

**Ascension Lutheran Church and Holy Cross aka Two Churches  
Joint Council/Vestry Meeting Minutes  
March 11, 2021**

**Attendance:** Rev. Mike W. Vestry Present: Gwen H., Joel F., Laura D., Angela K., Laura K.  
Council Present: Dan W., Kevin B., John S., Polly S. Staff: Deacon Kim H., Intern Alex Q.

**HELD VIA ZOOM – Called to order at 7:05 PM**

**Opening Prayer** – Led by Rev. Mike.

**Approval of Agenda** – Laura K moved to accept, Gwen seconded, Motion carried.

**Clergy Report** – Rev. Mike will be on vacation from 04/12/21 to 04/18/21. Polly stepped forward to lead service on Sun. 04/18/21. Laura D moved to accept, Gwen seconded, Motion carried.

**Approval of Prior Joint Minutes from February 11, 2021** - Gwen moved to accept, Joel seconded, Motion carried.

**Liaison Reports:**

Property Committee – Joel (written) – Additions: John applying to Diocese for grant to cover \$250 of the \$750 estimated cost to mount the MEVO camera in the sanctuary to the ceiling. Joel to ask contractor to send bid for parking lot asphalt work for the third time.

Community Ministry – Kim & Laura K (written) – No additions.

Christian Education – Co (not present and no written report) – No report currently due to continuing pandemic.

Hospitality – Polly & Angela (verbal) – Easter Breakfast not likely due to continuing pandemic.

Worship/Music – Rev. Mike (written) – Addition: Rev. Mike and Deacon Kim to discuss conducting outside service in parking lot if Standing Committee does not move Diocese to Pandemic Phase 2 standing.

Correspondence – John (verbal) – Shared Thank You Letters and member comments regarding Leadership Combining email.

Polly moved to accept all reports, Laura K seconded, Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report** – John (written) – Diagram amended to revise Special Offerings: Christmas from Safe Haven/Voices From Border to TBD (To Be Determined by Community Ministry). Finance Committee requested direction regarding goals and acceptable risks for investment

funds – John directed to inform that should be moderately aggressive. John to call all Ascension members to ascertain if they approve of proposal to place Ascension reserve funds, aka Opening The Way, with the existing Holy Cross investment accounts with funds tracked separately.

Gwen moved to accept as amended, Angela seconded, Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

Next Steps in Combining Leader Bodies – In Progress. Polly to contact Co regarding Holy Cross Canons and applying for one Tax ID/EIN number.

Holy Trinity Conversation – Rev. Mike, Kevin, & Co to meet with Holy Trinity's Interim Rector, Senior Warden, & 1 Member in April on a date to be determined.

2021 Budget/Finance Committee – Met on March 2, 2021.

Combining Bank Account – Nothing new to report.

Updates on Leadership Calls – Continue in March with existing assignments.

**New Business:**

Posting Minutes/Sharing Financials – Typically have posted on bulletin board in narthex in the past, but not currently accessible to membership due to continuing pandemic. Discussion resulted in decision to approach Jill about adding a page to website where will post entire monthly leadership meeting packet except the Agenda with Kevin to coordinate with Jill and make sure that edited to not include any last names, as well as discrete use of any referenced donor names.

**Issues & Concerns** – None raised.

**Next Meeting Date** – Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 7:00 PM via Zoom

**Closing Prayer** – Led by Rev. Mike.

**Adjournment – 8:10 PM**

# Two Churches Financial Report

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**Liaison Area:** Finance  
**Report Created By:** John S  
**Mo. Reported:** March 2021

## **Items to Report:**

1. Two Churches Financial Diagram for February 2021 is on page 2 of this report.
2. We have recovered from big hole in January and are now have income just \$1,345 less than expenses. Not great, but much better than January.
3. The finance committee met for the first time on March 2. Jeff Stormoen agreed to be chairperson. Co and I attended the meeting and gave them some guidance the tasks at hand. They are eager to start and would like some clarity from leadership on how to handle investments. See issues below.
4. Parochial report was completed by Mike, Co, and me. It was submitted to the diocese and the synod.
5. Co and I will be working with Chase bank in the coming weeks to set up new accounts for Ascension.

## **Issues for Leadership Discussion:**

1. The finance committee would like direction from leadership on the goals and acceptable risks for investment funds.
2. The finance committee would like to know if the Ascension reserve funds can be placed in the existing investment accounts that Holy Cross currently uses.

## **Issues for Leadership Action:**

1. Approve finance report.
2. Identify investment goals.
3. Determine if Ascension reserve funds can be placed in existing investment accounts used by Holy Cross.

