

## Frequently Asked Questions about MCN Finances

### 1. What is the current status of the deficit?

Summer is often a slow time for giving and for the last 5 years we have had a deficit during the summer. In 2017, however there has been a deficit of more than \$25,000 since March.

Because of the response to our request in early July, the deficit has nearly been cut in half. At the end of July the deficit was \$36,500 with additional pledges for extra giving totaling over \$15,000.

### 2. What caused the deficit this year?

As has been the case in the past several years, regular monthly giving has been insufficient to meet expenses. In the past 2 ½ years, we have run a deficit in 21/31 months. This year is no different and in 7 months we have only had one month where income exceeded expenses, and that month was after a specific request for additional giving. If we compare January - July 2016 to January - July 2017, we have decreased giving by \$5,000 and increased expenses by \$10,000.

### 3. What is the source of those increased expenses?

We paid ahead \$4,000 of our 2018 building insurance.

Our MCUSA Convention expenses were increased by \$6,000 due to additional expenses related to the MCUSA Convention's location in Orlando, Florida.

### 4. Are there any trends in giving that have contributed to the deficit?

In the past 31 months, we have had only 10 months where income exceeded expenses. Four of those months were in response to specific requests for additional giving. One conclusion that can be drawn is that our regular monthly giving does not meet our Spending Plan expenses. The only way we draw close to meeting our expenses is through additional requests, often at year end.

### 5. What proportion of the Spending Plan do each of the main categories comprise?

Music & Worship	.7%	Staff & Administration	53.2%
Christian Education	1.3%	Congregational Nurture	1.2%
Youth Ministry	3.8%	First Fruits-Local	2.3%
Church Building	15.6%	First Fruits-Non-Local	21.5%
Fellowship	.4%	Total	100%