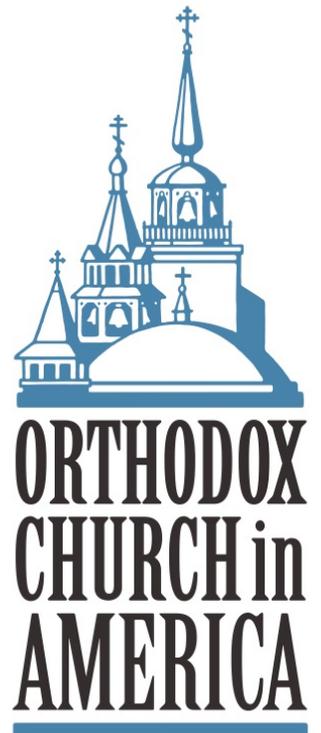

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL of the ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

REPORTS
2024 Fall Session



Wednesday, October 9 – Friday, October 11, 2024
Conducted by video conference

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

1. Agenda
2. Metropolitan's Log of Activities Metropolitan Tikhon
3. Chancellor's Report Archpriest Alexander Rentel
4. Secretary's Report Archpriest Alessandro Margheritino
5. Property Committee Ray Steeb
Gregory Honshul

Thursday, October 10, 2024

1. Pension Plan Pension Board
2. MC Pension Committee Donna Dimitri
3. MC Liaison to Pension Board David Lane
4. Departments Archpriest Thomas Soroka
5. Office of Pastoral Life Archpriest Nicholas Solak
6. Treasurer's Report Andrew Smith

Friday, October 11, 2024

1. Legal Report Mark Hamilton
2. External Audit Report Satty, Levine & Ciacco, CPAs
3. Council Manager Deacon Peter Ilchuk
4. Communication Priest Kyle Parrott
5. Metropolitan Council List

LOGISTICS, SCHEDULE and AGENDA ITEMS
Regular Fall 2024 Session of the Metropolitan Council
October 9-11, 2024
St. Nicholas Cathedral & Hilton Springfield

Lodging & Meetings: Hilton Springfield
6550 Loisdale Road
Springfield, Virginia, 22150

Divine Liturgy: St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral
3500 Massachusetts Ave NW
Washington, DC 20007

Tuesday, October 8, 2024

All afternoon and evening arrivals. Meals on own.

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

7:15a Departure for St. Nicholas Cathedral
8:30a Divine Liturgy
10:15a Brunch
11:00a Return to hotel
12:00p First Session
2:00p Break
2:15p Second Session
6:30p Dinner at local restaurant

Thursday, October 10, 2024

8:00a Breakfast at hotel
9:00a Third Session
10:30a Break
10:45a Fourth Session
12:30p Lunch
2:00p Fifth Session
6:30p Dinner at local restaurant

Friday, October 11, 2024

8:00a Breakfast
9:00a Sixth Session
10:30a Break
10:45a Seventh Session
12:00p Departures

Tentative Agenda – Wednesday, October 9, 2024, 11:00-4:30 pm EST

1. Opening Prayer
2. Call to Order – Archpriest Alexander Rentel
3. Review of Agenda – Archpriest Alexander Rentel
4. Roll Call – Archpriest Alexander Rentel
5. Approval of the Minutes of the Special Winter Session (1.24.24) & Regular Spring 2024 Session
6. Report of the Metropolitan – His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon
7. Report of the Chancellor – Archpriest Alexander Rentel
8. Report of the Secretary – Archpriest Alessandro Margheritino
9. Property Committee – Ray Steeb and Gregory Honshul
10. Office of Pastoral Life – Archpriest Nicholas Solak
11. Concluding Remarks – His Beatitude
12. Prayer – His Beatitude

Tentative Agenda – Thursday, October 10, 2023, 9:00-4:30 pm EST

1. Opening Prayer
2. Call to Order – Archpriest Alexander Rentel
3. Review of Agenda – Archpriest Alexander Rentel
4. Roll Call – Archpriest Alexander Rentel
5. Pension Report – Pension Board
6. Pension Committee Report – Donna Dimitri
7. Report of the Treasurer – Mr. Andrew Smith
8. 2025 Budget – Mr. Andrew Smith
9. External Audit – Mr. Andrew Smith
10. Presentation on Term Life Insurance Program – Insurance Systems
11. Discussion on Call For Reflections for 21st AAC
12. Concluding Remarks – His Beatitude
13. Prayer – His Beatitude

Tentative Agenda – Friday, October 11, 2024, 9:00-1:00 pm EST

1. Opening Prayer
2. Call to Order – Archpriest Alexander Rentel
3. Review of Agenda – Archpriest Alexander Rentel
4. Roll Call – Archpriest Alexander Rentel
5. Legal Report – Mr. Mark Hamilton
6. OCA Departments & Mission Planting Grants – Archpriest Thomas Soroka
7. 2025 Metropolitan Council Sessions – Archpriest Alexander Rentel
8. Concluding Remarks – His Beatitude
9. Adjournment – His Beatitude
10. Prayer – His Beatitude

METROPOLITAN TIKHON COMPLETE LOG OF TRAVEL AND EVENTS
Autumn Meeting of the Metropolitan Council
October 9-11, 2024

A. Archdiocese of Washington Pastoral Visits. *This category contains a list of all the liturgical and pastoral visits that I made to the communities of the Archdiocese of Washington. This list includes occasions when I simply attended but did not serve, occasions when I celebrated in the presbyteral manner, and occasions when I served in the hierarchical manner.*

- 24.03.24: Divine Liturgy at Saint Nicholas Cathedral
- 24.03.25: Vespers at Divine Liturgy at Saint Mark in Bethesda
- 24.03.31: Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with Bishop Alexei at Saint Nicholas
- 24.05.08: Divine Liturgy at Saint Catherine in Hagerstown
- 24.06.13: Divine Liturgy for Ascension at Saint Nicholas Cathedral
- 24.06.22: Hierarchical Festal Vigil for Pentecost at Saint Nicholas Cathedral
- 24.06.23: Hierarchical Divine Liturgy for Pentecost at Saint Nicholas Cathedral
- 24.06.29: Divine Liturgy for Saints Peter and Paul at Saint Mark in Bethesda
- 24.07.07: Divine Liturgy at All Saints of America in Alexandria
- 24.08.31: Vespers at All Saints of America in Alexandria
- 24.09.01: Divine Liturgy at All Saints of America in Alexandria
- 24.08.05: Vigil for Transfiguration at Saint Nicholas Cathedral
- 24.08.06: Liturgy for Transfiguration at Saint Nicholas Cathedral
- 24.08.14: Vigil for Dormition at Saint Nicholas Cathedral
- 24.08.15: Liturgy for Dormition at Saint Nicholas Cathedral
- 24.08.25: Divine Liturgy at Saint Nicholas Cathedral
- 24.08.31: Vespers at All Saints in Alexandria
- 24.09.01: Divine Liturgy at All Saints in Alexandria (serving)
- 24.09.22: Divine at All Saints in Alexandria

B. Archdiocese of Washington Events. *This category records all those events to which the entire diocese was invited to participate. Although this year's list includes primarily liturgical events, it is intended to also include social events.*

- 24.03.24: Archdiocesan Vigil for the Feast of the Annunciation
- 24.04.03: Archdiocesan Presanctified Liturgy at Saint Nicholas Cathedral with visit of the Sitka Icon of the Mother of God.
- 24.05.08: Bright Wednesday Liturgy at Saint Catherine in Hagerstown
- 24.05.11: Archdiocesan Bright Saturday Paschal Matins and Liturgy at Saint Nicholas Cathedral.
- 24.05.19: Divine Liturgy at Saint Mark in Bethesda
- 24.07.04-06: Visit to Saint Tikhon's Summer Camp and interaction with our Archdiocesan young people and counselors.
- 24.07.09: Memorial Service for Matushka Anysia Oleynik at Christ the Savior in Berlin, Maryland.
- 24.09.21: Archdiocesan Divine Liturgy followed by Archdiocesan Assembly at Saint Matthew in Columbia

C. Archdiocese of Washington Administration. *This list is not exhaustive but notes some of the more important administrative meetings, many of which are held on a*

regular basis. This list does not include occasions when I discuss administrative or pastoral matters with the clergy or faithful on the telephone or via electronic mail.

- 24.08.06: Meeting with Archdiocesan Finance Committee
- 24.08.24: Archdiocesan Council meeting
- 24.09.21: Archdiocesan Assembly at Saint Matthew in Columbia
 - Ongoing: Weekly meetings with the Chancellor

D. Primatial Travel. *The following are the major events that I participated in as the primate of the Orthodox Church in America. They include visits to gatherings of entire dioceses and visits to individual parishes for significant events.*

- 24.03.10: Divine Liturgy at Holy Archangels in Broadview Heights (Diocese of the Midwest)
- 24.04.28-05.05: Holy Week and Pascha at Saint Tikhon's Monastery with Office of Confection of Holy Chrism
- 24.06.25-26: Celebration of 20th anniversary of the return of the Tikhvin icon of the Mother of God at Holy Trinity and Saint George Cathedral in Chicago (Diocese of the Midwest).
- 24.08.17-21: Visit to Holy Ascension Cathedral in Unalaska, Alaska (Diocese of Alaska) for the 200th anniversary of the first liturgy celebrated by Saint Innocent.
- 24.08.30-31: Pastoral visit to Saint Cyprian of Carthage in Richmond, VA (Diocese of the South) for the 50th anniversary of the parish.
- 24.10.04-05: Celebration of the 50th anniversary of Saint Stephen's Cathedral in Philadelphia (Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania).

E. Orthodox Church in America Chancery. *This category refers to the various administrative meetings that I preside at or hold as the primate of the Orthodox Church in America, which are coordinated through the chancery office. These include meetings of the Holy Synod, the Metropolitan Council, and various church-wide boards and committees.*

- 24.04.01-05: Spring Holy Synod Meeting in Springfield
- 24.04.17: Meeting of the Preconciliar Commission
- 24.08.07: Monthly meeting of the Standing Synod
- 24.08.07: Meeting with the leadership of the Clergy Wives
- 24.08.27: Meeting with the Office of Pastoral Life in Harrisburg, PA
- 24.09.04: Monthly meeting of the Standing Synod
 - Ongoing Daily meetings with officers and staff of the Orthodox Church in America

F. Stavropegial Institutions. *As the Metropolitan, I have oversight of the stavropegial institutions, including the monasteries (Saint Tikhon's Monastery, Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery, and the New Skete Monasteries), the seminaries (Saint Tikhon's Seminary and Saint Vladimir's Seminary), and the military and institutional chaplains. Also included in this category is Saint Catherine's Representation Church in Moscow and the various clergy who serve directly under my omophorion but are located in other places (such as OCMC missionaries).*

- 24.03.08-09: STOTS Board meeting with celebration of 80th anniversary of the Seminary
- 24.04.10-13: Visit to Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery in Otego, NY, and New Skete Monasteries in Cambridge, NY.

- 24.04.19-20: Visit to Saint Tikhon's Monastery and Seminary for Anniversary of Metropolitan Platon
- 24.04.20-21: Visit to Saint Vladimir's Seminary for Vigil and Liturgy with ordination
- 24.05.16-17: Full Board Meeting at Saint Vladimir's Seminary
- 24.05.18: Divine Liturgy at Three Hierarchs Chapel and commencement exercises for Saint Vladimir Seminary with ordination to the diaconate
- 24.05.24: Meeting of the full Board of Trustees of Saint Tikhon's Seminary
- 24.05.25: Divine Liturgy at Saint Tikhon's Monastery with commencement exercises for Saint Tikhon's Seminary.
- 24.05.26: Divine Liturgy at Saint Tikhon's Monastery.
- 24.05.27: Divine Liturgy at Saint Tikhon's Monastery for Memorial Day Pilgrimage.
- 24.06.13: Meeting with SVS seminary leadership
- 24.06.14: Meeting with SVS seminary leadership
- 24.06.17: SVS Board meeting
- 24.06.18: Meeting with SVS leadership
- 24.06.21: Meeting with SVS Faculty Council
- 24.07.09: SVS Executive Committee Meeting
- 24.07.29: SVS President Search Committee Meeting
- 24.07.30: Phone call with Dean and Representative at Saint Catherine Representation Church in Moscow.
- 24.08.09: SVS Full Board meeting
- 24.08.19: SVS President Search Committee Meeting
- 24.08.22-23: SVS Orientation and meeting with faculty, staff, and seminarians
- 24.09.06: Pastoral visit to the Holy Myrrbearers Monastery in Otego, NY.
- 24.09.07: Meeting with STS seminary leadership
- 24.09.07-08: Vigil and Liturgy at Saint Tikhon's Monastery Church for the feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos and the beginning of the academic year.
- 24.09.13: Meetings with SVS faculty, staff and administration
- 24.09.13-14: Vigil and Liturgy at Three Hierarchs Chapel for the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross and the beginning of the academic year. Ordination to the priesthood of Vitaly Permiakov.
 - Ongoing: Ordination interviews

G. External Affairs. *According to the Statute of the Orthodox Church in America, the Metropolitan has care for both the internal life of the Church and her external relations with other churches. The following is a list of my activities in the area of external relations, that is interactions with other Orthodox Churches both locally and globally, as well as various ecumenical activities.*

- 24.03.15-21: Visit to the Monastery of Saint John the Baptist in Essex, England, for the First Week of Great Lent
- 24.05.30-06.10: Primatial visit to Ukraine, Romania, and Constantinople.
- 24.05.20: Interview with clergyman for reception into the Orthodox Church in America
- 24.05.21: Meeting with leadership of OCF
- 24.09.12: Meeting with Metropolitan Saba of the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese

- 24.09.28-10.01: Thirteenth Annual Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in the United States, Atlanta, Georgia.

H. Personal time. *In an effort to emphasize the importance of clergy health, as well as the health of our faithful, I include here a list of some of my activities related to my physical health which also have an impact on my mental and spiritual health.*

- 24.06.15: Wedding of my niece, Amanda, in Cleveland, OH
- 24.07.12-27: Summer vacation in the French Alps
- Ongoing
 - Hiking 3-4 miles in the morning (4 days/week)
 - Weekly check-in with nutritionist

Report of the Chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America
Regular Fall 2024 Session of the Metropolitan Council, October 9, 2024

1. Introductory Remarks. Since preparing my last report to the Metropolitan Council in March 2024, the Chancery of the Orthodox Church in America has facilitated that same Spring 2024 Session of the Metropolitan Council; a joint meeting of the Holy Synod, the General Counsel of the Orthodox Church in America, diocesan chancellors, members of the Pension Board, and pensions specialists; the Regular Spring 2024 Session of the Holy Synod, the consecration of over seven gallons of chrism with all the preparatory work that went in that effort;¹ organized a major international trip with three components (Ukraine, Romania, and Constantinople); assisted His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon in his work overseeing major transitions at St. Vladimir's Seminary; assisted him further with challenges that have emerged from other Church institutions; and have begun the preparatory work for this new season of meetings with the Metropolitan Council this week and the upcoming meeting of the Holy Synod. All of this work, I note, was done amidst the more regular work of the Chancery: the release and reception of clergy, preparation of texts, writing letters, preparing for and attending meetings, addressing questions and concerns from all quarters, planning and making trips within the Orthodox Church in America to parishes, institutions, monasteries, or dioceses. I rehearse all of this at the outset of my work, not to brag or boast, but to testify to the good work of the Chancery and the hard work of my colleagues. We are a small staff, but we are able to accomplish many things.

2. Chancery Work. I am proud of what we have been able to accomplish during these past six months. I believe the other reports that will be presented during this meeting will also testify to the truth of what I am say. That being the said, the hybrid model of work that I have spoken of for many meetings since the pandemic is coming to an end by necessity for the core Chancery. While we have been able to accomplish this work with the use of technology and travel, the time is coming for me to join His Beatitude and the remainder of the Chancery in Washington, which I intend to accomplish beginning in January 2025. This move has been delayed up to this point for a mix of business and personal reasons. The different rationales behind those reasons, the reasons that saw me remaining in New York, are, as I say, coming to an end. As such, it is time for me to relocate and finish the process of the full relocation of the Chancery of the Orthodox Church in America to the territory of the Archdiocese of Washington.

¹ Including the publication of service book for that occasion: *The Order for Confecting Chrism*. Ed. John Mikitish. Springfield, VA: The Orthodox Church in America, 2024.

2.1 Up to this point. Up to this point, I have continued the manner of work that I have described many times previously: traveling to DC or Syosset, or working from my home. On any given day, I stay in regular communication with His Beatitude and Archpriest Alessandro Margheritino, Secretary of the Orthodox Church in America, and my other colleagues via the phone, Zoom, or Slack, etc. Mr. Alexis Liberovsky, Archivist of the Orthodox Church in America, is our last employee at the Chancery in Syosset. I have tried, though I have not always been successful, to visit him and the Chancery there on a weekly or bi-weekly basis.

2.2. Moving forward. As I say, moving forward, I intend to relocate with my wife to the DC area by January 2025. His Beatitude, Fr. Alessandro, and I are even now just working out the exact details for this relocation and what it will mean for the Chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America to be present in the life of the Archdiocese.

3. Activities and Initiatives. Since the time of the last Regular Spring 2024 Session of the Metropolitan Council, I have engaged in my normal round of activities both at home and abroad.

3.1 Domestic. From March 2024, when I last reported, in fact immediately after our meeting on Thursday, March 7, I traveled to Cleveland, OH, with His Beatitude for a meeting of the Board of Trustees of St. Tikhon's Seminary. Following that board meeting, I participated in the multiple celebrations for St. Tikhon's that marked their recent full 10-year ATS accreditation, and the retirement of Mr. Michael Herzak as seminary board chair. As I alluded to, in early April, my colleagues and I assisted at the joint meeting of the Holy Synod, General Counsel, Diocesan Chancellors, and members of the Pension Board, which was followed immediately by the Regular Spring 2024 Session of the Holy Synod, April 1-5. For the first four days of Holy Week, I traveled to St. Tikhon's Monastery and was present for the four days that saw the consecration of Holy Chrism. This rite began early morning on Holy Monday and continued throughout the week until the Vespereal Divine Liturgy on Holy Thursday. At the end of May, I participated as usual in the board meetings and commencement at St. Vladimir's Seminary, May 16-18, and at St. Tikhon's Seminary, May 24-25. Throughout the Winter, Spring, and Summer, I have also participated in numerous special meetings of St. Vladimir's Seminary as the board has attempted to navigate the transition in the wake of Archpriest Chad Hatfield's retirement. Most recently in this regard, I participated in a meeting of the SVS board on August 9. I also visited SVS with His Beatitude for the first days of seminary orientation, August 22-23. Early in August, however, I traveled to Pittsburgh, PA, in order to participate in the annual pilgrimage at the Monastery of the Holy Transfiguration in Ellwood City, PA, August 5-6. During that same visit, I was able to attend Great Vespers at St. Nicholas

Parish, McKees Rocks, PA, on August 3, and concelebrate the Divine Liturgy at St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral in Allison Park, PA, on Sunday, August 4. On August 5, I visited the Neighborhood Resiliency Project in Pittsburgh. Priest Paul Abernathy, CEO of this group, lead me on a tour of their headquarters and introduced me to their work. On August 23, I traveled to St. Tikhon's Seminary for their late-summer board meeting. Just prior to the meeting of the Metropolitan Council, I visited the opening part of the Diocesan Assembly for the Diocese of the Midwest, October 7-8. In future weeks, I intend to accompany His Beatitude to the assembly for the Diocese of the West, October 15-17, and then travel alone to Anchorage, AK, for the Diocesan Assembly there. Finally, over this past summer, I taught a course for the Doctor of Ministry program at St. Vladimir's Seminary, which now seems to be the last course I will teach there. Since August 2024, I have also participated with His Beatitude in the meetings of the Standing Synod, which have taken place on August 7, September 4, and October 2. His Beatitude intends to continue a regular meeting of the Standing Synod on a monthly basis, excepting those months when the full synod meets.

