

# The Bishop's Five-Star Award of Excellence



## **Purpose**

To provide incentive for churches to embrace new ministries each year that are geared specifically toward growth and outreach. The award is designed to enable both small churches and large churches to receive recognition.

## **Criteria (The Five Stars)**

### **Increase in Sunday School attendance and/or enhancement of Christian Education Ministry**

To qualify for this star, a church must have an increase in Sunday School attendance, an increase in attendance at Christian Education events, or the addition of Christian Education programs, not necessarily on Sunday (example: programs including Bible Studies, spiritual formation small groups for all ages).

### **A new work that impacts growth**

Examples of acceptable programs include new Sunday School classes, preschool groups, day care programs, scouting projects, and lay visitation programs. Credit will be given for programs that demonstrate effectiveness in church growth.

### **One percent increase in members received by profession of faith or rededication**

One new member received by profession of faith or rededication for every 100 members.

### **Emphasis on youth ministries**

Examples of acceptable programs include conducting a confirmation class, starting a youth group, starting a youth choir, sending 10 percent of youth to camp, having 50 percent of youth workers attend youth workers' training events, supporting the Youth Service Fund, and increasing attendance of UMYF by 10 percent. Credit will be given to programs that demonstrate emphasis on growing youth ministry.

### **All apportionments paid in full for 2019**

Or a 25 percent increase in apportionment payments compared to 2018.

## **How to nominate a church**

Complete the nomination form on the other side of this page and email it to [dseals@umcsc.org](mailto:dseals@umcsc.org) by **April 1, 2020**.

**A subcommittee of the Evangelism Committee of the Discipleship Area of Connectional Ministries of the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church will review the applications and notify the qualifiers.**



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Nomination Form | Deadline: April 1, 2020



*This award provides an incentive for churches – small and large – to embrace new ministries each year geared toward growth and outreach. Sponsored by the Evangelism Committee of the Discipleship Area of Connectional Ministries of the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church. (See criteria on other side of this form.)*

Church/Charge: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Church membership: \_\_\_\_\_

## Christian Education

Average Sunday School Attendance 2018: \_\_\_\_\_ Average Sunday School Attendance 2019: \_\_\_\_\_

Write a paragraph ( $\leq 100$  words) describing enhancement of Christian education programs:

## Church Growth

Church membership at the beginning of 2018 (*according to the Journal*): \_\_\_\_\_

Number of members received by profession of faith or rededication in 2019: \_\_\_\_\_

Percentage increase from 2018 to 2019: \_\_\_\_\_

Write a paragraph ( $\leq 100$  words) describing a new program and how it has impacted growth in your church:

## Youth Ministry

Write a paragraph ( $\leq 100$  words) describing a new program and how it has impacted your church's youth ministry:

## Apportionment giving

Total apportionments requested (2018): \_\_\_\_\_

Total apportionments paid (2019): \_\_\_\_\_

Total apportionments paid (2018): \_\_\_\_\_

Percent paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Percentage increase (2019 over 2018): \_\_\_\_\_