



2022 Budget



Diocesan Treasurer – Mark Dvarishkis



Canon for
Finance &
Administration,
Barb Hagen



Budget Philosophy



Philosophy

- Budgets are both an aid and bane for any family. Having a budget and comparing it with expenditures helps an individual or family see where their unspoken priorities are, as well as seeing where their money is going to for basic expenses. At the worst, a budget can be a straitjacket that prevents core values from being expressed. To clarify with an example. A family wishes to save 10% of their income for a family trip to Europe. But it turns out that much of their discretionary money is going to eating out with extended family. Now the family has to make a decision: which is more important, socializing with extended family or an educational opportunity of travel? Seeing where the money goes and then working to make a budget that matches the vision is central to any family. The hard work is making the two align.
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- At the core of the Diocese is the question: what is our mission and ministry as the Episcopal Diocese of Montana? Diocesan Council has been wrestling with this. Reviewing where we spend money says what our past priorities were. It is hoped that this budget will begin to reflect what Diocesan Council is envisioning.

Budget Process

The diocesan budget not only is for the direct support of the bishop and the canonical requirements of the diocese (audits, parochial reports and the like), but also helps support the vision and ministry of the Episcopal congregations and fellowships in Montana. Diocesan Council, with the review and advice from the Department of Finance committee, has the ultimate responsibility to make sure that the above is funded, based on the financial and volunteer resources that we have. So here is how that is done:

Budget Steps

1. Barb Hagen, as our Canon for Finance and Administration, sends out the notice to the various groups of the diocese for them to submit narrative budget requests for the next budget year. This is normally done after Easter in late spring or early summer.

Budget Steps

2. The various groups put together requests as best they can predict along with the narrative of what their various parts of budget is for and why.

Budget Steps

3. Barb collates these and Bishop Marty reviews them to verify that the budget requests are detailed enough for them to be helpful to the review process. Follow-up is done as needed.

Budget Steps

4. From the information gathered, Barb drafts out several budget options based on each group's requests and what the expected income is for the next budget year. Both the diocesan treasurer, Mark Dvarishkis, and Bishop Marty review these with Barb and may make adjustments to the various options to fit the vision and ministry of the diocese.

Budget Steps

5. In June, the Finance Committee (Department of Finance) meets and reviews the narrative budget requests and the various budget options. They make recommendations as to what the final budget should be, including where the income will come from (some endowment money income can be used for the general budget; most Endowment income is restricted). They verify that the suggested budget is within the diocese's means.

Budget Steps

6. In July, Diocesan Council sees the narrative budget requests, the suggested budget reviewed by Finance, and hears from any of the funded groups or groups that wish to be included in the budget. At the end of the meeting, the final budget that will be presented to Diocesan Convention for adoption is voted on and approved.

Budget Steps

7. Before Diocesan Convention, congregational delegates are invited to a Zoom meeting where the approved budget is presented for their review. The delegates are welcome to ask clarifying questions and offer opinions which are forwarded onto Diocesan Council.

Budget Steps

8. At the Diocesan Convention, the delegates will be asked to adopt the approved budget.

Budget Steps

9. After Diocesan Convention, Diocesan Council has the authority to make adjustments to the approved budget if there is new information on income or changes in the mission and ministry of the various groups or other unforeseen changes. This is done only after Finance has reviewed them and made their recommendation to Council. Canonically, no staff member, no other diocesan group, or individual can make budget changes.



Highlights

- Assessment remains the same process
- Raises for staff of 1.45% (average Social Security cost of living 2019/2020)
- Camp budget is a work in progress due to the uncertainties of COVID

Changes 2021 to 2022

- Increased draws from investments to cover program needs
- Increased funding for congregational development commission and youth
- Diocesan assessment payment to “national” church, also known as TEC (The Episcopal Church) increased due to the PPP grant the diocese received.
- Health insurance premiums budgeted a 7% increase and increased due to change in staff needs
- General Convention funds for deputies increased
- Bishop travel increased due to General Convention

New items

- Bishop and Staff sabbatical reserve funds
- Technology Expenses – separated from misc.
- Deacons School and Deacons expenses separated into two line items

Remember....

- 2022 assessment adjustment requests are due **October 15**
- Diocesan Council meets **November 13** for discussion with churches



Questions?