3.1.1 PCC. One of the areas that my colleagues, Fr. Alessandro and Priest Kyle Parrott, Director of Communications for the OCA, and I have been involved in is the work of the Pre-Conciliar Commission (PCC). Fr. Alessandro will report more on the work of this most excellent group of Church men and women, include Ms. Lynnell McFarland, the Metropolitan Council representative to the PCC, but we have met multiple times since March, including March 28, June 13, and July 30. The PCC also met on October 2 in a joint meeting of Church Officers, Diocesan Chancellors, and Diocesan Treasurers. At this meeting, as will be reported, Mr. Andrew Smith, Treasurer of the Orthodox Church in America, reviewed the method for calculating diocesan assessments for the upcoming 21st All-American Council. As will be reported further, the PCC formally adopted this method at that same meeting, pending the blessing of His Beatitude.

3.2 Inter-Orthodox and Inter-Religious. Since the last meeting of the Metropolitan Council, I have represented His Beatitude at the Sunday of Orthodoxy celebrations of at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Manhattan, NY, March 24. I returned to that same Cathedral on April 21 for the episcopal ordination of His Grace Bishop Anthony (Vrame) of Synada. As I will discuss further below in more detail, I also traveled with His Beatitude, Archpriest Nazari Polataiko, and then Dn. Vitaly Permiakov to Ukraine, Romania, and Turkey, May 30-June 12. During June, at the end of the month, I also had the opportunity to return to and teach at the very fine CrossRoad Program, held at Holy Cross Seminary in Brookline, MA, June 25-28. From September 16-17, I participated as a Theological Advisor, invited by the Ecumenical Patriarchate, in the Orthodox Churches

& Oriental Orthodox Churches Families Meeting 2024, at which all the local Orthodox Churches participated with the exception of three. This meeting was held as an effort to consider ways toward the unity of the Eastern Orthodox Church and the Oriental Orthodox Churches now that the theological dialogue has ended.

3.3 Looking Ahead. As I mentioned, at the end of this month, I will travel to the Diocese of Alaska in order to participate in their assembly. I will be traveling with Pdn. Peter Danilchick, formerly a member of the Metropolitan Council, in order to present on the prevention of sexual misconduct. Pdn. Peter, as a member of SMPAC, has put forward a proposal to assist the diocese in Alaska in taking steps toward combatting sexual misconduct. He and the members of SMPAC have put together a solid plan, one that has been examined and embraced by His Grace Bishop Alexei and his chancery in Alaska.

4. St. Sergius Chapel. At this point, St. Sergius Chapel remains open as a place for prayer. When Fr. Alessandro, Priest John Mikitish, and Dn. Alexander Woodill visited the Long Island Chancery in July 9, we were able to celebrate the Divine Liturgy in the Chapel. As I have mentioned before, now that we have entered into a contract to sell the Westwood property, we will continue making more concrete plans to move out the sacred objects of the Chapel.

5. Personnel Matters. At the beginning of this report, I noted the great product that my colleagues and I have been able to produce over the course of the past sixth months. In this regard, I think it necessary to point out that the exact number of hours that have gone into that work, which has often involved a mix of event planning and high degree of specialized knowledge and skill, is left unsaid. Further, *how* this work has been carried out is only noticed when something (rarely) goes wrong. The remainder of the time, the vast majority of the time, the work of the Chancery takes place at a high of professionalism. Here I speak above all with regard to the core Chancery, but the same could be said for most of the far-flung virtual Chancery. But specifically in regard to the core Chancery, their work is carried out amidst additional parochial responsibilities, which is partly done as part of the integration of the life of the Chancery in the Archdiocese, but also in order to live and survive in one of the most expensive areas to live in the United States. As part of the future integration plan, the work of Chancery clergy in local parish has to be considered carefully. As for the future of the Chancery, let me say unequivocally, that if Church desires the high level of work that has been demonstrated for many years now to continue, the Metropolitan Council will have to consider anew how it will be possible to bring the compensation of employees into the compliance with the posted guidelines for compensation as mandated by the Holy Synod. At this point, I have only the vaguest of ideas of how this can happen, but I think

it should start with the HR Committee of the Metropolitan Council re-examining the compensation of the Chancery employees and making a subsequent recommendation to the Finance and Investment Committee. At that point, the Metropolitan Council as a whole could consider this issue further.

5.1 Office of Pastoral Life. Beyond this call for compensation compliance, the biggest single change in the Chancery is one that will be proposed during this meeting. Namely, it is the expansion of the Office of Pastoral Life. What I mean is that Archpriest Nicholas Solak, Director of the Office of Pastoral Life, will propose that this office become a full-time office within the Chancery. The continued funds from the different Lilly grants will fund the expansion of this office. The expansion of this office, for which I am in favor, will mark the largest expansion of the Chancery in some years. The Chancery, in fact, has only contracted since I became Chancellor, and it was already doing so prior to me becoming Chancellor. This contraction occurred in response to the adoption of the finance resolutions from the different All-American Councils that had the method of funding the Church change from assessments to proportional giving. Additionally, the Chancery was further restricted in terms of fundraising either for itself or other groups or institutions within the Church, excepting occasional charitable drives or Steward Sunday, which raised money exclusively for the departments. As I say, bringing in the Office of Pastoral Life as a full-time presence in the life of the Church is a slight change from the direction that the Church has gone over the past decade or so. Nevertheless, this office has a full-time need of managing a multi-million dollar portfolio of grants, and offering the excellent programs that are of great benefit to our clergy, which in turn will only assist the Church.

6. ORSMA. I continue to serve as the head of the Office for Review of Sexual Misconduct Allegations (ORSMA). The subject of this work is obviously difficult, and the work itself is difficult since everything done requires careful attention in order not to exacerbate the situation and with the realization that the work could come under legal scrutiny. As before, I am greatly aided by a team of consultants, the ORSMA Consultants, with whom I meet on a regular basis. These consultants represent three mental health professionals, a retired military chaplain, and an attorney. I am in the slow process of finding a new ORSMA Coordinator. Just recently, a draft job description for this position has been prepared for circulation internally at the Chancery and among the ORSMA Coordinators.

7. Continuing Initiatives. At our Regular Fall 2023 Session, we passed two resolutions that provided funding for a) the creation of new icon of all the saints who have shown forth in North America, and b) the extension of an invitation, provided the Holy Synod

so blessed, to a bishop from another local Orthodox Church to come and visit the Orthodox Church in America.

7.1 Icon. With regard to the icon, I have been ably assisted by my colleague, Fr. John Mikitish, who has helped me track initial submission of proposals and then the work of the artist we have agreed on. As I noted previously, we began the process of commissioning a new icon of All Saints of North America with an open call for proposals. At least 13 proposals were received. Most of these proposals, but by no means all, came from amateur iconographers rather than professionals. After an examination of the iconographers' portfolios and specific proposals, no proposal was found to be entirely satisfactory in all relevant areas: skill, style, knowledgeable engagement with the iconographic tradition, and overall professionalism. Therefore, His Beatitude requested that Archimandrite Sergius, Abbot of St. Tikhon's Monastery, ask the monastery's new resident iconographer, Anton Daineko, to undertake the project. Anton agreed and submitted rough preliminary sketches as well as an estimate (\$15,000 plus the cost of the board). The new icon will be approximately 4' 6" x 3' 9". Selecting from among the preliminary designs, His Beatitude asked the iconographer to produce a more detailed sketch. That final sketch is underway, and the board has been ordered. At His Beatitude's request, the temple featured in the icon's design will be the Church of the Ascension on Unalaska, originally built by St. Innocent's own hands. Mr. Daineko believes he will complete the project by the end of February 2025; we have agreed, in any case, on a February-March 2025 timeframe.

7.2 Travel to Ukraine, Romania, and Constantinople. After considerable reflection, and after an attempted trip in January 2024, His Beatitude and I decided that it was most likely not possible for His Beatitude Metropolitan Onufriy to visit the Orthodox Church in America during the present war in Ukraine. As such, we decided to make a trip to Ukraine and extend an invitation to him on behalf of the Holy Synod at some point in the future, but also show support for him and his Church and all Ukrainians during this horrible war. To that end, we visited Ukraine from June 1-4 and conveyed the invitation and the support of the Orthodox Church in America for the Ukrainian Orthodox Church and Ukraine. Following that visit, His Beatitude and his delegation, which included me, Fr. Nazari and Fr. Vitaly, visited the famous Putna Monastery in Romania. We also held a meeting with His Grace Bishop Varlaam at the patriarchal palace in Bucharest, after which we toured the construction site of the new cathedral being built by the Romanian Orthodox Church in Bucharest. After the Romanian visit, we traveled to Constantinople, where we had the opportunity to share with members of the Ecumenical Patriarchate

and the Ecumenical Patriarch, himself, what we had seen and heard while we were in Ukraine.

8. Conclusions. These past six months have proven to be some of the most challenging in the life of the Chancery. And so, I conclude my report, as always, with a word of gratitude to His Beatitude for his ever calm, patient, and pastoral leadership. Equally, I not only celebrate the good work of my Chancery colleagues and ask the Metropolitan Council to recognize it, but I offer them my thanks for their collaboration.

Report of the Secretary of the Orthodox Church in America
Regular Fall 2024 Session of the Metropolitan Council
October 9-11, 2024

OVERVIEW. Since the Spring Session of the Metropolitan Council, the work at the Chancery of the Orthodox Church in America has continued with its regular tasks, projects, impromptu requests, and emergencies. With the relocation still in the current phase, the life of the office remains in a transitional state. I continue to oversee the operations at the office in Virginia, where I am grateful for the hard and dedicated work of my colleagues, Priest John Mikitish and Deacon Alexander Woodill.

I continue to serve as the parish priest at All Saints of America Orthodox Church in Alexandria, and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve in pastoral ministry while maintaining my administrative duties. I am also in the process of finalizing my doctoral thesis and will finish the Doctor of Ministry at St. Vladimir's Seminary in the coming months.

I regularly receive questions on the state of the relocation and where “things are heading.” We are into the third year of the Chancery's relocation to a temporary location in Springfield, VA. For a while now, the operations have been fully established in the new location. Almost the entirety of the Archives has been at St. Vladimir's Seminary for quite some time, and the Archivist is the only person working at Westwood regularly for the past two years.

After initiating the relocation back in June 2022, we are still waiting to take the next several necessary steps to move forward with the process. The relocation, by all means, was not merely intended as a geographical relocation of the office and some of the employees. The relocation is intended to foster deeper integration with and immersion in the life of the Church. This is a multi-faceted endeavor that involves selling Westwood, acquiring a new property in greater DC, personnel changes, potential Archdiocesan changes, operational changes in the central administration, possibilities for greater exposure and connections that come with relocating to the capital of the United States, and in line with ecclesiastical tradition.

Although there may not have been detailed plans when the relocation was initially approved, the intent was for the Chancery to become more deeply immersed in and integrated with the life of the Archdiocese of Washington, including its diocesan life, parishes, and missions. This integration would eventually influence the Archdiocese itself, the Chancery's operations, its staff, and the work of the Metropolitan. As is common with changes in the Church, even those that are necessary and beneficial, they take time to implement and require a decisive approach, careful planning, and clear timelines. The Church has believed that this relocation would enhance its overall mission and, ultimately, enable more effective preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

In my view, the full relocation of the Chancery will yield two key benefits for the Orthodox Church in America: 1) the potential for direct support from the Archdiocese of Washington—though currently a small diocese—for the work of the Chancery, Metropolitan Council, and Holy Synod; and 2) the

anchoring of those involved in administration in the everyday fabric of Church life, which revolves around regular parish life and pastoral work. This will help prevent the administrative work from becoming overly bureaucratic, abstract, and disconnected from the life of the Church.

To achieve this, it is crucial that the personnel relocation be completed promptly. This will enable the Chancery to function at its best, remain focused on its primary tasks, and advance the relocation process without causing distractions or further disruptions to the Chancery's regular work. On this note, I am grateful that the Chancellor, Archpriest Alexander Rentel, is finalizing his plans to relocate permanently at the beginning of 2025.

As always, below, I highlight several areas that fall, to a large extent, under the purview of the Office of the Secretary. While I can list a number of activities and projects, it is hard to satisfactorily convey the intense and multifaceted work that is done in our office in a report.

PHYSICAL OFFICE MANAGEMENT.

The office space at the temporary location in Springfield, VA, continues to serve its purpose during this extended transitional period. It allows the small staff to focus on operations without the frequent facility issues, both routine and unexpected, that were common in Westwood. His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon has hosted some guests at the VA Chancery, but we have begun to encounter the space's limitations. Following a recent trip to Westwood and the transfer of additional boxes containing documents, official publications, and sacred items—mainly icons—we had to rearrange several rooms to provide suitable storage. Additionally, depending on the type of meeting being hosted, this temporary location may or may not be the ideal venue.

I traveled to New York a couple of times in recent months to check on the property and, as mentioned above, relocate other material to Virginia. Meanwhile, our Archivist, Alexis Liberovsky, remains de facto the overseer of the facility, and I am in constant communication with him as issues arise.

At the beginning of last July, Fr. John, Dn. Alexander, and I went to Syosset for a few days to meet Fr. Alexander and Mr. Andrew Smith, Treasurer of the Orthodox Church in America. The purpose of the trip was to continue the preparation for the closing of Westwood. This entailed the packing of several materials (books, icons, documents, etc.), which will likely go into storage until a permanent Chancery office is acquired in Virginia; organizing the sunroom as a temporary storage room for all the material that will be relocated; preparing a large amount of material for shredding—mostly old financial receipts and forms—and hiring a professional shredder to destroy 11 large bins worth of material; assessing the next steps for the packing of the remaining material at Westwood. During our stay, we also celebrated the Divine Liturgy presided by Fr. Alexander.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY. With the assistance of Fr. John Schroedel, Tech Manager, I continue to assess the Chancery's various technology needs. We continue to expand the use of the various systems we have implemented over the past few years, especially BOX and Airtable.

In preparation for the 21st All-American Council, I recommended that the Preconciliar Commission appoint Mr. Barry Mygyanko, a former Chancery employee, to assist me in managing the registration process. Barry and I collaborated on this during the last AAC. We are now finalizing plans to use the same event management platform (eventtia.com) that we successfully utilized for the previous Council.

Fr. John Schroedel, Fr. Kyle Parrot, Director of Communication, and I continue to work on the website. After several changes implemented in the organization of its content and pages over the past year, we have now begun a conversation with a web design consultant. Presently, I do not have a proposal to consider and share with the Metropolitan Council, but I hope to do so in the near future. There is no doubt that our website—visited by over 1 million people every year—is in need of a redesign.

SMPAC. The Sexual Misconduct Policy Advisory Committee serves in an advisory role, offering guidance on enhancing the content and effectiveness of the Policies, Standards, and Procedures on Sexual Misconduct. It also reviews the implementation of the Church's PSPs and ensures compliance with these policies.

The current members of SMPAC are Archpriest Alexander Rentel, Chancellor; Archpriest Alessandro Margheritino, Secretary; Archpriest David Mezynski; Archpriest Justin Patterson; Protodeacon Peter Danilchick; and Mr. Robert Koory, Esq.

SMPAC continues to hold regular monthly meetings, each centered on a specific topic. These meetings are conducted via teleconference, typically on the second Thursday of each month. In recent meetings, we discussed a proposal to assist the Diocese of Alaska in implementing the PSPs and supporting its clergy and parishes with educational initiatives. Later this month, Fr. Alexander and PDn. Peter will attend the Diocese of Alaska's Diocesan Assembly to give a presentation.

Recent inquiries regarding our policies and background check requirements have emphasized the need to begin revising all documents to provide a more precise and consistent presentation of the policies for the benefit of our parishes and institutions.

COMMUNICATION & PUBLICATIONS. In his report, Fr. Kyle Parrott, Director of Communication, will outline the progress made with our social media platforms and website. I am thankful to the communications team for their efforts—much of which takes place “behind the scenes”—in improving the structure and organization of our website.

I am pleased to report that the 2025 Desk Calendar was sent to the printer last week, and I anticipate copies to be mailed in the next three weeks. A press release on our website was also published last Saturday. As usual, all clergy, active and retired, and clergy widows will receive a complimentary copy in the mail. Additional copies may be requested for a \$20.00 donation per unit to offset the costs of printing and shipping. This year's calendar theme is “Gathered Together By Christ,” which is also the theme of the upcoming 21st All-American Council, which will take place in Phoenix, AZ, from July 14-18, 2025.

OPERATIONS. The Office of the Secretary oversees several important ongoing tasks in which I am actively involved. I continue to manage the 501(c)(3) master list and assist various parishes with their tax-exempt status, oversee the insurance needs of the Orthodox Church in America, maintain the Church's documents and database, provide support to the Holy Synod, and serve in an advisory role to the Metropolitan as an officer of the Church.

A few weeks ago, during a yearly review of our insurance needs with Insurance Systems, we initiated a conversation about a possible Life Insurance program for all OCA clerics (bishops, priests, and deacons) and lay workers. The idea of a Life Insurance program is not. The All-American Council has discussed this at least a couple of times, and there is also a resolution from the 12th AAC in 1999 that mandates parishes to cover a life insurance policy of at least \$50K for their priests. Representatives from Insurance Systems are coming to the Metropolitan Council to offer a presentation on a Term Life Insurance program that would have four levels (\$50K-200K) of coverage. This would not necessitate medical exams but only the payment of a premium that is scaled to age groups. The premium goes up at intervals of 5 years. This program would be offered and available on an entirely voluntary basis. There is no cost to the Church to initiate this program.

I continue to hold monthly meetings with Archpriest Thomas Soroka, Project Manager for the Departments, and Archpriest Nicholas Solak, Chair of the Office of Pastoral Life. These meetings aim to keep His Beatitude and the Central Administration informed about the work of the Departments and the Office, while also providing support from the Central Administration as needed.

The Preconciliar Commission continues its work in preparation for the 21st All-American Council in Phoenix, AZ, next July 14-18. The Commission, pending approval from the Metropolitan Council and the Holy Synod, is expanding to include one of the youth program coordinators and the two local chairs.

