

# AN INTRODUCTION TO PROPORTIONAL GIVING

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**Southern New England Conference**  
United Church of Christ  
*Living the Love & Justice of Jesus*

# WHAT IS PROPORTIONAL GIVING(PG)?

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- A new way for local churches to support the wider church.
- Replaces current giving models of Conf. dues, OCWM, and UCM
- Giving is based on a percentage of a congregation's income.

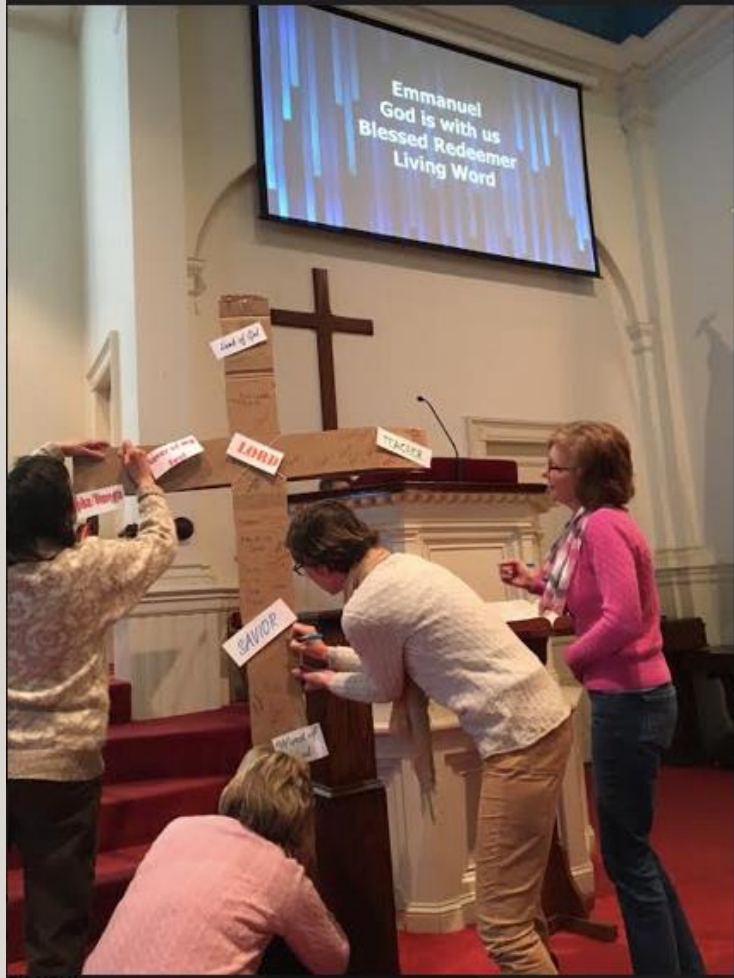
# WHY PROPORTIONAL GIVING?

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- Grounded in Biblical Principles
- Consistent with best practices
- Reduces confusion
- More equitable
- An expression of Covenant Partnership







## DON'T WORRY...

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- You choose what you give.
- No financial reporting is required.
- Your gift will still support the National UCC.

# WHAT ABOUT ASSOCIATIONS?

Associations are not funded in this model.

- Calculating each Association's share is very complex.
- Complicates the relationship of Associations with the Conference.
- Delays Association funding

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# PROPORTIONAL GIVING AT YOUR CHURCH



Use 2019 #s to find your giving percentage.



Use your Giving Percentage to calculate a proportional gift.



We're here to help!

# HOW TO BEGIN

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First, compare your 2019 wider church giving in relation to your income to establish your initial **Giving Percentage**.

Example:

2019 Dues                    \$3,030

2019 OCWM                \$4,200

2019 Giving:                \$7,230

2019 Actual

Total Income:    \$175,000

*Giving ÷ Income =  
Giving Percentage*

$\$7,230 \div \$175,000 = .041$

**Giving Percentage = 4.1%**

THEN, GOING  
FORWARD...

Apply your **Giving Percentage** to actual church income for prior year to determine what your contribution will be for the current year.

$$\text{Prior Year Total Income} \times \text{Giving \%} = \text{Current Year's Contribution}$$

Example for 2021:

- Established initial Giving Percentage = 4.1%
- Total actual income for 2020 = \$165,000
- $\$165,000 \times .041 = \$6,765$
- In this scenario, the Proportional Giving contribution for this church would be \$6,765 in 2021, a decrease from \$7,230 in 2020



# WHAT'S INCLUDED IN TOTAL INCOME?

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## YES

- Gifts that fund your congregation's ministry (*pledges, plate offerings, general fundraising, mission pledges*)
- Investment income allocation to your budget (*regular "draw"*)
- Net rental income (*rooms, cell tower*)
- Net program income (*nursery school*)
- Essentially, your Operating/Regular Income

## NO

- Capital Campaign contributions
- One-time restricted gifts
- Memorial gifts & bequests
- Extraordinary use of endowment to balance budget (i.e. in excess of 5% draw)
- Special UCC offerings or other one-time mission giving
- Net income from fundraising for restricted purposes (e.g. to buy new handbells)
- Income from one-time sale of assets (e.g. parsonage)
- Essentially, all non-Operating/Regular Income

# HELP FOR CHURCH LEADERS!

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- Webinars
- In-person workshops
- Online resources at:  
<https://www.sneucc.org/proportional-giving>
- Conference Staff, especially, David Cleaver-Bartholomew, your RM or ACM







# GROWING IN GIVING

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Excited about the mission of the SNEC?

Set a goal to gradually increase your giving percentage.



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