



FINANCIAL FOUNDATIONS



LET THE EAP LIGHTEN YOUR LOAD

Blurred boundaries between work and personal time...personal or family issues...financial worries...feeling stressed and stretched to the limit. Let the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) lighten your load – with confidential resources available online, on the phone or in person.

As a participant or spouse covered by HealthFlex you can use the EAP to address a variety of issues related to work, relationships, family life, finances, time management and personal challenges.

Turn to this program for help with:

- Maintaining boundaries between professional life and personal life;
- Marital and family satisfaction;
- Financial pressures, including household budgeting and paying off educational loans or other debts;
- Settling into a new community and finding childcare and other local resources;
- Living with a chronic or serious illness or caring for an ailing family member;
- Stress, anxiety or depression; and
- Legal matters, such as wills and adoption (one attorney consultation at no cost)

Services are completely confidential – your conference or employer will not be informed if you use these resources. Some services are available over the phone or online at no charge. For needs that require an in-person appointment, your first eight visits are provided at no cost to you **if you call Optum for pre-authorization prior to your visit and you make sure that you see an In Network provider.**

If in-person therapy makes you uncomfortable or your busy schedule doesn't allow for a traditional therapy appointment, Talkspace provides a different kind of one-on-one support that may work for you. Your eight free Employee Assistance Program (EAP) sessions allow you to access Talkspace at no cost for up to eight weeks.

After you select a therapist, you are encouraged to speak with your therapist as part of a complimentary orientation session. During the introductory session, the therapist's schedule, preferred methods of communication and expected response times, among other things, will be discussed. The orientation session does not count as one of your eight free EAP sessions.

CONTACT INFO

Finance Office

Jeff Pospisil
JoAnn Schlimgen
Dana Bassett

605-990-7786

finance@dakotasumc.org

Benefits Office

Leana Stunes

605-990-7785

benefits@dakotasumc.org

Foundation Office

Sheri Meister
Diane Weller
Kelsey Morgan
Andrea Hult

605-990-7790

info@dkmnmf.org

Clergy Well-Being

Diane Owen

507-244-0311

diane.owen@dkmnareaumc.org

www.dakotasumc.org

www.dakotasumf.org

PO Box 460
Mitchell, SD 57301

PENSION REBATES AND IRS MILEAGE RATES

At the end of last month, Pension Rebate checks were sent to all churches that paid into Funds 3 and 4 (Pension Direct Bill and HealthFlex Direct Bill). A total of \$1.6 million was sent out to churches. Just a reminder that these checks are not subject to apportionments, and there is no restriction on how the churches can use this money.

The second thing is that the IRS mileage rate has increased from 58.5¢/mile to 62.5¢/mile as of July 1st. This is the rate pastors are to be reimbursed for business miles in their personal vehicle. For more information on what does and does not count for business miles I put together this post and video: <http://jctaccounting.com/2020/02/21/is-it-commuting-or-business-miles/>

IS NOSTALGIA STOPPING YOU FROM GROWING YOUR CHURCH?

Matt Miofsky has written a great book about letting go and in his book, he talks about hanging on to an image of what was. Miofsky says: "Nostalgia – not only keeps us longing for somethings that cannot be retrieved, but also keeps us from seeing the new path's that God is opening in front of us."

How many times do you think about how your church "used to be"? As you ponder this, what is holding you back from spending money or increasing the budget in new ways. Are you still hoping for a new organ? Sunday School classrooms to be busting at the seams, or maybe it's that fundraiser which brought in most of the community to support your youth back in the day.

Next time you find yourself in that place thinking about how things used to be, begin to think about what could be and what opportunities God is nudging you to explore. The possibilities are endless!

FINANCIAL FOUNDATIONS WEBINAR

August 8th at 7:00pm (Central)

This quarter's topic: **How Investing Can Turn Around a Church**

Sheri and Jeff have worked with numerous churches that feel stuck and are usually struggling financially as well. They will share three key learning on how the church's decision to invest, either financially or operationally, renewed hope and help brought a measure of success.

Pastors, treasurers, finance committee members, and anyone interested in stewardship and generosity in the church are welcome to join. Register at <https://www.dakotasumc.org/foundation/calendar/financial-foundations-webinar-14?recur=2187>

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR CONNECTIONAL RESOURCES AND ADMINISTRATION

The Dakotas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church is seeking an experienced business professional to partner in leading and stewarding the vision and resources of the Annual Conference. The director will join a collaborative team with a culture of excellence, creativity, respect, and joy in ministry to serve our Churches, organizations, and leaders across the Dakotas. Managing finance and administration matters in support of our mission to equip congregations in the making of disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

The Executive Director, Center for Connectional Resources, Treasurer & Administration (CCTA) is an executive-level position. It will have authority, responsibility, accountability to guide and counsel Conference and church leadership in best practices for strategic use of resources—human, financial, property, etc.—to accomplish the mission. The CCTA will have solid relational skills, ability to think creatively and see big picture opportunities and be committed to the mission of the Dakotas Annual Conference and the churches they serve.

A full description and list of qualifications can be found at <https://www.dakotasumc.org/about/dakotas-staff/conference-employment-opportunities>