



Special Annual Conference Session

Called Purpose: vote on the following legislation.

LEGISLATION - SPECIAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION

The world needs GNJ, its congregations and connectional mission, to experience God's saving, merciful and just grace. God's grace works through GNJ as it recruits and develops transformational leaders who make disciples and grow vital congregations for the transformation of the world. With God's help and working together, we will meet our challenges, grow our mission and create a sustainable ministry to meet future challenges.

Whereas there is shortfall of \$6 million in the 2021 budget that has created both a financial challenge and opportunity to refocus and organize for GNJ's future mission; and

Whereas to meet a balanced budget, GNJ must bill congregations for the full cost of benefit programs and include 5% for administrative costs and 7% for uncollected billings; and

Whereas GNJ needs to rebuild its reserves and assist congregations financially to meet the full billings over five years; and

Whereas GNJ projects an 88% collection rate for shared ministry and a 93% collection rate for billables to fund the mission and ministry of GNJ;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Special Annual Conference Session adopt a revised budget to sustain the mission and support its congregations and clergy based on the following:

1. Approve a revised GNJ consolidated budget of **\$24,880,133** income and **\$24,849,672** expenses.
2. Apportion congregations 15.2% for shared ministry.
3. Bill congregations the blended health insurance rate of \$16,500 per insured and add to a church's billing any additional expenses selected by the clergy and lay employees over and above the supported plan (churches will withhold this amount from a pastor's salary).
4. Set aside the distribution percentages of property sales as approved by the October 2020 Annual Conference Session until 2026 or sooner in order to fund the transition to full billing of congregations while simultaneously growing our reserves.
5. Use property sales and draw on reserves as approved in the budget. If a balanced budget cannot be achieved, CFA, Board of Pensions, Board of Trustees and the Cabinet may jointly approve the use of additional reserve funds to achieve a balanced consolidated budget once other methods such as budget reductions have been exhausted. The chairperson of CFA is to report any additional use of reserves to the next annual conference session.
6. GNJ will give to the general church what it receives toward general church apportionments and CFA may add additional dollars if there is income over expenses in the shared ministry receipts and expenses.
7. Apportion churches **\$1,850,316** for general church apportionments.
8. The Connectional Table, CFA, Board of Pensions, Board of Trustees and Cabinet will review the following schedules and make the necessary reductions to achieve the approved consolidated budget line items by January 31.
 - a. Mission, Justice and Agency Schedule (A Journey of Hope will not be reduced)
 - b. Communications and Fundraising Schedule
 - c. Administration Schedule
 - d. Property Schedule
 - e. Billings Schedules

PROPOSED CONSOLIDATED GNJ BUDGET

Income for GNJ Mission and Ministry

Shared Ministry Receipts		7,253,387
Centenary Fund		770,000
Insurance, Pension and Billable Income		12,113,241
Reserve		550,500
Property Sales		3,182,000
Grants		
Episcopal Office	85,470	
Lilly Grant	112,000	
Covid Grant Carry Over	500,000	
Additional Grants and Donations	25,000	
Total Grants		722,470
Registrations		41,400
Shared Services		195,000
GNJ Staff Healthcare Contributions		52,136
Total Income		24,880,133

Expenses for GNJ Mission and Ministry

Personnel		
GNJ Staff	4,241,319	
Clergy and Laity Health and Dental Insurance	6,100,368	
Clergy and Laity Pensions	2,838,707	
Staff and Elected Leadership Development	35,000	
Severance and Unemployment Self-Insurance	184,096	
Total Personnel		13,399,489
Congregational and Leadership Development		1,297,776
Mission, Justice and GNJ Agencies		1,292,172
Covid Grants to Congregations		500,000
Benevolence – Retiree Healthcare		2,887,734
Communications		131,500
Administration		509,196
Property		
Congregations' Property Insurance	4,379,582	
GNJ Property	352,223	
Total Property		4,731,805
Bridge Fund		100,000
Total Expenses		24,849,672
Income Over (Under) Expenses		30,461
General Church Apportionments		1,850,316