

# What Are Fellowship Dues?

Fellowship dues have been paid by the churches of the Massachusetts Conference to support common ministries since the 1840s.

## *Fellowship dues consist of two parts:*

- ◆ Association dues - cover the cost of Association programs and services. Each Association sets its own dues.
- ◆ Conference dues - contribute to the cost of Conference services and programs, including the regionally deployed ministers and staff. Fellowship dues accounts for approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the total financial support for the Conference. The Conference portion of the fellowship dues is set by the annual meeting of the Conference.

## *How are fellowship dues calculated?*

Fellowship dues are assessed on a per member basis according to the membership numbers reported by churches to the Conference as of December 31 of each year. An annual report form is sent to every church. If no report form is received back by the Conference, the prior year's numbers are used.

## *Our church belongs to more than one denomination.*

Federated, United and other churches that are aligned with more than one denomination, should report on their annual report form the number of UCC members for dues purposes as well as the total number of

members. Some churches maintain separate membership lists for each denomination and divide their denominational support based on those numbers. Some churches divide all members equally between the various denominations for purposes of determining denominational support.

In the event the church has a combination of members who are identified with a particular denomination and some who only belong to the local church, the non-aligned members should be apportioned on an equitable basis between denominations for dues and other denominational support purposes.

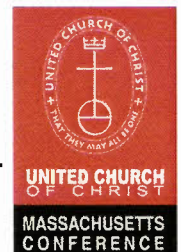
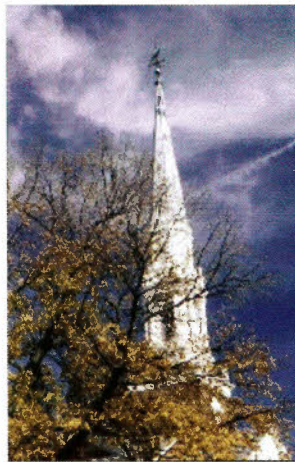
## *How are fellowship dues billed and paid?*

Association treasurers bill each church for its fellowship dues based on the membership numbers provided them by the Conference.

All fellowship dues payments should be made directly to your Association treasurer. All other gifts, such as OCWM Basic Support, special offerings, disaster relief, etc. should be sent directly to MACUCC, 1 Badger Road, Framingham, MA 01702. Use of the remittance form provided your church will assure proper application of your gift.

The Association treasurers retain the Association portion of the dues and remit the Conference portion to the Conference.

*Dues are due by December 31 .*



On the reverse side is a partial listing of some of the services and resources of the Massachusetts Conference United Church of Christ and its Associations, all designed to nurture the vitality of your church, and paid for by your fellowship dues!



# Your Fellowship Dues Pays For . . .

## **Association Ministries**

Association gatherings, programs  
Committee on Ministry  
Ordinations and installations  
Other Association committees  
Mission projects

## **Regional Ministries**

Pastoral search and call  
Conflict intervention and resolution  
Support for churches and pastors  
Assistance and support for Association boards & committees  
Regional programs  
Regional newsletters

## **Conference-wide Events**

Annual Meeting  
Super Saturdays  
Stewardship University  
Webfests  
Mission & Justice Fair  
Clergy Colloquies  
Over 60 conference-sponsored events each year!

## **Evangelism and Church Vitality**

New church starts and turnarounds  
Vital Congregational Life cluster groups  
Church visioning and vitality resources and consulting  
"Growing Faith" e-newsletter  
MissionInsite demographic data resources

## **Christian Education**

Seasonal Sunday School resources  
Safe Church info  
Curriculum  
Christian educator training  
CE educator cluster groups  
CE consulting  
Confirmation retreats  
Networking and certification  
"Connect:" Christian educators' e-newsletter

## **Young Adult Ministry**

Young adult retreats and events  
Service opportunities  
Resources

## **Mission and Justice**

Mission Partnership  
Task teams on Race & Justice, Jubilee, Environmental Ministries, Homelessness and Restorative Justice  
Fair Trade project  
Open & Affirming and marriage resources  
"Ever Flowing Streams" e-newsletter  
Mass Releaf ministry

## **Youth Ministry**

Confirmation retreats  
Mission trips  
Resources for youth ministry

## **Leadership Development**

Pastoral Excellence Program  
The Parish Paper  
Compensation guidelines, booklets and worksheets for clergy and other church employees  
Safe Church and CORI resources and training  
Handbooks for trustees and auditors  
Western Area Leadership Academy  
Adult Music Camp

## **Stewardship and Financial Development**

Local church consulting on stewardship, planned giving, endowments and capital campaigns  
Stewardship University  
Missionary visits  
OCWM mission interpretation  
Clergy and Lay Communities of Stewardship Practice  
"Inspiring Generosity" e-newsletter

## **Communication/Technology**

Resources for church web sites  
Still Speaking initiative  
Online tutorial  
Tips on talking to the media  
Choosing church management software  
Spotlight series  
Webfests

## **Resource Center**

Open houses  
Resources for all areas of church life