Father Jason and Matushka Ashley Foster, who have run a successful youth camp in the Diocese of the South for many years, have agreed to serve as coordinators of the AAC Youth program. The Youth program will benefit from the extensive space available at the resort where the Council will take place, which also includes seven swimming pools and a water park. His Beatitude has also asked that the youth—as much as possible—be involved in the work and activities of the Council. We are also grateful to Deacon John Weiss and Lydia Osolinsky, who have accepted to serve as the Local Clergy and Lay Chairs for the Council.

I present these three names to the Metropolitan Council for formal nomination in accordance with Article III, sec. 5.a of the Statute. If nominated by the Metropolitan Council at this Regular Fall 2024 Session, I will then present the names to the Holy Synod for appointment.

The Preconciliar Commission is currently as follows:
His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon, *Chair*
Archpriest Alexander Rentel, *Chancellor*
Archpriest Alessandro Margheritino, *Secretary*

Mr. Andrew Smith, *Treasurer*
Archpriest Andrew Jarmus
Archpriest Kirill Sokolov
Priest Kyle Parrott
Protodeacon Peter Ilchuk, *Council Manager*
Hollie Benton
Lynnell McFarland

Pending appointment

Deacon John Weiss
Matushka Ashley Foster
Lydia Osolinsky

Last August 18, the Preconciliar Commission presented to the Church a Call for Reflections by Metropolitan Tikhon. As stated in the press release, “In preparation for the upcoming 21st All-American Council in Phoenix, AZ, July 14-18, 2025, His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon is calling on all communities of the Orthodox Church in America—parishes, missions, seminaries, monasteries, and all institutions—to submit reflections on this moment in the life of the Church. A companion study guide has also been made available to help guide these discussions.”

ARCHIVES. As noted in previous reports, most of the Archival collection is now housed in the Rangos Building at St. Vladimir’s Seminary. I have personally accessed the Archives for some of my recent doctoral research and can confirm that the Church’s archival treasures are now preserved under the best conditions they have ever experienced.

However, there are still unsorted documents in the Westwood basement that belong to the Archives and need to be relocated to St. Vladimir’s. Alexis continues to work on organizing these materials to prepare them for their urgent move.

Additionally, several items in the basement do not belong to the Archives and, as decided more than two years ago, must be disposed of as soon as possible. Progress on preparing the basement for the eventual closure of Westwood has been slow, and it remains far from ready for the final transition.

FINAL REMARKS. I am thankful to His Beatitude for his archpastoral care and the trust he places in me as I continue to serve our beloved Church as Secretary. I also extend my gratitude to my fellow officers, Fr. Alexander Rentel and Mr. Andrew Smith, and to my colleagues Fr. John Mikitish and Deacon Alex Woodill, with whom I work daily on numerous projects. Additionally, I am grateful to all those who serve the Central Administration of our Church in various roles, many of whom work remotely but with the same dedication and care for Christ’s Holy Church.

Archpriest Alessandro Margheritino
Secretary of the Orthodox Church in America

The Orthodox Church in America

Metropolitan Council

Property Committee Update

28 September 2024

Most Blessed Master, Bless! Reverend Fathers and Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Background

The Metropolitan Council by motion and majority vote, approved in February of this year the potential sale of Westwood to a private buyer, Kochar and Associates. Since that time, our attorneys and Jon Winzelberg (Ripco Realty) have confirmed significant progress has been made.

Activity

Key milestones to report include:

- Completion of initial 60 day due-diligence period – during which time – the buyer would withdraw from the sale without penalty, for any reason. Fortunately, that was not the case and the buyer’s resolve to develop the property continued.
- With the due diligence period completed, the buyer met another milestone with a scheduled payment of \$25,000 (earnest monies) to the Orthodox Church in America. This was transferred and deposited in late June, and we will expect another payment scheduled before the end of the year.
- Cronin & Cronin are tax attorneys who are working with our real estate attorney team, to continue efforts to mitigate Westwood’s property tax burdens. They do so by filing annually a Property Tax Appeal challenge and these efforts are viewed positively by the buyer resulting in small but appreciated reductions.
- Anticipating the requirement for approval by the New York Attorney General for the sale of Westwood, our real estate attorney team have initiated preparations for this process by completing an appraisal evaluation of the Westwood property to determine current market valuation. This was completed in May of this year with a favorable determination of value noted below the contract sales price.
- Buyer has completed two potential site-plan renderings, each for five-lot subdivision, that are being reviewed and discussed with the Village planning board. Each plan is focused on two possible solutions for road access to individual lots. We expect buyer submission of the selected plan to the Planning Board will occur within the next few weeks with its approval to be received before Spring of 2025.
- Lastly, it has been reported to us that the buyer has expended significant funds to date (estimated ~ \$250K), which is a good indicator of his commitment to meet all future milestones required for final sale closing on the Westwood property.

Please contact either Ray Steeb or Greg Honshul for any questions you may have regarding the activities of the Property Committee.

Thank you for your support and interest.

Respectfully Submitted:

Ray Steeb, Co-Chair

Gregory Honshul, Co-Chair



Pension Office
P.O. Box 8121
Hicksville, NY 11802-8121
Tel/Text: 516-464-0322
Fax: 516-464-0367
Email: pension@ocapension.org

September 3, 2024

Your Beatitude, Your Eminences, Your Graces, honorable clergy, and lay delegates:

We submit this Pension Plan report and attached documents to the Metropolitan Council for its Fall 2024 meetings.

Since our last report, the Pension Board held board meetings in June and August. Fr. Alessandro Margheritino, Chancery liaison to the Pension Board, and David Lane, Metropolitan Council liaison, attended both board meetings. Members of the Pension Board also attended the special meeting held on April 1 & 2, 2024 attended by His Beatitude, members of the Holy Synod, Diocesan Chancellors, OCA General Counsel, Actuary David Jarrett, and a representative from Pension Plan's actuarial firm Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company. On April 2, during the Holy Synod meeting, the third and final Pension Plan amendment, approved by the Metropolitan Council at its March meeting, was accepted. After the meeting, His Beatitude issued a letter discussing the special meeting, the new amendments, and encouraging participation.

The third Pension Plan amendment mandates the responsibility of parishes to contribute the employer portion to the Plan monthly if they have inactive members, ineligible members, and/or non-compliant members. This amendment is effective beginning January 1, 2025 for the parish employer portion. However, **non-compliant eligible members are urged to become compliant and enroll in the Plan immediately, as the January 1, 2025 date does not apply to them.** Enrollments now through year-end are critical as they will positively affect the January 1, 2025 actuarial valuation.

Investment Performance

The Pension Plan assets continue to be invested in a diversified portfolio of equities, fixed income, and alternative investments. The asset allocation includes a low-volatility portion similar to cash in the amount of eighteen months of monthly cash requirements. This allows the portfolio to remain intact in periods of market decline by having sufficient cash available. Ongoing improvements in cash flow have **ELIMINATED** the monthly cash transfer from our investment portfolio. This improved cash flow has also significantly reduced the amount allocated to this low-volatility class and freed up assets to be redeployed into better yielding asset classes.

The marketable securities portfolio, including the low volatility portion, managed by Morgan Stanley, earned 8.63%, net of fees for the 12-month period ending July 31, 2024. This compares to 12.41% earned for the same period by our benchmark representative of an asset

allocation of 60% global equities, 35% intermediate bonds, and 5% cash. The S&P 500 Index earned 22.12% vs. the S&P 500 equally weighted performance of 12.89% for the same period, thus showing the effect of the “Magnificent Seven” on the cap weighted stock market indices.

The performance of non-marketable alternative investments is subject to delayed reporting of 1 to 5 months and therefore their recent performance is not yet reflected in the above Plan’s total performance. Because of this, the Plan’s performance is best evaluated over a longer period of time. These investments produced an average net return of 5.5% per year during the 3-year period ending March 31, 2024. Our Plan’s benchmark for that period returned 3.84% per year.

Total Plan assets as of August 1, 2023 were \$23,890,113.

Total Plan assets as of July 31, 2024 are \$25,888,164.

Actuarial Valuation

Our actuary from Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company (GRS) attended the April 2 special meeting with the Holy Synod and other representatives. She presented the January 1, 2024 roll forward valuation to the group. Additionally, she demonstrated the modeling tool GRS created for our use to project the effects of various changes upon the funded status of the plan. Several prepared scenarios were presented. Then various additional scenarios were created at the request of participants. **Several scenarios presented showed the Pension Plan being fully funded in less than 20 years.**

The actuaries continue to emphasize that increased participation to comply with the plan rules is the way to strengthen the Plan. This was concurred with by the OCA general counsel and the actuary attending on behalf of the OCA.

There is no new actuarial report included as an Exhibit. GRS will perform a new actual valuation and present a new report dated January 1, 2025.

Participation:

As of August 1, 2024, there are 382 (40 members who participate via more than one employer) active participating members and 20 inactive members for a total of 402 active/inactive participants. In addition, there are currently 245 monthly benefits recipients.

Agreed-Upon Procedures:

Barnes Wendling CPAs, the Pension Plan’s independent accounting firm, issued its Report on Agreed-Upon Procedures (AUP) for 2023. The Report has been included as Exhibit B to this report. The firm has been engaged to perform the same services for 2024 at the same rate.

Administration:

Michael Stieglitz, Plan Administrator, continues to work with parish treasurers and members who call for training on the MARC system. He is available upon request to demonstrate the system capabilities and train personnel to input the compensation data, calculate the contribution amounts, and locate historical parish information.

As a reminder, any member can text the office or text the Pension Administrator Michael Stieglitz directly at 516-464-0415.

Proposed Plan Amendments:

The Pension Board does not have any plan amendments to present to the Metropolitan Council with this report.

Specific request for the Metropolitan Council:

Request for continued contribution toward expenses: The Pension Board requests that the Central Church Administration, as Plan Sponsor, continue to contribute \$9,000 per month towards the Plan's administration expenses. Please see Exhibit H attached.

Additional information provided:

We have provided the following Exhibits for further discussion with the Metropolitan Council:

- A. Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company - Actuaries
 - No new exhibits at this time.

- B. Barnes Wendling CPAs
 - 2023 Independent Accountants' Report on Agreed-Upon Procedures

- C. Cash flow
 - Projected 2024 YE with actual 2023 & 2022

- D. Administrative expenses detail: 2024 YTD vs. budget and 2023-2019 actual

- E. Updated monthly cash flow details
 - E-1 Summary with increased participation at 50% and 100%

- E-2 Summary with non-participating parishes by category
- E-3 Non-participating parishes as of July 31, 2024 by diocese

F. Participation statistics

G. Investment Summary – as of July 31, 2024

H. Request for continued OCA contribution towards expenses

Conclusion

We are focusing on implementing the new amendment effective January 1, 2025. As such, we have requested contact information from all parishes who are not already in the system and contributing to the Plan. We appreciate everyone's efforts to provide this information now so that the system can be updated before January 1, 2025.

We appreciate the time and energy everyone has contributed towards the progress which we have made towards improving the Pension Plan.

Please keep us in your prayers.

Respectfully yours in Christ,
The Pension Board

His Grace, Bishop Gerasim, Episcopal Moderator
Bishop of Fort Worth
Auxiliary to the Diocese of the South

Matushka Mary Buletza Breton, Chair
Fr. John Dresko
Fr. Matthew Tate
Fr. Chad Hatfield
Ms. Mary Ann Bobulsky
Mrs. Melanie Ringa

Report of the Pension Committee of the Metropolitan Council to accompany the fall 2024 Pension Board report to the Metropolitan Council

We must begin our report with commending the Pension Board for a comprehensive, clear, and transparent report with the accompanying exhibits.

Compliance

We note the imperative to get non-compliant, eligible church workers into the Plan, but we also recognize that this may be a substantial financial hardship on those parishes and institutions falling into this category. Those entities need time to plan, including possibly making difficult choices such as terminating the employment of some church workers or curtailing their hours. Thus, while we endorse the urging of the Board for non-compliant, eligible members to get compliant, we must deal with practicalities, and thus we think the January 1, 2025 deadline reasonable to become compliant.

Investment Performance

We would like better clarity on the investment performance vs. benchmarks. We think the cash/high-liquidity portion of the portfolio may be dragging down the reported numbers, but perhaps this should be reported separately in an additional view in future reports. We are concerned about the performance against benchmark, but we are not currently certain what is included and excluded from that view.

We would like to see, in a future report, an explanation of the benchmark investments and a comparison over time with the Plan's investments. This should be done over a long-term (10 years?) consistent reporting period that does not change from report to report. Performance projections, particularly the necessary return-on-investment projection of the recent actuarial analysis, should also be clearly stated.

We would like to see the board undertake a systematic backtesting¹ of its investment portfolio compared to other options and benchmarks. The Plan wisely maintains about 18 months of expenses in cash-similar investments, allowing it to weather many market storms. This, too, should be backtested with several other options such as 12, 24, and 36 months of cash-on-hand to compare performance. Now that the problem of cash flow is staunch, we think it is time to critically and professionally examine and maximize investment choices.

Actuarial Valuation

Even though we have not gotten, nor did we expect, an actuary-provided update since the Spring Meeting of the Metropolitan council, we would like to note how pleased we have been with Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Co. to date. As far as we can tell, the Board has made an excellent choice of this firm to serve as the Plan actuary.

We would like to clarify just one word in the Board report that could leave an incorrect impression. "The actuaries continue to emphasize that increased participation to comply with the Plan rules is the way to strengthen the plan." The Pension Committee is not privy to any recent conversations, but the report the Board provided and the verbal report of the actuaries to the Metropolitan Council last Spring did **not** emphasize that increased

¹ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Backtesting>

participation was **the** way to strengthen the Plan. Rather, they listed several options, including increasing total contributions to around 30% of payroll. Another option would be for the Plan sponsor to further offset the debt by increased funding outside of payroll deductions. It was the Board, with the full, informed concurrence of the Metropolitan Council and the Holy Synod of Bishops, that decided to pursue the course we are currently on. We think it wise to keep our minds open to additional, not necessarily exclusive, ways to reduce the funding deficit, and, if possible, to provide a better retirement benefit to our clergy and church workers.

Specific Requests to the Metropolitan Council

The Board requests that the Plan sponsor continue to provide \$9000/month to offset expenses. We endorse this.

Liaison to the Board

David Lane, the lay member from the Diocese of the West, a member of this committee, and the current Metropolitan Council liaison to the pension board, will be ending his term on the Metropolitan Council at the end of this Fall 2024 regular meeting. He is term-limited by Statute such that he may not serve another consecutive term as the Diocese of the West's representative. Thus, there is a vacancy for Liaison to the Pension Board for His Beatitude to appoint.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Dimitri, chair

David Lane

Priest John Parker

Joshua Godbold

Archpriest David Garretson (not present, but approved virtually)

REPORT REGARDING PENSION BOARD MEETINGS - 6/10/24 & 8/20/24

JUNE 10, 2024 MEETING

The Pension Board had a zoom meeting on June 10, 2024. Father Alessandro attended as the administrative liaison as well as the Pension Board members. There had been an executive session prior to my participation.

I asked if they had received the documents which they had been attempting to receive to verify the status of the dioceses, parishes, priests, and employees. They had received information from several dioceses, seminaries, monasteries, and the administration. However, the information was incomplete from some of them. It appeared that approximately 46 eligible priests and 87 parishes which would still be required to enroll, but this needed confirmation. Therefore, they were continuing efforts to obtain the correct information.

Father Alessandro reported on behalf of the administration. His Beatitude sent a letter to the dioceses, parishes, etc., regarding the Pension Plan and its mandatory component and requesting that information be provided to the Pension Board. A further request for updates will be made toward the end of July.

The Pension Board chair, Matushka Mary and administrator, Michael Stieglitz summarized the recent activity.

There had been a presentation to the Holy Synod regarding the Pension Plan on the need for correct information so that the PB could make their projections and recommendations.

The Bishops will be contacted to provide updated contact information for the PB.

There is a new status in the Pension system for parishes without priests or with aged-out priests

They are getting new members and, as of July 1, 2024 will have nine new people join. They are trying to emphasize that eligible non-participants need to immediately join. The projections for the year were based upon 20 net new participants and they are progressing toward that goal.

They have reduced the withdrawals from the investment accounts and were able to return \$5,000 to the investments in May. The contributions are slightly more than the benefits paid and they are projecting that there will be a net zero withdrawal by the end of the year if this continues. There was an \$80,000 withdrawal during the first quarter and they will continue to return funds as possible for the rest of the year.

They have not resolved any modification to the proposed amendment which was not accepted by the Metropolitan Committee. They will refer that to the joint committee once they have completed this for presentation to the MC, potentially at the AAC.

The next report was from Warren Rivetz, the managing person for the Plan from Morgan Stanley.

There are zero withdrawals from the investments at this time. The low volatility account had been reduced to \$500,000 since it was not necessary at this time to make withdrawals to fund benefit payments. He will be closely monitoring this and report further in the August meeting. The Plan investments are in compliance with the Investment Policy statement.

There was a recent addition of \$100,000 to the private credit portion of the Plan investments. The Year-to-date return has been 3.5% which is less than the benchmark of 5.06%. However, this is primarily based upon the necessity to keep funds in the bank, bonds and low volatility accounts. The alternative investments had returned 2.33% as of March 31 with a projected 8.5% for the year. These investments report basically on a quarterly or longer basis so these are not up-to-date figures..

He recommended a re-balancing of the portfolio to put more funds into long term investments which provide a better return. This was accepted by the PB.

His final comment was that this was the first time since 2009 where the Plan had a positive cash flow.

The meeting was adjourned.

AUGUST 20, 2024 MEETING

The Pension Board had a zoom meeting on August 20, 2024. Father Alessandro attended as the administrative liaison as well as the Pension Board members and an alternate member in the absence of Father Matthew. There had been an executive session prior to my participation.

The Pension Board chair, Matushka Mary and administrator, Michael Stieglitz summarized the recent activity.

They had just become aware of a 35 page document from a Diocese of the South task force regarding the Pension Plan and the Pension Board. They had not be contacted by this task force and had no advance information about this. The report is preliminary but has many incorrect assumptions and information. They have not been asked to respond to it and have been advised that this task force will be developing a proposed “major amendment” for presentation to the AAC. It is understood that most, if not all, of the members of this task force are not participants in the Plan.

The cash flow is continuing to be positive with the contributions exceeding the benefits paid. They have now been able to transfer \$30,000 to the investments to reduce the original \$80,000 which had been withdrawn from the investments in the first quarter of the year. It is planned that the entire \$80,000 will be repaid by the end of the year.

They have continued to have an increase in members and now have 17 new members which is a net gain of 14 participants, well toward the projected goal of a net 20 increase. The members are younger.

They had approved a new procedures report in the executive session and will change their accounting method to accrual next year.

Their focus is on obtaining more information from the parishes, diocese, and other organizations in the church and getting information to the parishes, particularly the non-participating parishes, to make sure that they are prepared for the January 1, 2025 clarification that they are required to make contributions. In this process they sent emails to the parishes and dioceses with this information and, if there is no response, a second contact will be sent to them with copies to Father

Alessandro and Father Alexander Rentel. Approximately one-half of the recipients have not responded as of the date of the meeting.

