

2009 Proposed Budget Narrative

Although a budget description usually involves talking about money, what we are really wanting to communicate is the work and ministry of the individuals, congregations, committees and commissions that share the desire to further the work of Christ through our combined Episcopal witness: The Diocese of Iowa!

Receipts:

The total proposed budget is \$1,338,484, which is up approximately 5% from 2008. At the 2006 Convention, the formula for the individual congregational asking was changed beginning in 2008. It is to be based on 20% of the Total Operating Revenue for the most recently completed year as reported on the Parochial Report, with a prorated exemption for clergy costs up to \$67,600 for 2009. *Pledges* from congregations make up the greatest portion of the funding for the Diocesan budget at 73% of the estimated income.

Investment income from gifts given to the Diocese to endow ministry and support the Episcopacy together represents 21% of anticipated income. The income from the Episcopate Fund supports 77% of the Bishop's salary and benefit package.

2007 was the third and final year of a draw on principal from the Thelma McClure Reserve for the *McClure Mission Venture* which helped support funding of Ministry Development and Evangelism Initiatives. The gifts and sponsorships from the Bishop's *Cathedral to Cathedral Run* in Spring 2006 began the drive to establish a new fund for future Mission Ventures including global mission immersion experiences, new church starts, and internships for congregations committed to redevelopment.

January 2006 saw the launch of the *E-Seminary*. Income from tuition, gifts and grants will make up 1% of the 2009 budget and corresponds to the E-Seminary expense line under Congregational Life.

ECCE Income for Youth Ministries receives funding from investment income from the sale of the camp and a camp endowment, as well as an additional principal draw from the proceeds from the sale of the camp for 4% of the total budgeted income. This income covers the program expenses of the *Youth Ministry Development Team*.

Income and principal from the Thelma McClure and McMullen Reserves will fund our current obligation for health and life insurance for our *Retired and Needy Clergy* in 2007 and 2008. This offsets the corresponding expense line under Designated Purpose Expense.

The Diocese also receives *Gifts* from very generous individuals and groups, which will make up less than 1% of budgeted income.

Disbursements

The Diocesan budget provides funding for the program of six commissions, Episcopate functions, administrative functions, and specific designated purposes. A 4% cost of living adjustment (COLA) for 2008 is reflected in salaries and pensions in the budget. There is a 10% increase in medical insurance expenses budgeted for 2009.

The work of the *One World, One Church Commission (OWOC)* facilitates ecumenical and interfaith dialogue, connects us with the national church and Anglican Communion, with ecumenical structures within the state and beyond, with our companionship with Brechin and Swaziland, and the Millennium Development Goals. Specific areas of work include Global

Missions, Episcopal Relief and Development, United Thank Offering, and International Development Grants.

In 2009 the diocesan *Pledge to Episcopal Church*, has been increased but is still approximately \$15,000 under the asking from the national church. *OWOC* is planning to work towards getting more Iowa congregations involved in the companionship relations with Brechin and Swaziland, find new mechanisms for ecumenical work within Iowa, pursue growth of the Called to Common Mission interactions, and work on Methodist/Episcopal Eucharistic Sharing and Dialogue.

The mission of the ***Congregational Life Commission*** is to develop and support healthy congregations. This includes working with the Bishop on his visitation process, and planning for events that will develop leadership, visioning, planning, and development skills for parishes throughout the Diocese.

Also under *Congregational Life Commission's* budget are ongoing projects that support congregational ministry: Ministry Grants to help to support ministry initiatives in local congregations; the annual Summer Ministry School & Retreat which is an annual weekend event that provides spiritual refreshment through education, fellowship and fun; the Living Stones Diocesan partnership where representatives from participating dioceses gather to share and review case studies in order to improve the work of ministry development; funding for new starts, start-overs and other mission and evangelism initiatives; and the E-Seminary, which is making theological education available to all through innovative and creative methods. Classes using the Iowa Communication Network (ICN) were launched in January 2006 allowing participants throughout Iowa to access education and training right in their own communities. The work of the Diocesan deployment officer assists congregations in their "search" process. Fresh Start is new in 2008 and is a diocesan-led program for clergy which seeks to strengthen the relationships among them, their congregations, and their dioceses during the critical period of transition when they are building new relationships with one another.

The mission of the ***Youth Ministry Development Team (YMDT)*** is to empower adults who minister with young people, support our youth through events and opportunities for ministry and leadership, provide needed resources and information, and plan for future growth.

Salaries and benefits for part-time chaplains at the University of Iowa, Iowa State University and the University of Northern Iowa in 2009 and a part-time Youth Missioner make up 56% of the *YMDT* budget. 17% of this budget assists with chaplaincy programs at the University of Iowa, Iowa State and the University of Northern Iowa, along with a new line in 2007, *Chaplaincy Grants*, allowing for assistance to a variety of congregations with college ministries.

The remaining 27% of this budget is for the youth ministry program and corresponds to the income line, *ECCC Income for Youth Ministries*. Diocesan level programming includes diocesan trainings and workshops for adults involved in youth ministries as well as assistance to participate in regional conferences and trainings; diocesan membership for J2A and Godly Play programs and access to their trainings and resources; youth participation in leadership conferences, diocesan youth events, and outdoor ministry opportunities; scholarships for young people to participate in trainings and events; and regular communication through the diocesan youth newsletter, *Living Arrows* and other special mailings.

The ***Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation Commission (JPIC)*** supports ministries that deal directly with people in need. 82% of the *JPIC* budget supports the work of St. Paul's Indian Mission in Sioux City. With the remaining 18%, *JPIC* provides direct assistance and

grants to organizations that support persons with AIDS, prison ministry, rural issues, human rights, restorative justice, and homeless ministries, as well as assistance for commission members to attend trainings and conferences for Prison Ministry and Jubilee Ministries. The Chemical Dependency Committee sponsors two *Pathways to Serenity* retreats each year.

The newly formed ***Multi-Cultural Commission*** is to provide leadership for the Diocese in the work of insuring that our church remains open and welcoming to all of God's diverse people. Areas of emphasis for 2009 include more conversations with churches, improving our website by incorporating links to resources, training anti-racism trainers for the diocese, and assisting St. Paul's Indian Mission during a period of transition.

The *Ways & Means Committee*, the *Investment Committee*, and the *Property Committee* primarily carry out the work of the ***Stewardship Commission***. The Commission is being revitalized to oversee committee work, stewardship and planned giving with congregations, and long-range planning.

The program and commission ministries make up 49% of the diocesan budget.

The ***Episcopate Function*** makes up 34% of the budget and includes the ministry and work of the Bishop, his Executive Assistant, the Financial Officer, the Operations Manager, and the Ministry Developer. These people work to serve and resource congregations.

Administrative Function at 12% reflects the cost of doing diocesan business. It's the annual diocesan convention; the production of the Journal; communication through *Iowa Connections*, the web page, email, telephone and mail; insurance; as well as the facilities, equipment and support.

Designated Purpose Expense is 5% of our budget, and reflects some of the additional costs of being a family. As the Diocese of Iowa, we have boards, advisory groups, and task forces that plan and work for us; we take care of clergy that are needy and retired; we provide opportunities for instruction, fellowship and refreshment for the clergy in our midst; we implement a process and walk with individuals through discernment, formation, and ordination; we are part of the make-up of Province VI and involved in its support; we have a stake in the decisions made at General Convention every 3 years; and each decade our Bishop represents us before the Anglican Communion at the Lambeth Conference.

We hope that this narrative has increased your awareness of what it means to be an Episcopalian in Iowa. As the title of our strategic plan says, we are *One Church, Many Locations*.