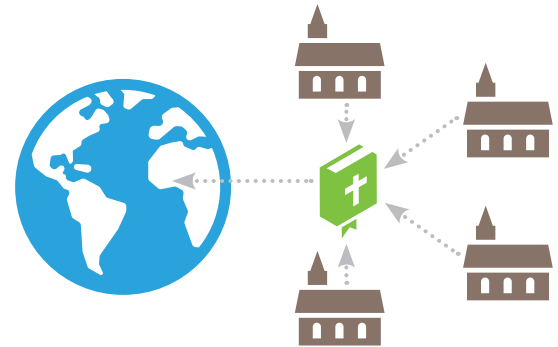


MINISTRY SHARES EXPLAINED

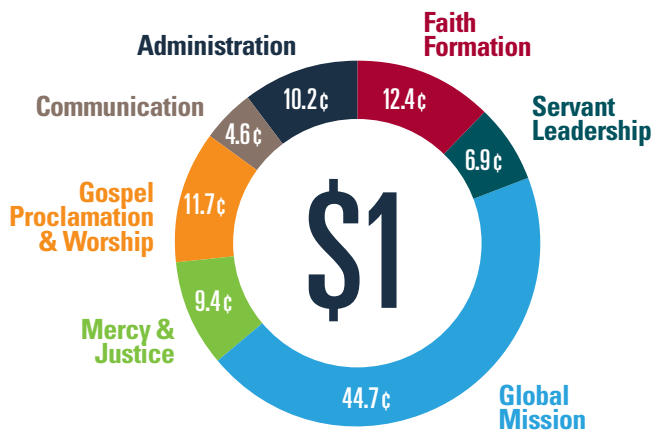
What are ministry shares?

In 1862, Christian Reformed congregations recognized that some of the ministries to which Christ calls us can be difficult to do on our own. They covenanted to pool their resources in order to do more and greater ministry together.

This system, still implemented today, is very cost-effective and is a big reason why the CRC is able to support a range of ministry programs that is unparalleled for a denomination of our size.



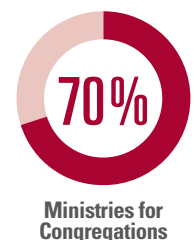
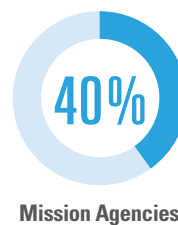
Where does the money go?



The Christian Reformed Church uses ministry shares to fund a variety of requested ministries both within North America and around the world. The vast majority of every dollar of ministry shares goes directly to ministry programs that start new churches, train servant leaders, support chaplains, resource congregations, and reach out to our neighbors through media and evangelism.

Do ministry shares cover the whole cost of everything our denomination does?

NO, but they are the foundation for much of it. Ministry shares provide about 40% of the budget for mission agencies, 50% for Calvin Theological Seminary, and an average of 70% for various ministries that support CRC congregations.



Are ministry shares really a good way to raise money?

YES, Ministry shares are an amazingly efficient and stewardly way for us to accomplish ministry together. Over the years, as synod decided to start new programs, we've used ministry shares as a way of enabling all of our congregations to contribute towards the costs. In this way, every initiative is truly part of our shared ministry.

Ministry Shares Cost

It costs approximately **\$44,000** to raise \$22 million with Ministry Shares

22 Million

How much should my congregation give?

Right now, the formula for ministry shares comes out to about **\$8** per active member per week.

\$8 =  **/wk**

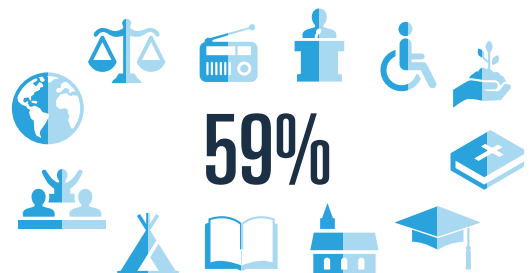


If every CRC member and every congregation gave their whole amount, this would provide us with **\$40 MILLION** for ministry impact locally and around the world.

What happens if my church doesn't give?

Currently, churches are contributing only **59%** of the requested amount for ministry. This means fewer funds are available for:

- Supporting new church plants
- Producing new resources for children's ministry
- Training new pastors and supporting those already in ministry
- Resourcing chaplains as they serve populations in crisis
- Producing resources to revitalize worship in congregations
- Equipping churches in abuse prevention, disability awareness, and racial reconciliation
- Sharing the gospel in new ministry fields



Ask your deacon, elder, or treasurer if your church is contributing its covenanted amount to ministry shares.