They are not going to work on any amendments to the Plan at this time since their focus is on the compliance issues and increasing participation.

They are working on the reports to the MC and expect that they will have everything ready by September 10. I asked for detailed reports concerning the lack of information which they were requesting and they will report on that as well.

His Grace Geraism pointed out that the 35 page DOS task report should be read, in particular pages 21-24 with regard to expertise.

The next report was from Warren Rivetz, the managing person for the Plan from Morgan Stanley.

He pointed out that the Plan was now in excess of \$25,000,000 which placed it is a greater investment opportunity as that was the investment minimum required for many investments which presented greater opportunities.

There are no withdrawals from the investments and payments have been made to return prior withdrawals from the beginning of the year. The cash which is returned is being invested. t this time. The low volatility account had been reduced but it still lowered the total return since it was returning a much lower gain.

He recommended that some accounts be consolidated into other accounts for easier management. The problem with ths is that one of the accounts which would be consolidated would lose its long-term history as the history would be retained from the consolidation date. However, this is not really a problem since they will print and retain the history prior to the consolidation, it just wouldn't be available directly from the consolidated account but would have to be obtained from the saved history account. Some of the consolidated accounts will be distributed into other accounts.

The alternate structure account should be revised. One of the accounts should be liquidated when appropriate and a new account needs to be set up when it is sold with a new investment purchased. He also suggested investment in additional investments.

The investments continue to meet the investments policy statement.

The performance year-to-date on the plan was 8.63% compared to the benchmark of 12.41. This would improve with the reduction in the low liquidity portion of the investments and the termination of the withdrawals which had been \$80,000 per month in the prior year. The low volatility investments had been reduced to approximately \$500,000 since the cash flow had stabilized.

He explained the general manner by which the private credit investment works with calls on the contributions but not all of the amount being immediately deposited and the general time-frame over which the investment progresses.

The Morgan Stanley fees were .65%.

There was discussion regarding his recommendations and they were generally adopted with some modifications

CONCLUSIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

1. These were excellent meetings with the information being provided, questions and suggestions exchanged and discussed, as well as very much cooperation and desire to work with the Metropolitan Council.

2. It has become clear that the Pension Plan is viable and will provide all of the expected benefits with the enforcement of the mandatory participation requirements based upon the actuary's projections. It appears at this time that further contribution increases will not be required.

3. There is still an absolute need to address any questions regarding the participation mandate, the necessary information needs to be provided, and the Holy Synod needs to provide the enforcement methods to accomplish this so that the Plan participation mandate will be immediately enforced.

4. The PB needs to prepare a Funding Improvement Plan at the earliest time for presentation to the MC and HS. But the final version of this plan, other than enforcing the participation mandate, needs to have all of the necessary information provided to the PB. Hopefully, this will be obtained and accomplished for presentation at the AAC.

Yours in Christ,
David Lane
MC Liaison

Report of the Departments
Orthodox Church in America
September 29, 2024

Below is a summary of the ongoing work or status of each department since the last report of February, 2023.

Website Refresh Project

Work and discussion continues to reorganize the files in the Department of Liturgical Music. The eventual subdomain (music.oca.org) will make using the complexity of finding texts and music more user-friendly.

Department of Liturgical Music and Translations

- ONGOING: Compilation of all available resources and texts that have been used in the past and present under the “Texts for Liturgical Services” section provided in the helpful, but labor-intensive, individual service sheets published on the OCA website. He will be compiling all current texts into a usable online Horologion, Triodion, Pentecostarion, Menaion, Psalter, and other possible resources that we currently possess.
- ONGOING: Expansion of Thee/Thou music for the Ochtoechos and Menaion
- ONGOING: Creation of complete rubrical notes for upcoming Divine Services. The current focus is on the Saturday night/Sunday cycle, but plans include expanding to include other commonly served services for the Great and Vigil-ranked feasts.
- ONGOING: Posting of basic music for Matins and Vespers.
- ONGOING: Basic Sight-Singing and Ear-Training Course for choir directors and singers who may be unfamiliar with basic musical concepts. (*This is the fourth round for this popular program.*)
- ONGOING: Basic Musicianship and Conducting courses continue to be offered.
- NEW: New musical settings for various feasts have been posted.
- NEW: Discussions are being held regarding plans to expand the offerings for rubrics and liturgical order of services for all major and minor services and feasts. Currently, the order of services is offered for the Saturday evening Vigil service for every weekend of the year.
- NEW: Meeting held with Chancery Leadership regarding the work of the DLM to ensure alignment with goals of His Beatitude, Holy Synod, and the needs of the parishes and missions.
- ONGOING: The DLM meets regularly to discuss projects, plans, and roadblocks to continuing improvement.

Department of Evangelization

- ONGOING: Matching grant awards recipient reports are reviewed.
- A discussion was held reviewing the Mission Planting Grant program. Acknowledging the tremendous impact of the program in the past, a letter of concern has been sent to His Beatitude regarding the **current** effectiveness of the program given the low rate of applications in the past few years. We believe that current economic conditions and program requirements (full time salary, health insurance, pension contribution, etc) without any outside work make it more difficult in certain areas of the country for missions to apply. Our recommendation is to consider revisions

to the program that would encourage more mission applications and a possible expansion to support mission, outreach, and other forms of mission work in established parishes.

Department of Youth, Young Adult, and Campus Ministry

- A revised job description was submitted.
- Discussion was held regarding possible part-time position
- Searching for suitable candidates that can provide a direction to model youth work in parishes.

Department of Christian Education

- POSTED: First lessons of 32-week new Church School curriculum. (see below)
- ONGOING DEVELOPMENT: A comprehensive 32-week Church School curriculum to be written at five different levels. The subjects will parallel the subjects presented in the Inter-Departmental document “Essential Orthodox Christian Beliefs: A Manual for Adult Instruction.”

Department of Continuing Education

- *Department removed and now official under Office of Pastoral Life.*

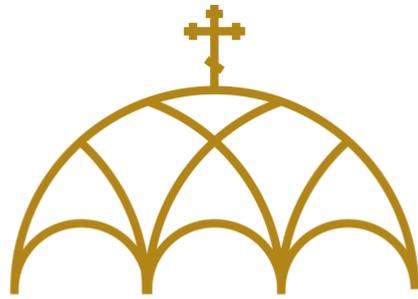
Department of Christian Service and Humanitarian Aid

- Need for re-envisioning of departmental work.

Inter-Departmental “Essential Orthodox Christian Beliefs: A Manual for Adult Instruction”

- CCONTINUING: Review of feedback given from various sources regarding other areas of the manual.
- POSTED: PowerPoint Slides for teaching of EOCB
- POSTED: Review questions for each of the 16 chapters

Archpriest Thomas Soroka
Project Manager



Office of Pastoral Life

— ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA —



Clergy Wives



FINANCIAL HEALTH INITIATIVE
for OCA Clergy Families



Thriving in Ministry



Synaxis



Clergy Wives

Clergy Wives supports and empowers the spouses of clergy members by providing a platform for connection, support, and collaboration. Through regular meetings, peer support sessions, specialized workshops, and community-building activities, the group fosters a strong sense of community, helping clergy wives share experiences, address challenges, and access tailored resources. By enhancing personal well-being and strengthening their unique roles, the Clergy Wives ensures our Matushki are well-equipped to contribute confidently and resiliently to their families and communities.

Fundraising for Reliquary:

- Clergy Wives has been asked to raise funds for a reliquary for Saint Olga of Alaska.
- Alaskan wood carvers will construct the reliquary.
- A 46-second video and a flier have been produced to promote the project.
- The group is actively seeking ways to encourage interest in this effort.

Quarterly Zoom Retreats:

- October: His Grace Bishop Alexei will speak on the plans for the glorification of Matushka Olga.
- December: His Eminence Archbishop Alexander will address the topic of "Pain and Suffering."

Communication and Support:

- A prayer list of clergy wives is maintained.
- Quarterly newsletters are sent via email; hard copies are mailed to clergy widows who do not have internet access.
- Efforts continue to support clergy widows, many of whom feel isolated after a lifetime of service to the Church.
- Diocesan Point People share information on local events and Clergy Wives initiatives.

Webpage Development:

- A dedicated Clergy Wives page is being created on the Office of Pastoral Life website.
- Recordings of past retreats, including those for clergy widows, will be available online.
- Progress is being made on a long-awaited directory of OCA clergy wives.

August Leadership Meeting:

- Clergy Wives leadership held an in-person meeting in August. See the September 07, 2024 press release reporting on the meeting ([link here](#))
- His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon participated in discussions, and a Zoom session was held with His Grace Bishop Nikodhim.
- Both hierarchs provided guidance and asked questions to help refine current projects and plan for the future, including the All-American Council.

Financial Health Initiative (FHI)

The Financial Health Initiative (FHI) is a program of the OCA Office of Pastoral Life. We seek to assist clergy couples, their families, and the laity of the church to understand, navigate, and find solutions to the financial challenges our clergy families face in their ministry, as they serve the Church. FHI is funded in major part through a 4 year, \$1.25 million grant from the Lilly Endowment, Inc. See the August 13, 2024 press release announcing the award on OCA.org ([link](#) here).

FHI Leadership

- Fr. Nicholas Solak, *OPL Director*
- Fr. Stephen Vernak, *FHI Program Director*

The grant includes **\$650,000 in matching funds** (which need to be matched by OPL) to support:

1. *FHI Fund*: \$5,000 in direct debt relief; or \$5,000 to fund a Roth IRA for participants who have completed the FHI Program (*see details below*).
2. *OCA Priest Child Scholarship Fund*: \$1,500 to children of OCA priests (*see details below*).

Anticipated Timeline

- *FHI Cohort 1* (beta group selected by Diocesan leadership) to start in May 2025
- *FHI Cohort 2* (open applications) to start in May 2026
- *FHI Cohort 3* (open applications) to start in May 2027
- *FHI Cohort 4* (open applications) to start in May 2028

FHI Program Overview

- *Eligibility*: Available to active OCA Priests and their wives
- *Education*: Dave Ramsey [Financial Peace University \(FPU\)](#)
- *Coaching*: Personal Financial Coaching Sessions (*2 required*) - [Your Money Line](#) (YML)
- *FHI Fund Application*: 2 options
 1. \$5,000 Debt Relief; or
 2. \$5,000 Roth IRA

OCA Priest Child Scholarship Fund

- *Eligibility*: Available to dependent children of active OCA Priests regardless of whether or not the child's parents participate in the FHI Program.
- *Application*: May - July
 - \$1,500 Scholarship p/child (*college or trade school*)

Thriving in Ministry

Thriving in Ministry supports clergy, clergy wives, and their families through peer learning and professional development. This program offers structured peer learning groups, annual retreats, and ongoing mentorship, emphasizing personal and professional growth, strategic leadership, emotional and spiritual well-being, and interpersonal skills. By fostering a supportive clergy community and aligning with best practices, the program aims to enhance pastoral leadership and resilience within the Orthodox Church in America.

Peer Groups

- Currently 25 active peer groups
 - 13 clergy groups, 12 clergy wives groups
- Serving over 150 people
- More groups are forming all the time, including in Chicago
- PanOrthodox groups, currently about ⅔ of participants are OCA, all groups must have at least 2 OCA members, facilitators are also PanOrthodox

Lilly Endowment & Leadership Education Gatherings

- Father Nicholas and Shelby Giokas attended the Leadership Education Gathering at Duke in North Carolina August 12-14th.
- Gathering for about half of the Lilly Endowment's Thriving in Ministry projects from all Christian Jurisdictions
- Next Gathering March 22-27, 2025 in Indianapolis. While the Endowment tries to schedule events around Christian holidays, we mentioned to them the Orthodox Calendar has many feasts that make it difficult for a priest to be away from his parish.

Hellenic Foundation

- Received a grant from the Hellenic Foundation of Chicago to help fund our 2024 Fall Facilitators Retreat
- Applied and interviewed for their 2025 grant cycle; seeking funds for continued support of newly formed peer groups in Chicago

Fall Facilitators Retreat

- Three part event October 16-19th, hosted at the St Iakovos Retreat Center in Kansasville, WI
- Annual in person board meeting
- Fall Facilitators Retreat for training new and existing facilitators; 24 registrants, including board members
- Saturday Clergy Peer Learning Day for Chicagoland local priests and priests wives
 - Funded by the Hellenic Foundation
 - to introduce peer learning and start new peer groups

Synaxis

Synaxis fosters spiritual growth, leadership development, and community building among parish priests and deacons through tailored online gatherings. These opportunities offer clergy the ability to deepen theological knowledge, enhance leadership skills, and connect with peers, emphasizing shared experiences and collaborative problem-solving. Synaxis aims to empower clergy with the tools and relationships needed to lead effectively, cultivating vibrant church communities and promoting a thriving and resilient Orthodox Church.

Program Purpose:

- The Synaxis program aims to improve clergy by:
 - Combating isolation.
 - Nurturing spiritual brotherhood.
 - Encouraging new relationships and rekindling existing ones.
 - These connections contribute to growth as priests, husbands, fathers, and servants of Christ.

Meeting Structure:

- Quarterly meetings for two hours.
- Guest speakers are invited to address challenging aspects of ministry.
- After presentations, participants break into small, confidential groups for discussion.
- The environment fosters trust, with participants speaking openly, even with peers they may not know well.
- Feedback from each session is overwhelmingly positive.

Speakers and Topics (Last Year):

- Fr. Sean Levine: Chronic stress in ministry.
- His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon: A practical approach to prayer.
- Dr. Sophie Azmy: Undoing bad habits and building healthier ones.
- Fr. Steven Voytovich: Challenges in ministering to the sick.

Upcoming Events:

- September 2024 Synaxis: Dean Harbry will present a fresh perspective on parish health.
- December 2024 Synaxis: His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon, will speak on fasting.

Additional Notes:

- Participation and Growth: Average attendance: 103 (14% increase from the previous year).
- Facilitator Training: 22 trained facilitators received a skills refresher course with Dr. Sophie Azmy.
- A slate of speakers for 2025 is being developed.

Marketing & Communications

Since January of 2024, Marketing & Communications has had the great focus on launching OPL and its programs to have a brand, voice, and digital presence. Form and functionality have been front and center in design to provide the best audience experience and engagement immediately with great thought in the long-term growth needs of OPL.

The goal of Marketing & Communications is to provide cross support to all programs in their individual needs while supporting the vision and mission of OPL as a whole. Deb Colitas, Director of Marketing & Communications meets weekly with Father Solak and core staff with additional program meetings with leaders to work collaboratively on all needs.

Brand Identity

- Logo creation for the OPL, Clergy Wives, Financial Health Initiative, Thriving in Ministry, and Synaxis.
- Choice of colors and fonts.
- Key language and copy created for long term use in explaining what we do.

Website (www.opl.oca.org)

- Master OPL page created with individual sub pages for each program.
- Functional calendar for events.
- Individualized content and information for audience needs.
- Current collection of short and long term needs being examined by each program to continue the development and individualization of site functionality for each program.
- Design to support automation of available information.

Materials

- Promotional event materials
- Slide decks
- Schedules and agendas
- MailChimp and Email Octopus templates
- Branding report
- Speaker biographies

Technology

The mission of the Technology team is to support the work of the Office of Pastoral Life by

- Assessing the unique needs of the office and making informed recommendations for software and applications that are both cost-effective and feature-rich.
- Leveraging tools that facilitate communication, manage resources, and plan church-wide events, such as the Clergy Synaxis or the National Clergy Retreat.
- Enabling the Office of Pastoral Life to efficiently connect with the clergy families that we serve.

The initial work of the Tech team has mostly been completed with the provisioning of the @opl.oca.org domain name and getting the OPL staff up and running on Slack, Trello, Box, and Google Workspace. The Tech team is currently evaluating a customer relationship management (CRM) application while also helping to integrate and troubleshoot legacy software packages, such as AirTable, Zoom, and Email Octopus as needed.



Orthodox Church in America

Treasurer's Report

Metropolitan Council – Fall 2024

Your Beatitude, Reverend Fathers, Brothers and Sisters:

Greetings in Christ!

I write this as we conclude the third quarter of the 2024 fiscal year. Since the last meeting of the Metropolitan Council, I have worked closely with Chazin & Company to refine our processes and improve the internal control environment in a manner consistent with last year's internal audit report. Further, I have been closely involved with the application, budgeting, and initial stages of management for the Thriving in Ministry continuation grant and the new Financial Health Initiative grant (both from the Lilly Endowment), along with the proposed restructuring of the Office of Pastoral Life.

Below, I provide recent financial performance of the OCA and include discussion of the proposed 2025 budget.

FY2023 Audited Financial Statements

During the spring and summer of 2024, OCA and Chazin staff worked closely with Satty, Levine and Ciacco, CPAs, P.C. to conduct the field work for the external audit of the OCA's 2023 financial statements. Audit fieldwork has been completed and a draft of the financial statements is available (see **Attachment A**). The auditors have issued an Unqualified (i.e., "clean") opinion on this draft of the OCA's 2023 financial statements; this means that the statements "...present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Orthodox Church in America as of December 31, 2023 and 2022..."

In 2023, the OCA saw a \$585K increase in overall net assets. This was the result of a \$916K increase in net assets with donor restrictions (primarily from endowment investment gains and grant funding) and a \$331K decrease in net assets without donor restriction. The latter represented an operating loss that was driven primarily by the write off of Westwood construction-in-progress associated with the former Archives renovation project (\$105K) and planned use of operating reserve to cover certain temporary expenses associated with operating two Chancery locations.

Upon Metropolitan Council approval, we will be able to sign the management representation letter and issue final audited statements for 2023. (See accompanying resolution)

FY2024 Financial Performance through September 30, 2024

The OCA just completed the third quarter of the 2024 fiscal year. Included as **Attachment B** is the quarterly Treasurer’s Report through September 30, 2024.

Overall operating revenue is slightly behind where we would expect through the first three quarters (71.9%), though this is due primarily to the fact that we don’t yet need to use any of the budgeted reserves as revenue. Our key revenue streams, including diocesan contributions and individual giving, are higher than we would expect at this point in the year. We also expect an additional significant increase in individual contributions with the Stewards of the OCA campaign in the fourth quarter. Expenses are lower than what we would expect through the first three quarters the year; however, professional services expenses have exceeded expectation due primarily to larger than anticipated need for legal services in 2024. Further, certain expenses (e.g., payment in lieu of taxes on the Westwood property, Metropolitan Council Fall meeting expenses, contributions to the seminaries) will be recognized later in the year and are not yet reflected.

The net effect is a modest operating surplus of roughly \$9K through the first 9 months of 2024, with *no* use of the \$172K in unrestricted reserves we had budgeted.

OCA investments have performed well in 2024, with a blended return of over 28% for the first three quarters of 2024 and over 42% for the 12-month period ending 9/30/2024, both of which exceed the S&P 500 for the same periods. These investments are associated with endowed funds that, because of healthy investment gains in prior years, have remained and are now well “above water” (i.e., the investment balances have not fallen below the permanently restricted portion of the endowments).

