to develop programs for church growth both spiritually and numerically
- Instilling congregational vitality by supporting new church starts and congregation renewals
- Gathering and making available materials in a Resource Center for use by member congregations
- Assisting with the Search and Call process, providing ministry specialists and staff assistance as needed
- Assisting congregations in youth & young adult ministries such as confirmation retreats and college youth days

Ministry of Pastoral Excellence

We believe excellent congregations deserve excellent pastors. WNCA strives to develop, promote, and sustain EXCELLENT pastoral leadership by:

- Providing financial assistance to members in discernment seeking authorized ministry in the Association
- Offering opportunities for collegial support
- Increasing ministers' sense of job satisfaction while magnifying their successes
- Establishing a vibrant association-wide network of small groups and large learning events

Ministry of Justice and Witness

In the UCC justice and witness are part of who we are. WNCA with the Conference strives to help all settings of the church respond to God's commandments to do justice, seek peace and effect change for a better world by:

- Responding to local and national relief efforts
- Assisting with Association and regional mission projects
- Providing direct support to the operation of Johns River Valley Camp, and other institutional partners who support our churches and members' witness in our region

Church and Ministry Commission

Commission members implement standards for ministry as stated in the UCC Manual on Ministry including:

- Approving candidates seeking authorized ministerial standing and recommending candidates for ordination
- Receiving members in discernment, facilitating their education, and providing suggestions for scholarship aid
- Promoting the establishment, development, and continuation of healthy pastor-parish relationships
- Reviewing congregational requests to unite with or withdraw from the UCC through the WNCA

Association Support

In order to carry out our essential ministries, we rely on a part-time staff member (paid by SOC) who receives and sends communications to pastors and churches, serves as our registrar, and provides administrative support to the Minister for Church Affairs. All supplies, postage, web support, and office equipment are included here.

Annual Meeting – This covers upfront expenses which are almost entirely recovered thru meeting registrations.