



**Western Association  
Missouri Mid-South Conference  
United Church of Christ**

February 25, 2010

Dear Western Association Pastor, Delegate, or Church Leader;

The proposed Western Association Annual Budget for both 2010 and 2011 are to be approved at the Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. The budgets are the same for both years. This proposed budget for both 2010 and 2011 is supplied for your examination prior to the Annual Meeting at St. Luke's U.C.C. in Independence. They represent our best estimate of Western Association expenses and needed income.

The current balance in the Western Association Account is \$4,334.67. This balance includes: Western Association monies transferred from the Missouri Mid-South Conference; donations from Western Association Ordinations and Installations; and a \$1,000.00 gift from the Lafayette Cluster of U.C.C. Churches.

The proposed Budget is provided for your prayerful consideration as a covenant partner in the Western Association. Please note that within the Budget are funds to provide for:

1. The Committee on Ministry meetings and an annual retreat;
2. Western Association Annual meetings;
3. Local and Cluster educational events and support;
4. Emergency pastoral support and continuing education;
5. Support for the Association Honored Laywoman to attend General Synod; and
6. Support and scholarships for those preparing for ministerial leadership.

Although we anticipate receipt of some funds (approximately \$1,500.00 – see budget) to offset these expenses, the rest must be provided by the Churches of our Association. We have asked Churches to prayerfully consider providing a suggested donation of \$2.00 per member to assist with these expenses. This is not an assessment, levy, apportionment, or dues. It is a suggested donation for us to continue our mission and ministry together as the Western Association. Please consider this request and bring it to the attention of your Church Council or ruling body for consideration prior to our Meeting on April 10<sup>th</sup>.

We also request that church delegates or pastors bring information to the Annual Meeting about church scholarship monies or grants that may be available to those preparing for ministry in our Association.

Grace and Peace,  
Western Association Council