	Market Val.	Market Val.	Market Val.	Annual Rate	9-mo Rate
Investment Accounts	9/30/2023	12/31/2023	9/30/2024	of Return	of Return
Main Endowment Fund, incl Rotko	1,780,254.93	2,001,331.70	2,733,012.46	45.09%	29.06%
FOS Endowment Fund	132,559.38	148,241.18	224,631.92	69.46%	51.53%
St. Andrew Endowment Fund	136,579.36	151,730.46	191,039.32	39.87%	25.91%
	2,049,393.67	2,301,303.34	3,148,683.70	46.32%	30.30%
Kavalenko	62,362.50	64,809.64	66,833.47	7.17%	3.12%
OCCIF N/R (Mission Fund)	150,000.00	150,000.00	150,000.00	0.00%	0.00%
Missions Fund	1,153,588.95	1,287,168.32	1,658,093.80	43.73%	28.82%
	1,303,588.95	1,437,168.32	1,808,093.80	38.70%	25.81%
	3,415,345.12	3,803,281.30	5,023,610.97	42.70%	28.14%
Note:	Stock gift of approx. \$150,000 to Main Endowment in Aug 2024 removed from return rate				

All-American Council Budget

PDn. Peter Ilchuk and I, in consultation with many others, have been working closely to build a budget for the upcoming 21st All-American Council in Phoenix, AZ in July 2025 (**See Attachment C**). We have built a budget that is 13.7% higher than the last All-American Council, an increase that mirrors inflation over the same period. It proposes a 9.5% increase in diocesan contributions, which was the result of thoughtful process of allocating contributions among the dioceses based on net operating budgets (consistent with the funding resolution adopted at the last All-American Council for the general funding of the central administration), with provisions implemented to limit the percent increase from council-to-council for any one diocese to the inflation rate over the period.

This proposed budget was vetted by the Finance & Investment Committee of the Metropolitan Council and presented to the Preconciliar Commission and the Diocesan Chancellors and Treasurers on October 2, 2024. All three groups were given the opportunity to ask questions and make comment, and all three approved presenting it to the Metropolitan Council. In addition to Attachment C, see the accompanying resolution on the AAC budget and diocesan contributions.

FY2025 Budget

Attachment D is the proposed budget for FY2025. Please note that this is preliminary and, if needed, I will return to the Metropolitan Council in the spring with proposed amendments to the budget in light of additional information (e.g., adopted diocesan budgets) that may become available in the final months of the calendar year. Overall, the budget is consistent with prior years, but includes the following changes:

- Modest anticipated overall growth in diocesan budget assumptions, offset by the final decrease in contribution percentages for most territorial dioceses (in accordance funding resolution adopted by the AAC in Baltimore), used to calculate diocesan contributions
- Use of unrestricted reserve to cover the OCA's contribution to the two Lilly Grant program -- a \$50,000 match for the Thriving in Ministry program sustainability grant and 50% of the anticipated outlay for the Ministerial Excellence Fund.
- 3% cost-of-living increase for all salaried employees and implementation of the third and final year of the effort to move Chancery clergy salaries closer to OCA compensation guidelines (first introduced in the amended budget adopted in Spring 2023)
- Incorporation of the budget of the proposed expansion of the Office of Pastoral Life (see p. 10 and items highlighted in green on p. 1 – summary page).

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrew Smith
Treasurer

**THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

Draft 8-2-24

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page #</u>
Independent auditors' report	1 - 2
Statements of financial position	3
Statements of activities	4 - 5
Statements of functional expenses	6 - 7
Statements of cash flows	8
Notes to financial statements	9 - 20

Draft 8-2-24

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Directors of
The Orthodox Church in America

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of The Orthodox Church in America (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statements of financial position as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Orthodox Church in America as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of The Orthodox Church in America and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about The Orthodox Church in America's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements, including omissions, are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of The Orthodox Church in America’s internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about The Orthodox Church in America’s ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

Satty, Levine & Ciacco, CPAs, P.C.
Melville, New York

_____, 2024

Draft 8-2-24

**THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
ASSETS:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,461,879	\$ 1,844,095
Restricted cash	499,975	116,139
Investments:		
Endowment pool fund	2,001,332	1,590,453
St. Andrew endowment fund	151,730	126,589
FOS endowment fund	148,241	102,645
Missions endowment fund	1,287,168	1,033,275
Annuity and unitrust fund	119,376	122,337
	<u>3,707,847</u>	<u>2,975,299</u>
Accounts receivable, net	165,462	136,963
Note receivable	150,000	150,000
Prepaid expenses	10,000	-
Property and equipment, net	159,017	292,193
Security deposits	8,930	8,930
Right of use asset - office lease	160,976	168,759
	<u>6,324,086</u>	<u>5,692,378</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 6,324,086	\$ 5,692,378
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS:		
LIABILITIES:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 142,931	\$ 84,455
Lease liability - office lease	162,997	169,765
Annuity and unitrust agreements	77,144	82,107
	<u>383,072</u>	<u>336,327</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	383,072	336,327
NET ASSETS:		
Without donor restrictions		
Undesignated	1,408,472	1,605,892
Invested in property and equipment	159,017	292,193
	<u>1,567,489</u>	<u>1,898,085</u>
Total without donor restrictions	1,567,489	1,898,085
With donor restrictions	4,373,525	3,457,966
	<u>5,941,014</u>	<u>5,356,051</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS	5,941,014	5,356,051
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 6,324,086	\$ 5,692,378

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**

	<u>Without Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>With Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>Total</u>
OPERATING SUPPORT, REVENUES AND RECLASSIFICATIONS			
Support:			
Diocesan assessments	\$ 1,718,073	\$ -	\$ 1,718,073
General contributions	55,081	665,803	720,884
All American Council	-	-	-
Total support	<u>1,773,154</u>	<u>665,803</u>	<u>2,438,957</u>
Revenues:			
Interest and dividends	8,419	76,013	84,432
Investment income, net	927	659,955	660,882
Other revenue	7,289	-	7,289
Total revenues	<u>16,635</u>	<u>735,968</u>	<u>752,603</u>
Reclassifications:			
Net assets released from restrictions	490,705	(490,705)	-
Total operating support, revenue and reclassifications	<u>2,280,494</u>	<u>911,066</u>	<u>3,191,560</u>
EXPENSES:			
Program services	956,089	-	956,089
General and administrative	1,626,123	-	1,626,123
Development	28,878	-	28,878
Total expenses	<u>2,611,090</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,611,090</u>
Change in net assets from operations	(330,596)	911,066	580,470
Nonoperating activities			
Change in actuarial value of annuities and unitrusts	-	4,963	4,963
Investment income, net	-	(470)	(470)
Total operating activities	<u>-</u>	<u>4,493</u>	<u>4,493</u>
Change in net assets	(330,596)	915,559	584,963
Net assets at beginning of year	<u>1,898,085</u>	<u>3,457,966</u>	<u>5,356,051</u>
Net assets at end of year	<u>\$ 1,567,489</u>	<u>\$ 4,373,525</u>	<u>\$ 5,941,014</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

	<u>Without Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>With Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>Total</u>
OPERATING SUPPORT, REVENUES AND RECLASSIFICATIONS			
Support:			
Diocesan assessments	\$ 1,978,403	\$ -	\$ 1,978,403
General contributions	126,809	870,764	997,573
All American Council	108,839	-	108,839
Total support	<u>2,214,051</u>	<u>870,764</u>	<u>3,084,815</u>
Revenues:			
Interest and dividends	8,012	52,721	60,733
Investment income, net	18,257	(626,081)	(607,824)
Other revenue	92,858	-	92,858
Total revenues	<u>119,127</u>	<u>(573,360)</u>	<u>(454,233)</u>
Reclassifications:			
Net assets released from restrictions	<u>1,049,674</u>	<u>(1,049,674)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total operating support, revenue and reclassifications	<u>3,382,852</u>	<u>(752,270)</u>	<u>2,630,582</u>
Expenses:			
Program services	1,928,996	-	1,928,996
General and administrative	1,376,945	-	1,376,945
Development	25,946	-	25,946
Total expenses	<u>3,331,887</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,331,887</u>
Change in net assets from operations	50,965	(752,270)	(701,305)
Nonoperating activities			
Change in actuarial value of annuities and unitrusts	-	12,131	12,131
Investment income, net	-	(4,759)	(4,759)
Total operating activities	<u>-</u>	<u>7,372</u>	<u>7,372</u>
Change in net assets	50,965	(744,898)	(693,933)
Net assets at beginning of year	<u>1,847,120</u>	<u>4,202,864</u>	<u>6,049,984</u>
Net assets at end of year	<u>\$ 1,898,085</u>	<u>\$ 3,457,966</u>	<u>\$ 5,356,051</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**

	<u>Program Services</u>	<u>Management and General</u>	<u>Fundraising</u>	<u>Total</u>
EXPENSES:				
Salaries, wages and benefits	\$ 393,358	\$ 925,131	\$ -	\$ 1,318,489
Transportation, travel, meals and related expenses	134,939	88,881	-	223,820
Professional fees and other outside services	140,106	173,523	9,963	323,592
Scholarships, grants and other assistance	154,961	23,000	-	177,961
Equipment, supplies and other religious materials	11,296	9,184	170	20,650
Rent	1,016	109,465	-	110,481
Repairs and maintenance	4,606	21,848	-	26,454
Utilities	2,650	25,109	-	27,759
Telephone	1,005	12,880	16,990	30,875
Insurance	-	37,925	-	37,925
Printing, postage and delivery services	1,258	7,157	1,755	10,170
Dues, fee and subscriptions	33,051	2,177	-	35,228
Conferences and meetings	77,808	159	-	77,967
Bank charges	35	4,989	-	5,024
Depreciation expense	-	29,108	-	29,108
Facility payment in lieu of taxes	-	43,027	-	43,027
Other administrative expense	-	109,227	-	109,227
Payroll processing fees	-	3,333	-	3,333
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$ 956,089</u>	<u>\$ 1,626,123</u>	<u>\$ 28,878</u>	<u>\$ 2,611,090</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022**

	Program Services	Management and General	Fundraising	Total
EXPENSES:				
Salaries, wages and benefits	\$ 437,842	\$ 892,490	\$ -	\$ 1,330,332
Transportation, travel, meals and related expenses	369,806	81,595	394	451,795
Professional fees and other outside services	162,841	73,425	14,187	250,453
Scholarships, grants and other assistance	812,054	12,590	-	824,644
Equipment, supplies and other religious materials	58,223	19,731	60	78,014
Rent	-	54,585	-	54,585
Repairs and maintenance	-	35,573	-	35,573
Utilities	-	34,474	-	34,474
Telephone	850	11,377	11,305	23,532
Insurance	-	40,842	-	40,842
Printing, postage and delivery services	10,530	10,740	-	21,270
Dues, fee and subscriptions	27,121	2,445	-	29,566
Conferences and meetings	31,854	199	-	32,053
Bank charges	17,875	5,185	-	23,060
Depreciation expense	-	35,317	-	35,317
Facility payment in lieu of taxes	-	38,865	-	38,865
Miscellaneous	-	25,229	-	25,229
Payroll processing fees	-	2,283	-	2,283
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 1,928,996	\$ 1,376,945	\$ 25,946	\$ 3,331,887

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<u>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</u>		
Change in net assets	\$ 584,963	\$ (693,933)
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash (used in) provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation expense	29,108	35,317
Amortization of right of use asset - office lease	91,158	33,234
Loss on archives project	104,068	-
Net (appreciation) in fair market value of investments	(681,087)	584,967
Net change in actuarial value of annuities and unitrusts	(4,963)	(12,131)
(Increase) decrease in:		
Accounts receivable	(28,499)	(24,777)
Prepaid expenses	(10,000)	21,676
Security deposit	-	(8,930)
Increase (decrease) in:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	58,476	42,994
Lease liability - office lease	(90,143)	(32,228)
Retirement obligations	-	(37,552)
Deferred revenue	-	(220,328)
TOTAL ADJUSTMENTS	<u>(531,882)</u>	<u>382,242</u>
Net cash (used in) operating activities	<u>53,081</u>	<u>(311,691)</u>
<u>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</u>		
Proceeds from sale of investments	407,250	853,870
Purchase of investments	(458,711)	(877,392)
Net cash (used in) investing activities	<u>(51,461)</u>	<u>(23,522)</u>
Net (decrease) in cash and restricted cash	1,620	(335,213)
Cash and restricted cash - beginning of year	<u>1,960,234</u>	<u>2,295,447</u>
Cash and restricted cash - end of year	<u>\$ 1,961,854</u>	<u>\$ 1,960,234</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

NOTE 1. ORGANIZATION AND BASIS OF ACCOUNTING AND PRESENTATION

A. ORGANIZATION

The Orthodox Church in America, ("the Church") was originally founded as a mission and later became a diocese in the Orthodox Church of Russia, uniting in its fold Orthodox Christians of various national backgrounds and traditions. It subsequently developed into a self-governing Metropolitanate, the Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church of America. Confirmation as an Autocephalous Church was accomplished by the action of the Patriarch and Holy Synod of Russia on April 10, 1970. The Church was proclaimed an Autocephalous Church on October 19, 1970, at the sessions of the All-American Council held at St. Tikhon's Monastery in South Canaan, Pennsylvania.

The Church is an Autocephalous Church with territorial jurisdiction in the United States of America and the Commonwealth of Canada. Its doctrine, discipline, and worship are those of the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church as taught by the Holy Scriptures, Holy Tradition, the Ecumenical and Provincial Councils, and the Holy Fathers.

B. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The financial statements of the Church have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting and, accordingly, reflect all significant receivables, payables and other liabilities.

C. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The financial statements of The Orthodox Church in America have been prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("US GAAP"), which require The Orthodox Church in America to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to the following net asset classifications:

Net assets without donor restrictions: Net assets that are not subject to donor-imposed restrictions and may be expended for any purpose in performing the primary objectives of the Church. These net assets may be used at the discretion of The Orthodox Church in America's management and the board of directors.

Net assets with donor restrictions: Net assets subject to stipulations imposed by donors, and grantors. Some donor restrictions are temporary in nature; those restrictions will be met by actions of The Orthodox Church in America or by the passage of time. Other donor restrictions are perpetual in nature, where by the donor has stipulated the funds be maintained in perpetuity.

Donor restricted contributions are reported as increases in net assets with donor restrictions. When a restriction expires, net assets are reclassified from net assets with donor restrictions to net assets without donor restrictions in the statements of activities.

D. MEASURE OF OPERATIONS

The statements of activities report all changes in net assets, including changes in net assets from operating and nonoperating activities. Operating activities consist of those items attributable to The Orthodox Church in America's ongoing services and interest and dividends earned on investments. Nonoperating activities are limited to resources that generate return from investments and other activities considered to be of a more unusual or nonrecurring nature.

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

NOTE 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

The Church considers all highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents.

B. INVESTMENTS

Investments are reported at cost, if purchased, or at fair value, if donated. Thereafter, investments are reported at their fair values in the statements of financial position, and changes in fair value are reported as investment return in the statements of activities. Purchases and sales of securities are reflected on a trade-date basis. Gains and losses on sales of securities are based on average cost and are recorded in the statements of activities in the period in which the securities are sold. Interest is recorded when earned. Dividends are accrued as of the ex-dividend date.

C. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. Fair value should be based on the assumptions market participants would use when pricing an asset. US GAAP establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes investments based on those assumptions. The fair value hierarchy gives the highest priority to quoted prices in active markets (observable inputs) and the lowest priority to an entity's assumptions (unobservable inputs). The Church groups assets at fair value in three levels, based on the markets in which the assets and liabilities are traded and the reliability of the assumptions used to determine fair value. These levels are:

Level 1: Unadjusted quoted market prices for identical assets and liabilities in active markets as of the measurement date.

Level 2: Other observable inputs, either directly or indirectly, including:

- Quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets.
- Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active.
- Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset/liability.
- Inputs that are derived principally from, or corroborated by, other observable market data.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs that cannot be corroborated by observable market data.

D. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Accounts receivable are stated at the amount management expects to collect from outstanding balances. Management provides for probable uncollectible amounts through a provision for bad debt expense and an adjustment to the valuation allowance based on its assessment of the current status of individual accounts. Balances that are still outstanding after management has used reasonable collection efforts are written off through a charge to the valuation allowance and a credit to accounts receivable. Management has determined that no allowance is needed at December 31, 2023 and 2022.

E. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Building and equipment are stated at cost or at their estimated fair market value if donated. Costs in excess of \$3,000 and the value of donated property and equipment are capitalized. Depreciation is provided on the straight-line method over the estimated useful life of the asset. The estimated useful lives of assets are as follows:

Building and improvements	5-40 years
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	5-7 years
Auto and truck	3-10 years
Software	5-7 years

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

NOTE 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

F. ENDOWMENT INVESTMENT AND SPENDING POLICIES

The Church maintains master investment accounts for its donor-restricted endowments. Realized and unrealized gains and losses from securities in the master investment accounts are allocated quarterly to the individual endowments based on the relationship of the market value of each endowment to the total market value of the master investment accounts, as adjusted for additions to or deductions from those accounts. In classifying such funds for financial statement purposes as either net assets with donor restrictions or net assets without donor restrictions, the Board of Trustees looks to the explicit directions of the donor where applicable and the provisions of the laws of the State of New York. The Trustees have determined that, absent donor stipulations to the contrary, the provisions of New York State law do not impose either a permanent or temporary restriction on the income or capital appreciation derived from the original gift.

The Board of Trustees, acting through its Finance and Investment Committee, has established an endowment spending policy to support the current level of income needed from the endowment, while sustaining the long-term purchasing power of the endowment assets over the long-term.

The Church follows investment and spending policies for endowment assets that attempt to provide a predictable stream of funding to programs supported by its endowment while seeking to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets. Endowment assets include those assets of donor-restricted funds that the Church must hold in perpetuity, or for donor-specified periods. Under this policy, the endowment assets are invested in a manner that is intended to maximize returns while assuming a conservative level of investment risk. Actual returns in any given year may vary.

To satisfy its long-term rate-of-return objectives, the Church relies on a total return strategy in which investment returns are achieved through both capital appreciation (realized and unrealized) and current yield (interest and dividends). The Church targets a well-diversified and balanced asset allocation portfolio to achieve its long-term return and growth objectives within prudent risk constraints.

G. CONTRIBUTIONS AND DIOCESAN ASSESSMENTS

Contributions received are recorded as net assets without donor restrictions or net assets with donor restrictions, depending on the existence and/or nature of any donor-imposed restrictions. Contributions that are restricted by the donor are reported as an increase in net assets without donor restrictions if the restriction expires in the reporting period in which the contribution is recognized. All other donor restricted contributions are reported as an increase in net assets with donor restrictions, depending on the nature of restriction. When a restriction expires (that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished), net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the statements of activities as net assets released from restrictions.

Contributed property and equipment are recorded at fair value at the date of donation. Contributions with donor-imposed stipulations regarding how long the contributed assets must be used are recorded as net assets with donor restrictions; otherwise, the contributions are recorded as net assets without donor restrictions.

Diocesan contributions or assessments are recorded as revenue in the year the dioceses are assessed. Such revenue is calculated and assessed based upon an approved percentage of each diocese's budget.

