

January 6, 2023

Dear Iowa Conference Pastors, Treasurers, Finance Chairs and Church Secretaries/Admins

RE: 2022 Annual Statistical Reports

It is that time of year again when all churches report their local church statistics. The 2016 Book of Discipline ¶ 340.2c(2)(f) states that a pastor's responsibility is "to care for all church records, and local church financial obligations, and certify the accuracy of all financial, membership, and any other reports submitted by the local church to the annual conference for use in apportioning costs back to the church." A pastor may fulfill this requirement by ensuring that all statistical information for tables one, two, and three are completed.

Former Conference Treasurer Maggie Biggs retired in August 2022 and agreed to continue in the role of Interim Conference Statistician following Roland Minshall's retirement in October. We are grateful for the many years of service that both Maggie and Roland gave to the Iowa Annual Conference and are looking forward to having Maggie continue serving in this capacity. GCFA also rolled out a new statistics system replacing Ezra called ACStats. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work through both transitions.

As we have done in past years, we are asking all churches to submit their statistical tables on-line by **Tuesday, February 28, 2023**. Please visit the Statistics page on the conference website at <http://www.iaumc.org/stats>. Most important, on the website, is the User Guide which has instructions including the Username and Password. Churches that closed in 2022 must also submit their information.

If it is impossible for you or someone from your congregation to submit your statistics on-line, please contact your District Administrative Assistant and they will send you paper copies of the forms. Your District Administrative Assistant will be happy to help with any questions regarding the data collected on the statistics report. Any questions related to the ACStats system should be directed to Maggie Biggs.

There are no new questions to the statistical questions for 2022 so while it is a new system to navigate, all of the data collected is the same as in the past.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation by providing this valuation information. Again, remember that submission must be completed no later than **February 28, 2023**. According to the rules which were approved by the Annual Conference, congregations that do not complete the report by that day will have an automatic 10% increase added

to their 2024 apportionments. Also, if your church has **voted to disaffiliate** effective June 30, 2023, your statistics submission is due by **February 15, 2023**, in order to avoid the 10% penalty.

Sincerely,

Emily Graber  
Conference Treasurer

Maggie Biggs  
Interim Conference Statistician

**Please Note: This information is being sent via email only. Please check with the following persons to verify if they received this message. If they did not or do not have email, please get them a copy of this message: pastor, treasurer, finance chair, office manager/church secretary.**