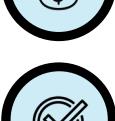


12 IMPORTANT REASONS TO REPORT ANNUAL CHURCH DATA

- COVENANT**  Cultivating UCC covenantal relationship with other Local Churches, Associations, Conferences, and National.
- UPDATES**  Updating your church's contact information in the [UCC Yearbook & Directory](#), [Access UCC](#), and on [Find a Church](#)
- TRENDS**  Contributing to denominational trends in the annual [UCC Statistical Profile](#), which tracks overall membership, ministerial compensation, and church finances over time
- RESOURCES**  Helping your Conference, Association, and/or National understand your congregation from a statistical perspective in order to better provide appropriate support and resources
- VOICE**  Determining the number of delegates your Conference can designate for General Synod, which is one of the essential ways your voice is heard on important issues
- GUIDELINES**  Assisting with benchmarks to determine appropriate church staffing configurations and compensation guidelines from the ministerial compensation data you provide*
- RECOGNITION**  Supporting and reporting your church's OCWM and special offerings allows Conferences and the National Setting to recognize and thank you on behalf of the wider church and to encourage future support
- RESEARCH**  Enabling CARDD to conduct statistical analyses that contribute to important research for all mainline denominations e.g. some of the research reported on CARDD's [weekly blog](#)
- CONTRIBUTIONS**  Calculating dues, or apportionments, that your church gives to your Association or Conference
- FUNDING**  Receiving funding from the National Setting? If so, annual reporting helps ensure continued financial support and is usually a requirement for grant-receiving churches
- VERIFICATION**  Seeking loans through the Church Building & Loan Fund or Cornerstone Fund? These entities view annual statistics for verification and clarification of information provided in the loan application
- ARCHIVES**  Creating a historical statistical record for your congregation that will long outlive current generations and that historians will be able to learn from in the future

*Individual data are not published but are used to accumulate the final statistics for the benchmarks.