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

NOTE 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

H. CONTRIBUTED SERVICES

Contributed services are recognized as contributions at their estimated fair value in accordance with the Financial Accounting Standards Board authoritative guidance on *Accounting for Contributions Received and Contributions Made*, if the services (a) create or enhance nonfinancial assets or (b) require specialized skills, are performed by people with those skills and would otherwise be purchased.

For the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, The Orthodox Church in America the Church did not receive any donated professional services.

I. FUNCTIONAL EXPENSE ALLOCATION

The costs of providing program and other activities have been summarized on a functional basis in the statements of activities and functional expenses. Expenses which are easily and directly associated with a particular program or supporting service are charged directly to that functional area. Certain other expenses have been allocated among the program and supporting services benefited. Such allocations are determined by management on an equitable basis.

The expenses that are allocated include the following:

Expense	Method of Allocation
Salaries, wages and benefits	Time and effort
Transportation, travel, meals and related expenses	Actual or time and effort
Professional fees and other outside services	Actual or time and effort
Scholarship, grants and other assistance	Actual
Other	Actual, square footage or time and effort

J. USE OF ESTIMATES

Management uses estimates and assumptions in preparing financial statements. Those estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, and the reported revenues and expenses. On an ongoing basis, management evaluates the estimates and assumptions based on new information. Management believes that the estimates and assumptions are reasonable in the circumstances; however, actual results could differ from those estimates.

K. IMPAIRMENT LOSSES

Management reviews property and equipment for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of the asset may not be recoverable. Impairment is measured at the amount by which the carrying value exceeds the asset's fair value. If the asset is determined to be impaired, an impairment loss is recognized as a non-operating expense (non-cash) in the year the impairment was determined. There were no impairment losses recognized during the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022.

L. INCOME TAXES

The Church is exempt from federal income taxes under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and comparable New York State law. Contributions to it are tax deductible within the limitations prescribed by the code.

The most significant tax positions of the Church are its assertion that it is exempt from income taxes and its determination of whether any amounts are subject to unrelated business tax. All significant tax positions have been considered by management. It has been determined that it is more likely than not that all tax positions would be sustained upon examination by taxing authorities.

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

NOTE 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

M. RECLASSIFICATION

Certain amounts in the prior year's financial statements have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.

N. ANNUITY AGREEMENTS

The Church established gift annuities whereby donors may contribute assets in exchange for the right to receive an annual return during their lifetime. This transaction provides for a portion of the transfer to be considered a charitable contribution for income tax purposes. The difference between the amount of the annuity and the liability for future payments, determined on an actuarial basis, is recognized as income at the date of gift. The actuarial liability for annuities payable is evaluated annually (giving effect to investment income and payments to annuitants) and any surplus or deficiency is recognized as change in actuarial value of annuities and unitrusts in the statements of activities. Assets held for annuities payable totaled \$54,567 at December 31, 2023 (\$59,480 in 2022). The present value of the remaining future liability to be distributed by the Church amounted to \$42,762 in 2023 and \$47,643 in 2022.

O. UNITRUST AGREEMENTS

The Church is named as beneficiary of various charitable remainder unitrusts and acts as the trustee. These agreements provide for the payment of lifetime distributions to the grantor or other designated beneficiaries. Upon receipt of these agreements, the actuarially determined present value of future payments is recorded as a liability. The remaining portion of the trust attributable to the Church's future interest is recorded in the statements of activities as contributions with donor restrictions in the period received. On an annual basis, the present value of the remaining future liability is revalued based upon actuarial assumptions. Assets held in the charitable remainder unitrusts totaled \$64,810 at December 31, 2023 (\$62,857 at December 31, 2022). The present value of the remaining future liability to be distributed by the Church is calculated using various rates and applicable mortality tables and totaled \$34,382 at December 31, 2023 (\$34,464 at December 31, 2022).

P. ADOPTION OF NEW ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENT

Effective January 1, 2022 the Church adopted FASB ASC 842, *Leases*. The new standard requires lessees to recognize leases on the statement of financial position and disclose key information about leasing arrangements. The new standard establishes a right-of-use model ("ROU") that requires a lessee to recognize a ROU asset and lease liability on the statement of financial position for all leases with a term longer than 12 months. Leases will be classified as finance or operating, with classification affecting the pattern and classification of expense recognition in the statement of activities.

The Church elected to adopted the new standard on its effective date using a modified retrospective transition approach as required, applying the new standard to all leases existing at the date of initial application. Consequently, financial information will not be updated and the disclosures required under the new standard will not be provided for dates and periods before January 1, 2022. The new standard provides a number of optional practical expedients in transition. The Church elected the package of practical expedients, which permits the Church not to reassess under the new standard prior conclusions about lease identification, lease classification and initial direct costs. The Church also elected the practical expedient which permits the use of a risk -free rate as the discount rate for all leases and the practical expedient to not separate lease and non-lease components for all the Church's leases.

The adoption of the new standard had a material effect on the Church's statement of financial position but did not have a material impact on the statement of activities. The most significant impact related to the recognition of a ROU assets and lease liability is for operating leases. Adoption of the standard required the Organization to restate amounts as of January 1, 2022, resulting in an increase in operating lease ROU asset of \$201,993 and an increase in operating lease liability of \$201,993.

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

NOTE 3. AVAILABILITY AND LIQUIDITY

The following represents The Orthodox Church in America's financial assets at December 31, 2023 and 2022:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Financial assets at year end:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,461,879	\$ 1,844,095
Restricted cash	499,975	116,139
Investments	3,707,847	2,975,299
Accounts receivable, net	165,462	136,963
Total financial assets	<u>5,835,163</u>	<u>5,072,496</u>
Less amounts not available to be used within one year:		
Net assets with donor restrictions	<u>4,373,525</u>	<u>3,457,966</u>
Financial assets available to meet general expenditures over the next twelve months	<u>\$ 1,461,638</u>	<u>\$ 1,614,530</u>

The Church's goal is generally to maintain financial assets to meet the general operating expenses.

NOTE 4. RESTRICTED CASH

The cash is restricted for the purpose of the thriving in ministry initiative grant. Restricted cash at December 31, 2023 and 2022 consisted of the following:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Restricted cash - Thriving in ministry program	<u>\$ 499,975</u>	<u>\$ 116,139</u>

NOTE 5. INVESTMENTS

Investments are reported at fair value in accordance with authoritative guidance issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board on *Accounting for Certain Investments Held by Not-for-Profit Organizations*. Fair value is determined by using quoted market prices, where available. When quoted market prices are not available, the present value of estimated or expected future cash flows or another reasonable method is used.

Investments as of December 31, 2023 and 2022 are summarized as follows:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Corporate equity securities	\$ 3,104,139	\$ 2,297,823
Money market funds	462,354	529,733
Fixed income securities	29,762	28,842
Mutual funds	57,025	59,421
Annuity investments	54,567	59,480
	<u>\$ 3,707,847</u>	<u>\$ 2,975,299</u>

At December 31, 2023 and 2022, all investments were considered level 1 investments, except for the annuity investments which were considered level 2 investments.

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

NOTE 6. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Property and equipment at December 31, 2023 and 2022 consisted of the following:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Land (non-depreciable)	\$ 45,000	\$ 45,000
Archive room improvements in progress (non-depreciable)	-	104,067
Building and improvements	570,508	570,508
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	161,508	237,753
Software	-	33,000
Total property and equipment	<u>777,016</u>	<u>990,328</u>
Less: Accumulated depreciation	<u>(617,999)</u>	<u>(698,135)</u>
Property and equipment, net	<u>\$ 159,017</u>	<u>\$ 292,193</u>

NOTE 7. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS

PENSION PLANS:

The Orthodox Church in America sponsors The Orthodox Church in America Pension Plan (the “Plan”). Substantially all full-time employees of the Church and organizations under its jurisdiction participate in the Plan. The Plan, which is administered by the pension board of the Church, is a contributory plan, and provides defined benefits based on years of service and remuneration near retirement.

Eligible employees are all full-time employees and some part-time employees of the Church or organizations under the Church’s jurisdiction, except for employees that are older than age 60 at the time of employment. Bishops and priests become members of the Plan on the first day of the month after they begin service with the Church. Full-time employees are eligible to participate in the Plan on the first day of the month after their date of hire. Participants with five years of services are entitled to pension benefits upon retirement. Pension benefits are provided to participants under several types of retirement arrangements based upon initial participation date, years of service and age. Retirement benefits are paid to pensioners or beneficiaries in various forms of joint and survivor annuities, including a lump-sum payment option. Pension expense, representing the Church's required contribution to the Plan, was \$88,630 in 2023 and \$69,330 in 2022. The contribution made by the Church represented approximately 2.1% of the total contributions made to the Plan for each of the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022. To the extent the Plan is underfunded, The Church and organizations under its jurisdiction may bear risk and future contributions to the Plan may increase.

The Plan is a non-electing church plan which means the Church, as Plan sponsor, has not elected for the Plan to be covered by the terms of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and the Plan is not required to file Form 5500. The Plan's fiscal year is from January 1 to December 31.

The following table discloses the name and funded status of the Plan as of January 1, 2023 and 2022 (the date of the latest actuarial valuation), inclusive of the fair value of plan assets as of December 31, 2023 and 2022:

<u>The Orthodox Church in America Pension Plan (Plan EIN: 06-1455789)</u>	<u>Actuarial present value of accumulated plan benefits</u>	<u>Fair value of plan assets</u>	<u>Total net contributions</u>	<u>Funded Status</u>
2023	\$ 60,974,031	\$ 24,659,254	\$ 4,146,115	40.44%
2022	\$ 59,649,213	\$ 22,712,519	\$ 3,301,281	38.08%

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

NOTE 7. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS (continued)

OTHER RETIREMENT BENEFITS:

In 2007, the Church entered into an agreement with a former employee whereby the Church agreed to make monthly payments of \$950 to the former employee in lieu of retirement benefits from the separate Orthodox Church in American Pension Plan. The agreement existed to rectify a situation whereby the former employee had been improperly excluded from participation in the Orthodox Church in America Pension Plan, and continued until the former employee's death in May of 2022. Payments related to this agreement amounted to \$4,750 for the year ended December 31, 2022.

NOTE 8. NET ASSETS WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS

Net assets with donor restrictions are restricted for the following purposes:

Net assets with donor restrictions, time and purposes were available for the following purposes as of December 31, 2023 and 2022:

	2022	Additions/ Investment Activities	Release	2023
Mission churches	\$ 1,077,264	\$ 253,893	\$ 32,318	\$ 1,298,839
Thriving in ministries	102,291	500,000	102,291	500,000
Economic challenges	-	50,000	7,627	42,373
Archives fund	101,473	-	55,963	45,510
Restricted endowments excess earnings	409,671	346,954	24,834	731,791
General purpose endowment excess earnings	212,920	134,662	13,766	333,816
Charity	69,601	-	-	69,601
Theological education - academic fellowship	59,300	-	-	59,300
Publication reserve fund	29,556	-	-	29,556
Seminary appeal	5,638	2,803	8,441	-
Mission planting	139,384	112,000	110,667	140,717
Youth director	45,303	1,000	-	46,303
St. Catherine's (Iconostasis)	120,000	-	120,000	-
Other	18,899	-	14,798	4,101
	<u>\$ 2,391,300</u>	<u>\$ 1,401,312</u>	<u>\$ 490,705</u>	<u>3,301,907</u>
Donor restricted endowment funds				
General purposes				251,010
Restricted purposes				790,262
Charitable remainder unitrust				<u>30,346</u>
Total net assets with donor restrictions				<u>\$ 4,373,525</u>

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

NOTE 8. NET ASSETS WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS (continued)

	2021	Additions/ Investment Activities	Release	2022
Mission churches	\$ 1,296,954	\$ (184,906)	\$ 34,784	\$ 1,077,264
Thriving in ministries	265,046	-	162,755	102,291
Archives fund	135,664	-	34,191	101,473
Restricted endowments				
excess earnings	700,046	(259,871)	30,504	409,671
General purpose endowment				
excess earnings	331,100	(100,908)	17,272	212,920
Charity	69,601	738,566	738,566	69,601
Theological education -				
academic fellowship	59,300	-	-	59,300
Publication reserve fund	29,556	-	-	29,556
Seminary appeal	5,638	3,005	3,005	5,638
Mission planting	80,525	80,075	21,216	139,384
Youth director	45,303	-	-	45,303
St. Catherine's (Iconostasis)	120,000	-	-	120,000
Other	8,030	18,250	7,381	18,899
	<u>\$ 3,146,763</u>	<u>\$ 294,211</u>	<u>\$ 1,049,674</u>	<u>2,391,300</u>
Donor restricted endowment funds				
General purposes				248,011
Restricted purposes				790,262
Charitable remainder unitrust				<u>28,393</u>
Total net assets with donor restrictions				<u>\$ 3,457,966</u>

NOTE 9. ENDOWMENTS

The Church's endowments consist of approximately 40 individual funds established for a variety of purposes. Net assets associated with endowment funds are classified and reported based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions.

The Church classifies as donor-restricted net assets (a) the original value of gifts donated to the donor-restricted endowment, (b) the original value of subsequent gifts to the donor-restricted endowment, and (c) accumulations to the endowment made in accordance with the direction of the applicable donor gift instrument at the time the accumulation is added to the fund. The remaining portion of the donor-restricted endowment fund is classified as donor-restricted net assets until those amounts are appropriated for expenditure by the Church. The Church considers the following factors in making a determination to appropriate or accumulate donor-restricted endowment funds:

- 1) The duration and preservation of the fund.
- 2) The purposes of the Church and the donor-restricted endowment fund.
- 3) General economic conditions.
- 4) The possible effect of inflation and deflation.
- 5) The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments.
- 6) Other resources of the Church.
- 7) The investment policies of the Church.

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

NOTE 9. ENDOWMENTS (continued)

From time to time, the fair value of assets associated with individual donor-restricted endowment funds may fall below the level that the donor or endowment agreement requires the Church to retain as a fund of perpetual duration. In accordance with GAAP, deficiencies of this nature would be reported in net assets without donor restrictions and that future gains be allocated to net assets without donor restrictions until such losses have been restored.

The following represents a detail of the donor-restricted endowment net asset composition:

	With Purpose Restrictions	To be Held in Perpetuity	Total
Donor restricted endowments for 2023:			
General purposes	\$ 333,816	\$ 251,010	\$ 584,826
Restricted purposes	731,791	790,262	1,522,053
Total endowment funds	<u>\$ 1,065,607</u>	<u>\$ 1,041,272</u>	<u>\$ 2,106,879</u>
Endowment net assets, January 1, 2023	<u>\$ 622,591</u>	<u>\$ 1,038,273</u>	<u>\$ 1,660,864</u>
Investment return:			
Interest and dividend income, net of fees	47,792	-	47,792
Realized and unrealized gains	395,224	-	395,224
Total investment return	443,016	-	443,016
Contributions	-	2,999	2,999
Endowment net assets, December 31, 2023	<u>\$ 1,065,607</u>	<u>\$ 1,041,272</u>	<u>\$ 2,106,879</u>
Donor restricted endowments for 2022:			
General purposes	\$ 212,920	\$ 248,011	\$ 460,931
Restricted purposes	409,671	790,262	1,199,933
Total endowment funds	<u>\$ 622,591</u>	<u>\$ 1,038,273</u>	<u>\$ 1,660,864</u>
Endowment net assets, January 1, 2022	<u>\$ 1,031,146</u>	<u>\$ 1,023,876</u>	<u>\$ 2,055,022</u>
Investment return:			
Interest and dividend income, net of fees	33,062	-	33,062
Realized and unrealized losses	(441,617)	-	(441,617)
Total investment return	(408,555)	-	(408,555)
Contributions	-	14,397	14,397
Endowment net assets, December 31, 2022	<u>\$ 622,591</u>	<u>\$ 1,038,273</u>	<u>\$ 1,660,864</u>

NOTE 10. OPERATING LEASES

The Church evaluated current leases to determine which met the criteria of a lease. The right-of-use (ROU) asset represents the Church's right to use the underlying asset for the lease term, and the lease liability represent the Church's obligation to make lease payments arising from this lease. The ROU asset and lease liability, which arise from an operating lease, were calculated based on the present value of future lease payments over the lease terms. The Church has made an accounting policy election to use a risk-free rate in lieu of its incremental borrowing rate to discount future lease payments. The weighted-average discount rate applied to calculate lease liabilities as of December 31, 2023, was 1.27%.

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

NOTE 10. OPERATING LEASES (continued)

The Church's main operating lease is for its Chancery office. This lease expires June 30, 2025. The Church also has an operating lease for an apartment occupied by the Metropolitan. This lease expires June 30, 2025. The leases generally contain renewal options for periods ranging up to 5 years. Rental expense for these leases was \$110,481 and \$54,585 for the years ending December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

Cash paid for the operating leases for the year ended December 31, 2023 was \$108,450. There were no noncash investing and financing transactions related to leasing.

The right-of-use asset and corresponding liability associated with future lease payments at December 31, 2023 are shown below:

Amortization	(124,392)
Right-of-use assets, net	<u>\$ 160,976</u>
Lease liability	<u>\$ 162,997</u>
<u>Weighted average:</u>	
Discount rate	1.27%
Remaining lease term (years)	1.4

Future maturities of lease liabilities under these operating leases are as follows:

<u>December 31,</u>	
2024	\$ 111,376
2025	<u>52,701</u>
Total lease payments	164,077
Less: Present value discount	<u>(1,080)</u>
Present value of lease liability	<u>\$ 162,997</u>

NOTE 11. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Note receivable consists of a \$150,000 promissory note from the Orthodox Church Capital Improvement Fund. The original Promissory Note was dated May 21, 2018, with interest payable at 2.75%. The note called for monthly interest only payments of \$344 for 59 months commencing December 20, 2018 with a balloon payment of the principal balance of \$150,000 due December 20, 2023. The new Promissory Note is dated November 15, 2023, with interest payable at 4%. The note calls for ten semi-annual payments of interest only in the amount of \$3,000 commencing May 15, 2024 with a balloon payment of the principal balance of \$150,000 due November 15, 2028.

NOTE 12. CONTINGENCIES

The Church, in the normal course of its operations, is a party to various legal proceedings and complaints, some of which are covered by insurance. While it is not feasible to predict the ultimate outcomes of such matters, management of the Church is not aware of any claims or contingencies, which are not covered by insurance that would have a material adverse effect on the Church's financial position, changes in net assets or cash flows.

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

NOTE 13. CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK

The Church maintains all of its cash, cash equivalents and investments in high credit quality financial institutions. Accounts at the institutions are either insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") or the Securities Investor Protection Corporation ("SIPC"). The FDIC insured limit for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 was \$250,000. The SIPC insured limit for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 was \$500,000. At December 31, 2023 and 2022, the Church had assets that were in excess of the FDIC limit by \$1,709,571 and \$1,753,295, respectively, and assets that were in excess of the SIPC limit by \$3,153,278 and \$2,415,818, respectively.

The Church's revenues are primarily from Diocesan contributions, general support and investment income.