## Two Churches Financial Report (page 2)

### Two Churches Financial Diagram for February 2021

<b>Years of Life =</b>	<b>31.3</b>							Printed: 3-5-2021 21:15
<b>Year-To-Date (\$1,345) YTD Budget (\$6,207)</b>								
		17 %						17 %
Ordinary Income & Expenses								
<b>Income</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>2021</b>		<b>Expense</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>2021</b>		
Pledges	15,494.08	20,896.59	18 %	Administrative	178.90	526.60	4 %	
Plate	20.00	25.00	2 %	Bank Fees	43.08	59.78	7 %	
Non-Pledger	-	-	0 %	Building & Grounds	240.00	568.90	7 %	
Building Use	-	-		Christian Education	-	-	0 %	
Calendars	-	-		Clergy Expense	6,604.72	14,704.24	15 %	
Flowers	-	-	0 %	Community Ministry	Allotted \$1,520 *	-	0 %	
Memorials	-	-		Diocesan/Synod Support	1,072.50	2,145.00	15 %	
Miscellaneous Income	-	-	0 %	Evangelism and Special Events	46.90	46.90	5 %	
Refugee Garden Water	-	-		Insurance Expense	859.50	1,635.00	36 %	
				Miscellaneous Expense	-	-	0 %	
				Stewardship Expense	-	-	0 %	
				Utilities	940.76	1,769.09	19 %	
				Worship Expense	300.00	810.65	14 %	
	15,514.08	20,921.59	17 %		10,286.36	22,266.16	14 %	

\* Community Ministry Allotted = 1,000 (2021 budget) + 520 (2020 carry over)

Pass Throughs								
				<u>Feb</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>To Be</u>
				<u>Received</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Sent</u>	<u>Sent</u>	<u>Sent</u>
Noisy Offering	-> Access of West Michigan			20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	
Little Church	-> Rector's Discretionary Fund			-	-	-	-	
Special Offerings								
Good Friday	-> Dioc. of Jerusalem/The Green Apple**			-	-	-	-	
Easter	-> Family Promise/Safe Haven			-	-	-	-	
Pentecost	-> Refugee Garden Water			-	-	-	-	
Christmas	-> Safe Haven/Voices from Border			-	-	-	-	
Community Ministry Collections								
Scrip Profit	-> Comm. Ministry Designees			-	-	-	-	
Souper Bowl	-> Green Apple		***	1,635.00	1,785.00	1,785.00	1,785.00	
The Green Apple				20.00	45.00	45.00	45.00	
Diaper Depot				50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	
School Supplies	-> Ck. To Laura K.			-	-	-	-	
Warm Up America	-> Ck. To St. Matthew, Kay delivers			-	-	-	-	
Kibble Konnection				-	-	-	-	
TCTO	-> Epis. Relief/Luth. Disaster			-	-	-	-	
Good Gifts	-> ELCA Good Gifts Program			-	-	-	-	
Spaghetti Dinner	-> The Green Apple			-	-	-	-	
Share-a-Christmas				-	-	-	-	

\*\* HC -> Dioc. Of Jerusalem, ALC -> Green Apple, TC -> 60/40 Split

\*\*\* An additional \$600 went directly from a parishioner to Green Apple in support of the Souper Bowl

### Account Balances

<b>Holy Cross Bank Accounts</b>						
	<b>Purpose</b>	<u>1-Jan</u>	<u>28-Feb</u>	<u>Net Change</u>		
Chase Checking Acct 8549	General Operations	\$ 18,339.01	\$ 12,060.82	\$ (6,278.19)		
Chase Savings Acct 4218	Reserves	\$ 38,085.99	\$ 38,087.17	\$ 1.18		
<b>Ascension Bank Accounts</b>						<b>Monthly</b>
	<b>Purpose</b>				<b>Fees</b>	
Huntington Checking Acct 0728	General	\$ 9,744.17	\$ 11,148.50	\$ 1,404.33	\$20	
Huntington Acct 0715	Scrip	\$ 350.01	\$ 670.01	\$ 320.00	\$15	
Huntington Acct 9116	Diaper Depot	\$ 17,597.61	\$ 16,954.24	\$ (643.37)	\$5	
<b>Holy Cross Invest. Accounts</b>						
T. Rowe Price Acct 8290		\$ 45,610.17	\$ 45,610.17	\$ -		
Van Guard Acct 7156		\$ 52,076.65	\$ 52,076.65	\$ -		
HC Invest. Portions						
Community Ministry	\$2,174.00					
Unrestricted Reserves	remainder					
<b>Ascension Invest. Accounts</b>						
Huntington Acct 2045	Savings	\$ 93,779.14	\$ 93,786.72	\$ 7.58		
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$ 275,582.75</b>	<b>\$ 270,394.28</b>	<b>\$ (5,188.47)</b>		