

FAQ – Church finance questions

Will there be financial assistance to help churches support paid staff during the shutdown?

- There will be both Governmental and Conference support that will be looked at on a case by case basis. [Visit our COVID-19 financial resources webpage for more information.](#)

What adjustments are being made to apportionments, if any, as a result of the in-person worship suspension?

- The Conferences are currently evaluating what options exist. They are looking at what can be reduced in their spending plans and will be communicating with Boards and Agencies about their budgets as well.

Can church part-time staff who can't work as normal apply for unemployment in their state?

- States vary but the new Federal Guidelines should allow this. The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) is another option to pursue.

What should we do if our funds drop to zero or too low to cover all expenses?

- You need to be in conversation with your District Superintendent, first, and hopefully well before getting to zero. You should be to be creative in your stewardship.

Can the conference office set up an online giving account where donors can give to any specified church in the conference?

- This is being looked at and evaluated as to the speed with which funds could get to the local church. The best option is for people to continue to give to their local church as they have. They should be able to send a check directly to the church.

Are there resources for coping with decreased giving during crisis?

- [Horizons](#) has some good stewardship resources
- Online and electronic giving should be pursued if you are not already doing this
- Sending stamped, self-addressed envelopes with a pastoral letter to congregation
- The most important thing is that churches should communicate, communicate, communicate, and to be sure that discussions are based on facts.