NOTE 14. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Church has evaluated events and transactions that occurred through _____, 2024, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued, for possible disclosure and recognition in the financial statements.

Draft 8-2-24



ORTHODOX CHURCH in AMERICA

Treasurer's Report

September 30, 2024

Your Beatitude, Your Eminences, Your Graces, Reverend Fathers, brothers and sisters,

Greetings in Christ!

What follows is a set of internal financial statements that has been compiled with preliminary financial data through the third quarter of fiscal year 2024.

Included in this Treasurer's Report for the period ended Sept. 30, 2024 are the following:

- * Statement of Operating Activity - Unrestricted
- * Statement of Operating Activity - Restricted
- * Comparative Balance Sheet for September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023

September 30 2024 represents two quarters of the OCA's fiscal year, so the target for operating revenues and is expenses is 75%.

Please note that this data, while substantively correct, is preliminary and unaudited. We do expect additional adjustments with year-end closing.

Revenues

Revenue collection was \$1,771K including 75% of our anticipated annual endowment draw and use of restricted funds for 2024, on an annual budget of \$2,462K (71.90%). Diocesan contributions were at 78.42% of budget. Individual/business contributions exceeded budget largely due to a number of unanticipated large gifts (several of which were end-of-life).

Expenses

Expenses incurred through Q3 2024 were \$1,761K on an annual budget of \$2,462K (71.52%).

Net Income

Unrestricted net income is \$9,288 through Q3 2024. This includes 75% of the anticipated endowment and restricted fund draw, but it does not incorporate any of the budgeted release from operating reserves.

If you have any questions about this report, please don't hesitate to contact me at asmith@oca.org.

In Christ,

Andrew D. Smith
Treasurer

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
Statement of Operating Activity - FY2024 - **Preliminary & Unaudited**
September 30, 2024

					Target 75.00%
					E
Unrestricted	A	B	C	D	E
					% BUDGET USED
					75.00%
					75.00%
1	REVENUE				
2	Diocesan Contributions	628,043	1,424,241	1,816,182	78.42%
3	Individual/Business Contributions	47,202	145,041	145,000	100.03%
4	Service Fees	13,390	29,085	50,000	58.17%
5	Interest Income/Realized Gains/Losses	8,061	18,791	50,000	37.58%
6	Appeals	-	250	-	
7	Special Events	-	-	-	
8	Other	3,520	18,908	50,000	37.82%
9	Release from Restriction - Endowed	18,750	56,250	75,000	75.00%
10	Release from Restriction - Restricted	26,000	78,000	104,000	75.00%
11	Use of Unrestricted Reserve	-	-	172,300	0.00%
12	TOTAL REVENUE	744,966	1,770,567	2,462,482	71.90%
13					
14					
15					
16	EXPENSES				
17	Administration	231,280	710,856	815,791	87.14%
18	Executive	152,738	448,346	623,757	71.88%
19	Archives	26,332	78,709	107,829	72.99%
20	External Affairs	9,951	26,109	33,187	78.67%
21	Chapel	14	889	-	
22	Property	21,283	67,300	127,300	52.87%
23	TOC/Comm	254,589	18,720	36,300	51.57%
24	Holy Synod	13,582	33,024	68,400	48.28%
25	Metropolitan's Office	22,889	78,852	102,147	77.19%
26	Metropolitan Council	157,098	6,595	32,450	20.32%
27	St. Catherine's	24,345	50,566	67,658	74.74%
28	SOCA	-	-	-	
29	BOT	9,951	-	-	
30	Mission Planting Grants	26,014	78,000	104,000	75.00%
31	Ordination Candidacy	21,283	1,000	6,000	16.67%
32	Canons & Statutes	4,646	-	-	
33	ORSMA	13,582	2,194	46,668	4.70%
34	Continuing Ed	22,889	-	-	
35	Seminaries	4,262	-	18,000	0.00%
36	Departments	38,961	92,987	117,245	79.31%
37	Office of Pastoral Life, net	25,930	67,132	155,750	43.10%
38	TOTAL EXPENSES	1,081,620	1,761,279	2,462,482	71.52%
39					
40	REVENUE OVER/(UNDER) EXPENSES	(336,654)	9,288	(0)	

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
Statement of Operating Activity - FY2024 - Preliminary & Unaudited
September 30, 2024

<i>Restricted & Designated Activity</i>	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
	Archives	Archives Facility	All-American Council	Mission Planting	Lilly TiM	Lilly ECFPL	Total Restr. Funds	Endowment Activity	Total Restricted
1 REVENUE									
2 Diocesan Contributions							-		-
3 Individual/Business Contributions				80,000		300,000	380,000		380,000
4 Legacies and Bequests	50,000						50,000	151,966	201,966
5 Dividends, Interest							-	60,220	60,220
6 Other Investment Revenue (Realized)							-	57,429	57,429
7 Service Fees							-		-
8 Vendor							-		-
9 Observer							-		-
10 Ads							-		-
11 Banquet							-		-
12 Interest Income/Realized Gains/Losses							-		-
13 Appeals							-		-
14 Special Events							-		-
15 Other (incl Grants)							-		-
16 TOTAL REVENUE	50,000	-	-	80,000	-	300,000	430,000	269,615	699,615
20 EXPENSES									
21 6017 Pension Expense					1,875		1,875		1,875
22 6050 Distributions - Grants/Endowments					1,000		1,000	5,527	6,527
23 6095 Bank Fees							-		-
24 6100 Office Expense		1,463					1,463		1,463
25 6105 Food							-		-
26 6110 Flowers/Candles/Liturgical Items							-		-
27 6211 Accounting Fees							-		-
28 6215 Outside Contract Services		2,280			21,350	3,500	27,130		27,130
29 6217 Investment Advisory Fees							-	15,303	15,303
30 6251 Conference/Space Rental						28,951	28,951		28,951
31 6253 Program Supplies					338		338		338
32 6284 Equip Rental							-		-
33 6290 Repairs Expense							-		-
34 6501 Books, Subscriptions, Dues					125		125		125
6502 Postage					8		8		8
35 6503 Printing and Copying					14	31	44		44
36 6504 Supplies					619		619		619
37 6516 Misc Other							-		-
38 6650 Stipends			8,800		73,783	10,000	92,583		92,583
39 6671 Computer Software Expense					587	587	1,173		1,173
40 6733 Website							-		-
41 6831 Conference, Convention, Meeting					188	20,000	20,188		20,188
42 6832 Travel			1,765		3,866	9,582	15,213		15,213
43 6833 Lodging			111		4,434	353	4,899		4,899
44 6834 Meals			632		3,658	661	4,951		4,951
45 7500 Change in the Value of Unitrusts							-		-
46 Release to Unrestricted (est.)				78,000			78,000		78,000
47 TOTAL EXPENSES	-	3,743	11,308	78,000	111,845	73,664	278,560	20,830	299,390
48									
49 7060 Unrealized Gains/Losses							-	974,492	974,492
50									
51 REVENUE OVER/(UNDER) EXPENSES	50,000	(3,743)	(11,308)	2,000	(111,845)	226,336	151,440	1,223,277	1,374,716
	[A]	[A]	[A]	[A]	[B]	[C]	[C]	[D]	[D]

NOTES

- [A] Archives Digitization & Relocation Funds began the year with opening balances; this year's expenses are drawn from those reserves.
- [B] The Lilly Grant (TiM) began the year with a balance from the prior year; this year's expenses are drawn from those reserves. This includes a \$500,000 grant received in 2023 to continue the Thriving in Ministry program for the next 5 years.
- [C] In 2023, the OPL received a \$50,000 award from Lilly to plan to apply for a much larger grant to study economic challenges facing pastoral leaders (ECFPL). OPL was awarded the larger grant and received the first tranche (\$300K) in 2024.
- [D] Surplus in Endowment activity attributable primarily to unrealized investment performance. The OCA received an unrestricted stock gift of nearly \$150K in Q3 2024. While not purpose restricted, it is reflected here in Endowment activity.

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
Balance Sheet - FY2024 - **Preliminary & Unaudited**
September 30, 2024

A	B	C	D
	<u>9/30/2024</u>	<u>12/31/2023</u>	DIFFERENCE
1 ASSETS			
2 Cash & Cash Equivalents - Operating	1,393,511	1,036,240	357,271
3 Cash & Cash Equivalents - Restricted	548,301	925,196	(376,895)
4 Petty Cash	-	-	-
5			
6 Accounts Receivable	147,699	165,462	(17,762)
7 Grants Receivable	-	-	-
8 Prepaid Expense	64,745	-	64,745
9 Other Current Assets	10,080	8,930	1,150
10			
11 Fixed Assets, net of depreciation	140,804	263,085	(122,280)
12 Investments	5,078,178	3,857,848	1,220,330
13 Right of Use Asset - Office Space	115,939	103,805	12,134
14			
15 Total Assets	<u>7,499,258</u>	<u>6,360,566</u>	<u>1,138,692</u>
16			
17			
18 LIABILITIES			
19 Accounts Payable	16,186	80,671	(64,485)
20 Accrued Expenses	14,946	43,027	(28,081)
21 Retirement Obligation	-	-	-
22 Unitrust Liability	77,144	77,144	-
23 Payroll Liabilities	91	233	(142)
24 Other Liabilities	4,487	3,444	1,043
25			
26 Deferred Revenue	-	-	-
27			
28 ST Lease - Office Space	117,632	103,805	
29 LT Lease - Office Space	-	-	
30			
31 Total Liabilities	<u>230,485</u>	<u>308,324</u>	<u>(91,665)</u>
32			
33			
34 NET ASSETS	<u><u>7,268,773</u></u>	<u><u>6,052,242</u></u>	<u><u>1,216,531</u></u>

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

21st All-American Council Budget

Proposed - Fall 2024

	<u>20th AAC - Baltimore, MD (2022)</u>		<u>21st AAC Phoenix, AZ AAC 2025 Proposed Bud</u>
	<u>AAC 2022 Actual</u>	<u>AAC 2022 Budget</u>	
1 REVENUE			REVENUE
2 Diocesan Proportional Giving	302,197	300,000	Diocesan Proportional Giving 328,569
3 General Donations	1,500	2,000	General Donations 3,556
4 Vendor & Exhibitor Fees			Vendor & Exhibitor Fees
5 * 40 Vendors @ \$1,000	16,000	40,000	* 20 Vendors @ \$1,250 25,000
6 * 25 Displayers @ \$500	11,500	6,250	* 25 Displayers @ \$625 15,625
7 Youth Registration Fees	-	-	Youth Registration Fees
8 * Grants	1,000		* Grants 1,500
9 * 120 Youth @ \$150	25,050	18,000	* 200 Youth @ \$175 35,000
10 FOCA Ad Book Revenues			FOCA Ad Book Revenues
11 * 50 Full-page (\$150)	7,650	3,750	* 50 Full-page (\$150) 7,500
12 * 30 Half-page (\$100)	2,300	1,500	* 30 Half-page (\$100) 3,000
13 * 15 Quarter-page (\$75)	525	563	* 15 Quarter-page (\$75) 1,125
14 * 5 Memorial Listings (\$60)	300	150	* 5 Memorial Listings (\$60) 300
15 * 10 Benefactor 2-line listing (\$40)	160	200	* 5 Benefactor 2-line listing (\$40) 200
16 * 10 Patrol 1-line listing (\$20)	180	100	* 10 Patrol 1-line listing (\$20) 200
17 Observer Fees			Observer Fees
18 * 120 @ \$250	33,358	30,000	* 120 @ \$300 36,000
19 TOTAL REVENUE	401,720	402,513	TOTAL REVENUE 457,575
20			
21			
22 EXPENSES			EXPENSES
23			
24 Flowers & Liturgical Items	75	500	Flowers & Liturgical Items 500
25 PCC Lunch	54	200	PCC Lunch 200
26 Outside Contractors			Outside Contractors
27 * Shepard Expo Services	19,818	18,500	* Shepard Expo Services 10,000
28 * Photographer	-	3,000	* Photographer 5,000
29 * PSAV Services	74,008	100,000	* PSAV Services 80,000
30 * Other Contract Services	12,272	-	* Other Contract Services 15,000
31			
32 Postage, Printing & Copying	8,839	11,500	Postage, Printing & Copying 10,000
33 Office Supplies	1,958	8,000	Office Supplies 2,500
34 Stipends	23,200	18,000	Stipends (3 years) 36,000
35			
36 Equipment Rental	816	8,000	Equipment Rental 2,000
37 Travel	22,765	50,000	Travel 28,000
38 Lodging	92,214	45,000	Lodging 86,775
39 Meals & Food	78,436	75,000	Meals & Food 88,000
40 Operating Expenses	334,456	337,700	Operating Expenses 363,975
41			
42 Youth - Registration Grants			Youth - Registration Grants
43 Food	19,574	7,000	Food 27,000
44 Supplies	103	5,000	Supplies & Other 10,900
45 Activity Fees	34,850	10,000	Activity Fees 10,600
46 Travel to Outings	891	5,000	Travel to Outings 3,500
47 Youth Program	55,418	27,000	Youth Program 52,000
48			
49 FOS Tours - Mexico Delegation	4,993	5,000	FOS Tours - Mexico Delegation 5,000
50 FOS Tours - Alaska Delegation	4,447	5,000	FOS Tours - Alaska Delegation 5,000
51 Travel	9,440	10,000	Travel 10,000
52			
53 Contingency (~7%)	-	27,813	Contingency (~7%) 31,600
54			
55 TOTAL EXPENSES	399,315	402,513	TOTAL EXPENSES 457,575
56			
57 REVENUE OVER/(UNDER) EXPENSES	2,405	-	REVENUE OVER/(UNDER) EXPENSES (0)

Orthodox Church in America

21st All-American Council - Diocesan Contribution Proposal

Proposed - Fall 2024

Dioceses	2022 Payment	2025 Proposed
Albanian Archdiocese	3,728.54	4,350.09
Diocese Alaska	2,804.33	2,804.33
Bulgarian Diocese	5,000.00	5,000.00
Archdiocese of Pittsburgh and Western PA	20,607.33	21,048.15
Diocese of the Midwest	78,041.27	84,138.99
Archdiocese of Washington DC	10,319.10	10,319.10
Diocese of the South	47,484.00	55,399.58
Diocese of the West	41,680.49	48,628.63
Diocese of New England	22,861.51	23,899.08
Diocese of New York/New Jersey	36,647.54	36,647.54
Diocese of Eastern PA	27,022.45	29,671.77
Romanian Orthodox Episcopate	6,000.00	6,661.44
Totals	302,196.56	328,568.69

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

2025 Budget - Summary

Approved, as amended, at the Fall 2024 Metropolitan Council meeting

	Target 75.00%			D BUDGET Original 2025
	A YTD Actual 9/30/2024	B BUDGET Amended 2024	C % BUDGET USED	
<i>Unrestricted</i>				
1 REVENUE				
2 Diocesan Contributions	1,424,241	1,816,182	78.42%	1,768,239
3 Individual/Business Contributions	145,041	145,000	100.03%	155,000
4 Individual Contributions - OPL General				364,734
5 Individual Contributions - Thriving in Min				95,000
6 Individual Contributions - Fin. Health Init.				162,500
7 Appeals	250	-		-
8 Service Fees	29,085	50,000	58.17%	50,000
9 Program Service Fees - Thriving in Ministry				21,600
10 Interest Income/Realized Gains/Losses	18,791	50,000		50,000
11 Other	18,908	50,000		50,000
12 Release from Restriction - <i>Endowed Funds</i>	56,250	75,000	75.00%	75,000
13 Release from Restriction - <i>Restricted Funds</i>	78,000	104,000	75.00%	90,000
14 Release from Grant - Thriving in Ministry				137,250
15 Release from Grant - Fin. Health Initiative				95,039
16 Use of Reserve - OCA Contribution to TiM				50,000
17 Use of Reserve - OCA Contribution to FHI				27,250
18 Use of Unrestricted Reserve		172,300		17,500
19 TOTAL REVENUE	1,770,566	2,462,482	71.90%	3,209,112
20				
21				
22				
23 EXPENSES				
24 Compensation & Benefits				
25 Administration	232,317	306,069	75.90%	313,814
26 Executive	427,387	596,357	71.67%	634,706
27 Archives	78,709	106,329	74.02%	109,519
28 External Affairs	-	-		-
29 Property	-	-		-
30 ORSMA	-	-		-
31 Office of Pastoral Life				305,000
32 Total Compensation & Benefits	738,413	1,008,755	73.20%	1,363,039
33				
34 Goods & Services				
35 Administration	478,540	509,722	93.88%	462,182
36 Executive	20,959	27,400	76.49%	27,400
37 Archives	-	1,500	0.00%	1,500
38 External Affairs	26,109	33,187	78.67%	44,500
39 Property, incl depr.	68,189	127,300	53.57%	127,300
40 TOC/Comm	18,720	36,300	51.57%	36,300
41 Holy Synod	33,024	68,400	48.28%	68,400
42 Metropolitan's Office	78,852	102,147	77.19%	102,147
43 Metropolitan Council	6,595	32,450	20.32%	32,450
44 St. Catherine's	50,566	67,658	74.74%	62,658
45 Mission Planting Grants	78,000	104,000	75.00%	80,000
46 Ordination Candidacy	1,000	6,000	16.67%	5,000
47 ORSMA	2,194	46,668	4.70%	36,668
48 Seminaries	-	18,000	0.00%	18,000
49 Departments	92,987	117,245	79.31%	109,745
50 Office of Pastoral Life	67,132	155,750		631,823
51 Total Goods & Services	1,022,866	1,453,727	70.36%	1,846,074
52				
53 TOTAL EXPENSES	1,761,279	2,462,482	71.52%	3,209,112
54				
55 REVENUE OVER/(UNDER) EXPENSES	9,287	-		(0)

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
Proposed 2025 Budget - Expenses by Department

	<u>YTD Actual</u> <u>9/30/2024</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>Amended 2024</u>	<u>% BUDGET</u> <u>USED</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>Original 2025</u>
6010-05 Administration-Salaries		236,519.44		248,615.03
6012-05 Administration-FICA/MED		9,644.59		1,863.78
6013-05 Administration-Unemployment Ins W/H		-		
6014-05 Administration-Payroll Processing Fees		3,000.00		3,000.00
6015-05 Administration-Health Insurance		22,936.44		22,936.44
6016-05 Administration-Workers Compensation/Disability		622.69		651.72
6017-05 Administration-Pension expense		32,472.99		34,147.18
6018-05 Administration-Life Insurance		873.00		2,600.00
	<u>232,316.58</u>	<u>306,069.16</u>	75.90%	<u>313,814.16</u>
				p.1 line 25
6095-05 Administration-Bank Fees		5,000.00		5,000.00
6096-05 Administration-Dues		-		-
6100-05 Administration-Office Expense		-		-
6105-05 Administration-Food		1,000.00		1,000.00
6110-05 Administration-Flowers/Candles/Liturgical item		5,600.00		5,600.00
6211-05 Administration-Accounting Fees		25,000.00		25,000.00
6214-05 Administration-Legal Fees		94,000.00		94,000.00
6215-05 Administration-Outside Contract Services		100,000.00		62,000.00
6280-05 Administration-Rent		70,809.87		72,070.39
6501-05 Administration-Books, Subscriptions, Dues		-		-
6502-05 Administration-Postage, Mailing Service		1,500.00		1,500.00
6503-05 Administration-Printing and Copying		1,000.00		1,000.00
6504-05 Administration-Supplies		6,000.00		2,000.00
6512-05 Administration-Insurance - Liability, D and O		-		-
6516-05 Administration-Misc Other		-		-
6650-05 Administration-Stipends		46,800.00		41,000.00
6670-05 Administration-Computer Expense		2,000.00		2,000.00
6720-05 Administration-Telephone		2,000.00		1,000.00
6727-05 Administration-Internet		3,500.00		3,500.00
6750-05 Administration-Insurance		31,229.25		31,229.25
6831-05 Administration-Conference, Convention, Meeting		-		-
6832-05 Administration-Travel		-		-
6833-05 Administration-Lodging		-		-
6834-05 Administration-Meals		1,000.00		1,000.00
6835-05 Administration-Moving Expenses		-		-
6900-05 Administration-Automobile		2,782.73		2,782.73
6903-05 Administration-Auto gasoline		500.00		500.00
6910-05 Administration-Other		110,000.00		110,000.00
	<u>478,539.64</u>	<u>509,721.85</u>	93.88%	<u>462,182.37</u>
				p.1 line 35

