**January 17, 2025**

**The Church of the Cross Vestry Minute**

Meeting was held virtually. All content was distributed electronically and approved by all Vestry members.

**PRESENT:**  Fr. Owens, Michael Simon, Lee Watkins, Tom Durston, Joanne Byrd, Craig Pelley, Linda Laird, and Wayne Bowerman

**I:**  **MINUTES:** Linda Laird

The Vestry Minutes for December were electronically distributed and approved by all.

**II:  FINANCE:**  Lee Watkins:

**Treasurer’s Report for Month Ending December 31, 2024:**

**Revenue Discussions:**  Monthly and final yearly income were much higher than budgeted

December total monthly Income was at $734,721.03 to a budget of $501,475.00.

Monthly Plate/Pledge Income was $592,726.47 to a budget 433,350.00.

The 2024 total for giving finished at $3,468,383.00 to a budget of 2,850,000.

2024 Plate/Pledge income variance is +$618,383.00.

Total Income for the year finished at $4,548,279.99 to a budget of $3,667,500.00

**Note**: Total income includes Giving, Bequests, Missions, Faith Formation and Counseling Center revenue.

Total Funds in Intra Fi account now stand at 1,981,110.82. December interest from the IntraFi Accounts was $4201.76. This interest was transferred to the Jasper County Account which now stands at $1,459,536.42.

In December, an additional $500,000 was placed in the Jasper County account—discussion below in expenses.

**Expenses Discussion**: Overall expenses were higher than budget for the month as the budget year ended and final adjustments were made to offset income.

Total expenses for the month were $958,393.84 to a monthly budget of $311,421.44. Expenses were over the monthly budgeted amount by $646,972.40.

The majority of this overage relates to the following:

Moving $500,000 to the Jasper County Fund

Diocesan Blessings related to the financial pledge Camp Jubilee of $50,000.

Higher year-end Missions Board Grants of $117,612.25

Pastoral Care expenses of $9786.88 related to Samaritans Purse donations and Stephens Minister Training, $11,902 for the replacement of the HVAC unit in the Counseling Center.

Final Expenses for the year (not including depreciation and amortization) were at $4,550,223.31 to a budget of $3,783,660.00 (**note**: This variance, for the most part, is due to the Jasper County transfers made in September and December).

**Missions Board Budget Stands at the following:**The Missions Board met on January 13, 2025.

The Missions Reserve at the end of December was at: $390,737.04

Monthly Set-Aside Distributions: $21,083.00

Additional Grant Approvals: $21,800.00

For a Total of Grants for January 2025 of $42,883.00

God’s Goods revenue designated for missions for December was $47,906.62 (Compared to the month of November which was $78,859.45) and has been transferred to the mission’s budget.

Total 2024 Yearly God’s Goods designated missions’ revenue transferred to the Missions budget was $828,078.27.

**Church Attendance for Christmas Eve Services:**

Calhoun 5P: bb546

Calhoun 7P: bb235

Calhoun 9P: bb276

Buckwalter 1P: 129

Buckwalter 3P: 631

Buckwalter 5P: 425

Buckwalter 7P: 108

Total: **2350** (2023 Christmas Eve total attendance was **2326**)

**Streaming and Online:**

Web usage and streaming increased significantly as we got closer to Christmas.

The COTC Website views/visits average were higher through December/Advent reaching a Christmas week high of an 850 visit per day average.

YouTube Views doubled for the month at 2751, as expected, many views were around the week of Christmas.

May the new year bring happiness and, most importantly, holiness to our lives--individually and collectively.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Lee Watkins, Vestry Treasurer**

Michael made the motion to approve the Financial Report, Craig seconded and all approved.

**Missions Outreach Board**

**Meeting January 13, 2025**

**January 2025 Disbursement Report**

**Net Working Capital**: $47,031.00

**January Set Aside Distributions:** $21,083.00

**January Grant Approvals:** $21,800.00

**Total January Distributions if Approved**: $42,883.00

**Remaining Net Working Capital**: $ 4,148.00

**January** **Disbursements**

1. Cross Counseling Center - Grant Renewal for $300 monthly or $3600 annual for the next year (Accounted for January Set Asides)
2. Help Madagascar - Grant Renewal - Renewal for $1850 monthly or $22,000 annually (Accounted for January Set Asides)
3. Roger Griffin, SAM Mexico - Grant Renewal, $1500 monthly or $18,000 annually (Accounted for January Set Asides)
4. UCCD Burundi - Grant Renewal docs are delayed. Grant extended for one month. (Accounted for January Set Asides)
5. Harvesters Rwanda - Funding request **$6800** for trauma counseling training approved.
6. Harvesters Rwanda - Fund request for church reopening, **$10,000** toward renovations needed to reopen two churches.
7. Amboseli Relief Project - Mercy Gift for urgent medical needs, **$5,000** approved

**Appendix A - January Set Aside Disbursements**

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| --- | --- |
| **Current Month Set Asides** | **Amount to be disbursed in January** |
| **Anderson Sanchez Peru - End June 2025** | $2,250.00 |
| **Bluffton Soup Kitchen - End January 2025** | $833.00 |
| **Campus Outreach Ministry, Hoffman- End November 2025** | $500.00 |
| **CBC Kenya Monthly - January 2025** | $3,000.00 |
| **Cross Christian Counseling Center - End December 2024** | $300.00 |
| **COTC Faith Formation - End May 31 2025** | $1,250.00 |
| **CS CrossSchool Monthly - End May 21 2025** | $2,500.00 |
| **DGL - Young Life - Med Student - Marbelyn- August 2026** |  |
| **DGL - Young Life - Haydeelisbeth - August 2027** |  |
| **Harvesters Intl Congo Monthly Orphan care - End March 2025** | $3,350.00 |
| **HELP Madagascar - End Dec 2024; $2100/month starting January 2024** | $2,100.00 |
| **Hope Compassion Center - End October 2025** | $1,500.00 |
| **SAMS Missionary Griffin - End Jan 2025** | $1,500.00 |
| **UCCD Burundi - End Dec 2024** | $1,500.00 |
| **Young Life New Gen Program - End July 2025** | $500.00 |
| **Total Rolling Year Set Asides** |  |
| **Current Month Distribution** | $21,083.00 |

Michael made the motion to approve the Mission Board request, Craig seconded and all approved.

**IV:** Continued prayers for Father Owens

Next Meeting –  February 21, 12:30 Chapel

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Laird, Secretary

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