



Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand

FINANCE NEWSLETTER 115

TO: Parish and Presbytery Treasurers
FROM: Brendan Sweeney, Manager, Financial Services
DATE: 19 October 2009

1.	General Assembly Annual Accounts
2.	Administrative Support for Parish Treasurers
3.	Parish Statistical Analysis

1. General Assembly Annual Accounts

The annual accounts for General Assembly have been audited and signed off by the Council of Assembly. A summary Statements of Financial Performance and Position is contained in the appendix.

The financial performance for the 2009 year has resulted in a surplus of \$286,000. We had prepared a breakeven budget. This is a particularly pleasing result as we spent \$584,000 on the refurbishment and development of the Knox Centre in Dunedin. This project, which was not included in the budget, was approved by the 2008 General Assembly.

Key points to note:

- Adjusted operating surplus for the year was \$286,000 compared with \$1,569,000 recorded the previous year.
- Adjusted revenue fell by \$666,000 to \$6,476,000
 - Parish contributions by way of Assembly Assessment and CV contributions of \$3,300,000 were \$520,000 lower than the previous year. The amount of parish levies was able to be significantly reduced in 2009 due to the reduction in operating expenditure of the Church that has been achieved over a number of years.
 - Investment income fell by \$101,000 to \$1,408,000 because of the reduction in market interest rates that occurred in the second half of the 2009 financial year.
 - There was a \$121,000 reduction in donations received

- Sundry income remained about the same as the previous year, and includes \$190,000 in registrations for GA08.
- The investment property in Christchurch was re-valued up by \$82,000 to \$1,551,000.
- Adjusted expenses increased by \$617,000 to \$6,190,000
 - General Assembly administration costs fell by \$418,000 to \$997,000. Reasons for this include lower property and depreciation costs due to the sale of houses owned by the Knox Centre, a software upgrade in 2007 increased computer costs that year and reduced maintenance costs last year, and a reduction in non essential staff travel.
 - Knox Centre and Archives building work cost \$584,000 to 30 June and has been recorded as an operating expense.
 - Grants and donations paid increased by \$196,000 due to an increase in grants made by the Global Mission office. This has been funded by Global Mission funds held in Presbyterian Investment Fund accounts.
 - The provision for unpaid Assembly Assessment was reduced by \$350,000 because of greater than budgeted collection of Assembly Assessment. This compares to a reduction of \$500,000 in the previous year.
- There were few major changes in the Statement of Financial Position
 - Funds payable have increased by \$260,000 mainly because of the receipt of Press Go Donations that have not yet been spent.
 - The sale of several Knox Centre houses over the year contributed to a reduction in the value of property owned by General Assembly of \$658,000 and an increase in PIF investments of \$1,329,000. PIF deposits were also boosted by compounded interest income.

For further detail please refer to the full report which is now posted on the PCANZ website, or contact Financial Services.

2. Administrative Support for Parish Treasurers

We all know that the Treasurer's role to be critical to the well-being of the Parish but that the task is increasingly complex and takes a huge amount of effort and (usually unpaid) time to do successfully. In conversations with Treasurers and Presbytery Clerks it is clear many Treasurers feel uncertain of their role and possible unsupported in doing it successfully.

The manual has been updated but, being a reference for a one-person task, is not going to be as valuable as consultancy support. There are informal Treasurers advisory networks in place in some areas which I know are working well and a successful road show of meetings was recently held by PSDS.

If you are having problems and need advice, you can contact me or the FSD staff directly if you have any queries on

- Employment, tax or Kiwisaver
- Financial reporting
- Statistics forms
- Budgets
- Cash management

FSD is in a position to check Parish reports (although not provide the annual review), advise if the Chart of Accounts or systems are appropriate, or refer any queries that we can't answer to the appropriate people.

Also, as always your comments on what we are doing are welcome. So please don't hesitate to call or email me if you need assistance.

Parish Statistical Analysis

A reminder that in April this year the Church Property Trustees produced a report called [A Statistical Overview of Parish Life](#). This is an analysis of Parish trends based on statistics data collated over several years and makes very interesting reading on membership age and cultural trends as well as the growth and decline of parishes.

The report is on the website. To access, please use the link:

http://presbyterian.org.nz/sites/default/files/for_parishes/Church_Statistics_Analysis_-_April_09_final_revised.pdf

Again, any queries or thoughts on how to use this information can be directed to me.



Brendan Sweeney
Finance Manager

Appendix 1

GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUMMARY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE TO 30 JUNE 2009

	June 2009 (\$000's)	Budget (\$000's)	Prior Year (\$000's)
Income			
Contributions from Parishes	3,330	3,159	3,850
Investment Income	1,408	1,426	1,509
Gifts & Donations	1,083	965	1,204
Other	573	788	575
Total Income	6,394	6,338	7,138
Expenditure			
Staff Costs	1,647	1,896	1,662
Beneficiary Fund	1,184	1,180	1,126
Administration	997	1,336	1,415
Grants & Donations	1,051	738	855
AA Provision	(62)	276	(67)
Student Training	234	391	280
General Assembly	213	220	0
Miscellaneous Costs	342	301	302
Total Expenditure	5,606	6,338	5,573
Operating Surplus for the Year	788	0	1,565
Adjustments			
Knox Centre Development	(584)	0	0
Revaluation of Investment Property	82	0	4
	(502)	0	4
Adjusted Surplus for the Year	286	0	1,569

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AT 30 JUNE 2009

	June 2009 (\$000's)	June 2008 (\$000's)
Equity	24,558	24,203
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable and Accruals	670	753
Funds Payable	1,237	978
Unsecured Deposits	257	260
Total Current Liabilities	2,164	1,990
Total Equity and Liabilities	26,722	26,193
Assets		
Cash and Bank	281	228
Accounts Receivable	390	376
Unsecured Advances	1,510	1,691
Property	2,576	3,234
Office Furniture and Equipment	78	107
Deposits Presbyterian Investment Fund	21,887	20,558
Total Assets	26,722	26,194