



NEW YORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

20 SOUNDVIEW AVENUE, WHITE PLAINS, NEW YORK 10606 / (914) 615-2212

Ross Williams
Treasurer

July 5, 2011

Dear Pastor, Trustees Chair, Treasurer and Finance Chair,

Re: Conference Insurance Program

Your church currently participates in the Conference sponsored insurance program for Property & Casualty insurance and/or Automobile insurance. At our most recent Annual Conference, a resolution was approved to terminate participation in this program for member churches.

Why was this done? In short, the program is underutilized and does not serve the needs of either participating churches or the Conference very well. Out of the approximately 475 churches in the conference, only about 100 participate. There are many issues with the program in the areas of billing, collections, claims administration, adequacy of coverage and the resources required to administer the program.

When will this happen? The Conference will cease to provide coverage effective **January 1, 2012**.

What coverage is affected? Property & Casualty (including Directors & Officers & Umbrella) and Automobile coverage arranged through the Conference.

What coverage is not affected? Workers Compensation, which will continue to be procured and billed by the Conference.

What does my church need to do? Your church Trustees need to contact one or more insurance agents / companies and purchase coverage effective January 1, 2012 for Property & Casualty insurance and Automobile coverage (if applicable). Your Trustees should ensure that your new coverage meets the Conference minimum insurance standards, which are attached. You should also ensure that you obtain a new appraisal of property values so that coverage is adequate (instead of requesting coverage based upon existing or old appraisal values). Please do not purchase coverage with an effective date prior to 1/1/12.

What if my church cannot afford Property & Casualty Insurance? We understand that there are certain churches in dire economic situations. If you feel that your church is unable to pay for coverage, your Trustees may contact your District Superintendent in writing to request relief (please copy me at the address above). This request must include: 1) one or more quotes for coverage based upon new appraisals of property values, 2) a detailed description of the reasons for the church's inability to pay, 3) the length of time that relief is sought, 4) the amount the church can contribute towards its insurance coverage and 5) the most recently available financial statements showing fund balances and a year-to-

date profit and loss statement. Please note that priority for very limited funding will be given to churches that have made efforts to pay some portion of their insurance costs in the past. Requests for relief must be received by October 15, 2011.

Are there insurance agents that you recommend?

There are many agents that provide coverage within the geographic area of the Conference. We list some below but do not recommend one over the other.

Church Mutual Insurance Company

955 West Mountain Road

Queensbury, NY 12804

Territories: NY & CT

1-800-554-2642 menu option 1 (you will be put in touch with the rep that handles your geographic area)

Emery & Webb Inc.

<http://www.emerywebb.com/>

Fishkill, NY - Phone 845-896-6727 Stuart Walker and Francis Ward

Pawling, NY - Phone 845-855-1112

Poughkeepsie - NY Phone 845-454-4220

Rhinebeck, NY - Phone 845-876-4065

Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services

2 Gannett Drive

White Plains, NY 10604

Contact person: Kevin Barry

Territories: NY & CT

Phone: 914-697-6033

Fax: 914-323-4533

E-mail: kevin_barry@ajg.com

Fred Morris Agency

1980 Route 112, Suite 2

Coram, NY 11727

Territories: Long Island

Phone: 631-403-4452

Fax: 631-509-5566

E-mail: fmgrou27@yahoo.com

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 914-615-2212.

Sincerely,

Ross Williams

**New York Annual Conference
Minimum Insurance Coverages
For Local Churches**

Property

Buildings	Replacement Cost 100%
Contents	Replacement Cost 100%

Liability

Per Occurrence	\$1,000,000	
General Aggregate	\$2,000,000	
Directors & Officers	\$1,000,000	Per occurrence
Pastoral Liability	\$1,000,000	per occurrence
Sexual Abuse & Molestation	\$1,000,000	per occurrence

Automobile

Liability	\$1,000,000
Uninsured Motorist Cov.	\$1,000,000
Non Owned & Hired Auto	\$1,000,000

Workers Compensation

Employers Liability	\$500,000	each occurrence
Each Accident	\$500,000	
Each Employee	\$500,000	

Note: all churches are covered under NYAC Insurance Program for workers compensation. Local churches do not need to secure their own workers compensation coverage. All local churches that secure their property and casualty separately from the NYAC must add The New York Annual Conference as an additional insured. Limits and coverages in excess of those recommended above are encouraged. These are the minimum requirements. Local churches that do not utilize the conference insurance program shall provide a certificate of liability insurance (Acord 25) and an evidence of property coverage (Acord 28) to the conference office to the attention of Insurance Committee.