

Report of the Treasurer

Rich Bireta



By way of introduction, my name is Rich Bireta and it is my pleasure to start my term serving as the Treasurer of the Conference. My wife Jane and I live in Lawrence, Kansas and are long term members of Plymouth Congregational Church there.

I would like to add my thanks and appreciation to former Treasurer Mark Van Dorn for his service to the Conference in this role and wish him the best. It is also important to thank the other members of the Finance and Stewardship Committee, Joe Pruitt and Emily Rix, for their work this year. Conference President Bobbie Henderson and Conference Minister Edith Guffey provided valuable contributions, direction and guidance to the work of that committee.

I'd like to review the Conference financial status at the end of 2020 and comment on the proposed budget for 2022.

Last year, 2020, was a very unusual year for all of us. The global pandemic continues to impact many lives and has already changed the way many of us worked, travelled, communicated and worshipped. The financial well-being of many individuals and organizations was impacted. Church finances have been disrupted to a degree that we have not seen in many years.

Conference revenue in 2020 was stable, ending the year at 97% of the planned amount. The expenses of the Conference reflect the largest change, ending the year at 90% of the planned amount. Lower expenses in the area of the Conference office was the main factor in the Conference ending the year with revenue exceeding expenses by \$7,940. One notable expense exceeded its budget. The line item for Accounting and Other Contracted Services exceeded the planned amount, ending the year at 260% of the planned amount. This is due to the receipt of grant income and the use of distributable funds for contracted positions in the area of Communications and Development.

You will see in the proposed 2022 budget these sources of revenue are listed in the budget to provide a more complete picture of the planned use of the Conference's revenue.

The 2022 Budget Highlights should be consulted for more information regarding next year's budget. In that document we've highlighted the reasons and rationale for the changes to the budget for 2022 compared to 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Rich Bireta
KO Conference Treasurer