

Per Capita helps churches

Through per capita, Presbytery of Chicago churches:

- Help congregations with pastoral transitions
- Train and support interim ministers
- Resolve congregational conflicts
- Care for ministers and Christian Educators and their families
- Help prepare people for service as ordained ministers



2012 Per Capita Rates

General Assembly	\$6.63
Synod of Lincoln Trails	\$3.81
Presbytery of Chicago	\$20.00
Total Per Capita	\$30.44

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*A Beacon of Hope Guiding Leaders,
Congregations and Communities*

Presbyterians in Partnership

2012 Per Capita



What is Per Capita?

It is a way Presbyterians share equally, responsibly, and interdependently in the costs of governing the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), no matter the size of their churches.

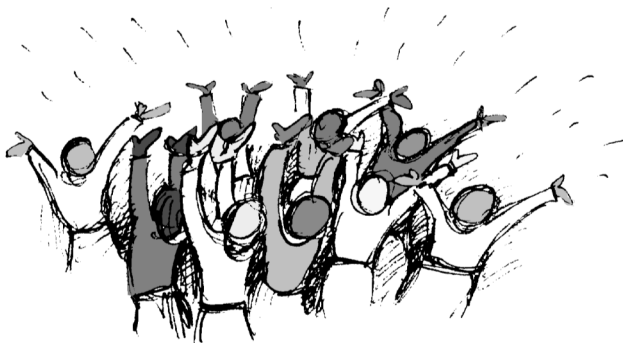
Per capita contributions are:

- requested from every congregation
- based on each church's total active membership

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What Do Per Capita Contributions Do?

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is a connectional church. Presbyterian congregations worship, serve, and govern together. Per capita contributions fund the shared governing responsibilities for the whole church. Together with the per capita contributions from churches throughout the country, they support the



Presbyterian ministers and elected elders serve as representatives to each governing body. Commissioners to each Assembly represent their individual churches, or governing bodies, but their main purpose is to prayerfully and obediently seek to discern the will of Jesus Christ together.

Per capita contributions support such ministries as:

- the work of the Presbytery of Chicago's Committee on Ministry and Committee on Preparation for Ministry
- official meetings of the governing bodies of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly
- other responsibilities through which the governing bodies build up the church as the body of Christ

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How Do We Calculate Each Church's Share of Per Capita?

The Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly each determines its per capita related budget. Then each divides its respective budget by the total number of members; this gives the per capita rate.

It is important for churches to accurately report their membership annually. Each church's share of per capita is calculated with the membership figures reported by the Session and recorded in the most

recent General Assembly Minutes. This means the rate for 2012 is based on the total number of active members reported at the end of 2010. Each church is encouraged to give its full requested share of per capita, regardless of how it collects the funds.

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Q: *Our congregation pays the Presbytery. Do we also need to pay the Synod and the General Assembly?*

A: The Presbytery keeps its share and pays the whole per capita amount owed to both the Synod and the General Assembly. The Presbytery pays this entire apportionment, whether or not the per capita funds from each congregation are received. When churches do not pay, the presbytery must use money from other income that could be used for mission.

Q: *Is paying per capita the only way we partner with other Presbyterians?*

A: Per capita contributions cover the shared costs of governing the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Presbytery of Chicago churches are also partners in mission. Mission, which ranges from leadership training, to ministries of compassion, to church renewal, is supported by voluntary contributions, such as Shared Mission Giving.