[A] \$9,000 per month in support of Pensic

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
Proposed 2025 Budget - Expenses by Department

	<u>YTD Actual</u> <u>9/30/2024</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>Amended 2024</u>	<u>% BUDGET</u> <u>USED</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>Original 2025</u>
6010-08 Archives-Salaries		75,157.45		77,412.18
6012-08 Archives-FICA/MED		6,793.23		6,997.03
6015-08 Archives-Health Insurance		13,642.97		14,052.26
6016-08 Archives-Workers Compensation/Disability		213.12		219.51
6017-08 Archives-Pension expense		10,522.04		10,837.70
	<u>78,709.44</u>	<u>106,328.81</u>	<u>74.02%</u>	<u>109,518.68</u>
				<i>p.1 line 27</i>
6092-08 Archives-Business Registration Fees	-	200.00		200.00
6504-08 Archives-Supplies	-	800.00		800.00
6832-08 Archives-Travel	-	500.00		500.00
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,500.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>	<u>1,500.00</u>
				<i>p.1 line 37</i>

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
Proposed 2025 Budget - Expenses by Department

	YTD Actual	BUDGET	% BUDGET	BUDGET
	9/30/2024	Amended 2024	USED	Original 2025
6010-07 Executive-Salaries		494,310.53		527,879.84
6012-07 Executive-FICA/MED		3,213.00		3,213.00
6014-07 Executive-Payroll Processing Fees		-		-
6015-07 Executive-Health Insurance		34,225.08		34,225.08
6016-07 Executive-Workers Compensation/Disability		2,257.56		2,366.30
6017-07 Executive-Pension expense		62,350.99		67,021.52
	<u>427,386.63</u>	<u>596,357.15</u>	<u>71.67%</u>	<u>634,705.74</u>
				p.1 line 26
6105-07 Executive-Food		-		-
6504-07 Executive-Supplies		1,000.00		1,000.00
6515-07 Executive-Memberships		-		-
6650-07 Executive-Stipends		-		-
6725-07 Executive-Mobile Phones		7,200.00		7,200.00
6832-07 Executive-Travel		18,000.00		18,000.00
6833-07 Executive-Lodging		-		-
6834-07 Executive-Meals		1,200.00		1,200.00
6903-07 Executive-Auto gasoline		-		-
6910-07 Executive-Other Administrative Expense		-		-
	<u>20,958.94</u>	<u>27,400.00</u>	<u>76.49%</u>	<u>27,400.00</u>
				p.1 line 36

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
Proposed 2025 Budget - Expenses by Department

	YTD Actual	BUDGET	% BUDGET	BUDGET
	9/30/2024	Amended 2024	USED	Original 2025
6010-09 External Affairs-Salaries	-	-		-
6012-09 External Affairs-FICA/MED	-	-		-
6013-09 External Affairs-Unemployment Ins W/H	-	-		-
6016-09 External Affairs-Workers Compensation/Disabi	-	-		-
6017-09 External Affairs-Pension expense	-	-		-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>
6096-09 External Affairs-Dues		28,187.00		39,500.00
6516-09 Misc - Other				
6831-09 External Affairs-Conference, Convention, Meeting		-		-
6832-09 External Affairs-Travel		5,000.00		5,000.00
6833-09 External Affairs-Lodging		-		-
6834-09 External Affairs-Meals		-		-
	<u>26,108.92</u>	<u>33,187.00</u>	<u>78.67%</u>	<u>44,500.00</u>
				p.1 line 38

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
Proposed 2025 Budget - Expenses by Department

	YTD Actual	BUDGET	% BUDGET	BUDGET
	9/30/2024	Amended 2024	USED	Original 2025
6010-11 Property Support-Salaries	-	-		-
6012-11 Property Support-FICA/MED	-	-		-
6013-11 Property Support-Unemployment Ins W/H	-	-		-
6015-11 Property Support-Health Insurance	-	-		-
6016-11 Property Support-Workers Compensation/Disability	-	-		-
6017-11 Property Support-Pension expense	-	-		-
	<hr/>	<hr/>		<hr/>
	-	-		-
	<hr/>	<hr/>		<hr/>
6215-11 Property Support-Outside Contract Services		5,000.00		5,000.00
6273-11 Property Support-Real Estate, Personal Prop Tax		45,000.00		45,000.00
6285-11 Property Support-Janitorial Services		-		-
6286-11 Property Support-Lawn		20,000.00		20,000.00
6287-11 Property Support-Exterminating		500.00		500.00
6288-11 Property Support-Garbage Removal		3,000.00		3,000.00
6290-11 Property Support-Repairs expense		3,000.00		3,000.00
6504-11 Property Support-Supplies		600.00		600.00
6701-11 Property Support-Heating oil		20,000.00		20,000.00
6703-11 Property Support-Water		200.00		200.00
6705-11 Property Support-Electricity		12,000.00		12,000.00
6750-11 Property Support-Insurance		18,000.00		18,000.00
6990-11 Property Support-Depreciation expense		-		-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	68,188.62	127,300.00	53.57%	127,300.00
				p.1 line 39

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
Proposed 2025 Budget - Expenses by Department

	YTD Actual	BUDGET	% BUDGET	BUDGET
	9/30/2024	Amended 2024	USED	Original 2025
6010-35 Sexual Misconduct Committ-Salaries	-	-		-
6012-35 Sexual Misconduct Committ-FICA/MED	-	-		-
6013-35 Sexual Misconduct Committ-Unemployment Ins W/H	-	-		-
6015-35 Sexual Misconduct Committ-Health Insurance	-	-		-
6016-35 Sexual Misconduct Committ-Workers Compensation/Disabilit	-	-		-
	-	-		-
6095-35 Sexual Misconduct Committ-Bank Fees		-		-
6215-35 Sexual Misconduct Committ-Outside Contract Services		46,000.00		36,000.00
6502-35 Sexual Misconduct Committ-Postage, Mailing Service		68.00		68.00
6504-35 Sexual Misconduct Committ-Supplies		-		-
6650-35 Sexual Misconduct Committ-Stipends		-		-
6832-35 Sexual Misconduct Committ-Travel		600.00		600.00
6832-35 Sexual Misconduct Committ-Other Admin Expense		-		-
	<u>2,193.51</u>	<u>46,668.00</u>	<u>4.70%</u>	<u>36,668.00</u>
				p.1 line 47

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
Proposed 2025 Budget - Expenses by Department

	<u>YTD Actual</u> <u>9/30/2024</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>Amended 2024</u>	<u>% BUDGET</u> <u>USED</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>Original 2025</u>
6215-13 Communications-Outside Contract Services		20,000.00		20,000.00
6503-13 Communications-Printing and Copying		-		-
6650-13 Communications-Stipends		1,800.00		1,800.00
6670-13 Communications-Computer expense		2,500.00		2,500.00
6733-13 Communications-Website		12,000.00		12,000.00
6832-13 Communications-Travel		-		-
	<u>18,720.35</u>	<u>36,300.00</u>	<u>51.57%</u>	<u>36,300.00</u>
				p.1 line 40
6105-14 Holy Synod-Food		-		-
6502-14 Holy Synod-Postage		-		-
6503-14 Holy Synod-Printing		1,000.00		1,000.00
6504-14 Holy Synod-Supplies		-		-
6650-14 Holy Synod-Stipends		14,400.00		14,400.00
6832-14 Holy Synod-Travel		25,000.00		25,000.00
6833-14 Holy Synod-Lodging		20,000.00		20,000.00
6834-14 Holy Synod-Meals		8,000.00		8,000.00
6903-14 Holy Synod-Gasoline		-		-
	<u>33,024.20</u>	<u>68,400.00</u>	<u>48.28%</u>	<u>68,400.00</u>
				p.1 line 41
6015-15 Metropolitan's Office-Health Insurance				
6051-15 Metropolitan's Office-Charity Distribution				
6105-15 Metropolitan's Office-Food		-		-
6110-15 Metropolitan's Office-Liturgical Items		8,000.00		8,000.00
6280-15 Metropolitan's Office-Rent		42,600.00		42,600.00
6504-15 Metropolitan's Office-Supplies		750.00		750.00
6667-15 Metropolitan's Office-Chaplains - Stipends		-		-
6701-15 Metropolitan's Office-Heating Oil				
6703-15 Metropolitan's Office-Water		2,100.00		2,100.00
6705-15 Metropolitan's Office-Electricity		1,440.00		1,440.00
6727-15 Metropolitan's Office-Internet		864.00		864.00
6750-15 Metropolitan's Office-Insurance		793.00		793.00
6832-15 Metropolitan's Office-Travel		35,000.00		35,000.00
6833-15 Metropolitan's Office-Lodging		5,000.00		5,000.00
6834-15 Metropolitan's Office-Meals		2,000.00		2,000.00
6900-15 Metropolitan's Office-Automobile		600.00		600.00
6903-15 Metropolitan's Office-Auto Gasoline		-		-
6902-15 Metropolitan's Office-Other Discretionary		3,000.00		3,000.00
	<u>78,851.98</u>	<u>102,147.00</u>	<u>77.19%</u>	<u>102,147.00</u>
				p.1 line 42
6051-16 Metropolitan Council-Charity Distribution		-		-
6215-16 Metropolitan Council-Outside Contract Svcs		-		-
6504-16 Metropolitan Council-Supplies		50.00		50.00
6832-16 Metropolitan Council-Travel		12,000.00		12,000.00
6833-16 Metropolitan Council-Lodging		18,000.00		18,000.00
6834-16 Metropolitan Council-Meals		2,400.00		2,400.00
	<u>6,595.00</u>	<u>32,450.00</u>	<u>20.32%</u>	<u>32,450.00</u>
				p.1 line 43

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
Proposed 2025 Budget - Expenses by Department

		YTD Actual	BUDGET	% BUDGET	BUDGET
		9/30/2024	Amended 2024	USED	Original 2025
6017-17	St Catherine's Representa-Pension expense		9,558.02		9,558.02
6502-17	St Catherine's Representa-Postage, Mailing				
6650-17	St Catherine's Representa-Stipends		53,100.12		53,100.12
6832-17	St Catherine's Representa-Travel		5,000.00		
		<u>50,565.98</u>	<u>67,658.14</u>	<u>74.74%</u>	<u>62,658.14</u>
					p.1 line 44
6050-30	Missions and Planting Gra-Distributions	<u>78,000.12</u>	<u>104,000.00</u>	<u>75.00%</u>	<u>80,000.00</u>
					p.1 line 45
6215-34	Ordination Candidate Test-Outside Contract Se	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>6,000.00</u>	<u>16.67%</u>	<u>5,000.00</u>
					p.1 line 46
6050-40	Seminaries-Distributions	<u>-</u>	<u>18,000.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>	<u>18,000.00</u>
					p.1 line 48
6017-80	Ministries-Pension Expense				
6052-80	Ministries-Mission Distribution				
6096-80	Ministries-Dues		1,400.00		1,400.00
6215-80	Ministries-Outside Contract Services		1,014.00		1,014.00
6253-80	Ministries-Program Supplies		-		-
6503-80	Ministries-Printing and Copying		501.00		501.00
6504-80	Ministries-Supplies		3,900.00		3,900.00
6650-80	Ministries-Stipends		92,100.00		92,100.00
6733-80	Ministries-Website		1,830.00		1,830.00
6831-80	Ministries-Conference, Convention, Meeting		1,500.00		1,500.00
6832-80	Ministries-Travel		15,000.00		7,500.00
		<u>92,987.33</u>	<u>117,245.00</u>	<u>79.31%</u>	<u>109,745.00</u>
					p.1 line 49
Office of Pastoral Life					
<i>Administration</i>					
6017-40	OPL-Pension Expense				
6214-40	OPL-Legal Fees				
6215-40	OPL-Outside Contract Services		4,800.00		
6253-40	OPL-Program Supplies		1,000.00		
6501-40	OPL-Books, Subscriptions, Dues		1,500.00		
6650-40	OPL-Stipends		40,000.00		
6733-40	OPL-Website		1,700.00		
6831-80	OPL-Conference, Convention, Meeting		7,000.00		
6832-40	OPL-Travel		-		
6833-40	OPL-Lodging				
6834-40	OPL-Meals				
6050-40	OPL-Distributions		50,000.00		
<i>Clergy Synaxis</i>					
6215-40	Clergy Synaxis-Outside Contract Services		5,250.00		
6650-40	Clergy Synaxis-Stipends		14,000.00		
<i>Clergy Wives</i>					
6215-40	Clergy Wives-Outside Contract Services		2,250.00		
6502-40	Clergy Wives-Postage, Mailing Service		2,000.00		
6504-40	Clergy Wives-Supplies				
6650-40	Clergy Wives-Stipends		9,000.00		
6733-40	Clergy Wives-Website		250.00		
6832-40	Clergy Wives-Travel		7,000.00		
6833-40	Clergy Wives-Lodging		7,000.00		
6834-40	Clergy Wives-Meals		3,000.00		
		<u>67,131.81</u>	<u>155,750.00</u>		<u>-</u>
					See OPL Tab

Orthodox Church in America
Office of Pastoral Life
Budget 2025

Expenditures	Clergy Wives			800 TIM Lilly	805 FHI Lilly	TOTAL	
	40 OPL	Synaxis	Group	Total 40 OPL	Grant		Grant
6010 Salaries							
OPL Director	60,000.00			60,000.00	20,000.00	40,000.00	120,000.00
Director of Operations	45,000.00			45,000.00	10,000.00	20,000.00	75,000.00
Director of Development	63,750.00			63,750.00	21,250.00	25,000.00	110,000.00
6012 FICA/MED				0.00			0.00
6013 Unemployment Ins W/H				0.00			0.00
6014 Payroll Processing Fees				0.00			0.00
6016 Workers Compensation/Disability				0.00			0.00
6017 Pension expense				0.00			0.00
6050 Distributions - Grants & Endowments				0.00		54,500.00	54,500.00
6100 Office expense				0.00	2,300.00	3,000.00	5,300.00
6211 Accounting Fees	1,650.00			1,650.00	2,000.00	2,634.00	6,284.00
6214 Legal Fees	7,000.00			7,000.00			7,000.00
6215 Outside Contract Services							
Evaluations Consultant	14,417.00			14,417.00	13,380.00	16,203.00	44,000.00
Communications Consultant	6,417.00			6,417.00	13,380.00	16,203.00	36,000.00
Strategy Consultant - OMS	10,000.00			10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	30,000.00
Technology Consultant				0.00	7,840.00	6,694.00	14,534.00
6251 Conferences/Space Rental		15,000.00	1,400.00	16,400.00			16,400.00
6253 Program Supplies		1,500.00	4,250.00	5,750.00			5,750.00
6501 Books, Subscriptions, Dues	1,000.00	1,500.00	750.00	3,250.00			3,250.00
6502 Postage, Mailing Service	600.00		2,000.00	2,600.00			2,600.00
6503 Printing and Copying	600.00		2,000.00	2,600.00			2,600.00
6504 Supplies	2,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	5,000.00	3,000.00	2,500.00	10,500.00
6650 Stipends		45,500.00	47,500.00	93,000.00	106,000.00	37,595.00	236,595.00
6654 stipend				0.00			0.00
6671 Computer software expense	2,500.00			2,500.00			2,500.00
6831 Conference, Convention, Meeting		1,000.00	8,000.00	9,000.00	44,700.00	23,210.00	76,910.00
6832 Travel	12,000.00	3,000.00	12,000.00	27,000.00			27,000.00
6833 Lodging	12,000.00	3,000.00	13,000.00	28,000.00			28,000.00
6834 Meals	7,000.00	1,000.00	8,000.00	16,000.00			16,000.00
6900 Automobile	5,000.00	500.00	600.00	6,100.00			6,100.00
Total Expenditures	\$ 250,934.00	\$ 73,000.00	\$ 101,500.00	\$ 425,434.00	\$ 253,850.00	\$ 257,539.00	\$ 936,823.00

305,000.00

p.1 line 31

631,823.00

p.1 line 50



THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

PRESENTATION OF AUDIT REPORT

OCTOBER 11, 2024

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
SUMMARY OF AUDITORS' RESULTS

- Unmodified opinion on financial statements (clean opinion)
- No significant audit findings
- No difficulties encountered during audit
- No disagreements with management during audit
- All significant accounting policies were included in the audited financial statements
- All proposed adjustments were agreed upon and recorded

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION - ASSETS

	2023	2022
ASSETS:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,461,879	\$ 1,844,095
Restricted cash	499,975	116,139
Investments:		
Endowment pool fund	2,001,332	1,590,453
St. Andrew endowment fund	151,730	126,589
FOS endowment fund	148,241	102,645
Missions endowment fund	1,287,168	1,033,275
Annuity and unitrust fund	119,376	122,337
	<u>3,707,847</u>	<u>2,975,299</u>
Accounts receivable, net	165,462	136,963
Note receivable	150,000	150,000
Prepaid expenses	10,000	-
Property and equipment, net	159,017	292,193
Security deposits	8,930	8,930
Right of use asset - office lease	160,976	168,759
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 6,324,086</u>	<u>\$ 5,692,378</u>

- Cash and cash equivalents decreased by \$382,000
- Restricted cash increased by \$383,000
- Total Investments increased by \$732,000
 - Endowment pool fund increased by \$253,000
 - Missions endowment fund increased by \$184,000
- Accounts receivable, net increased by \$28,000
- Property and equipment, net decreased by \$133,000 - C.I.P. (\$104,067.11) written off in light of contract for sale of Westwood (Archives project will not proceed).

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION – LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS:		
LIABILITIES:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 142,931	\$ 84,455
Lease liability - office lease	162,997	169,765
Annuity and unitrust agreements	77,144	82,107
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>383,072</u>	<u>336,327</u>
NET ASSETS:		
Without donor restrictions		
Undesignated	1,408,472	1,605,892
Invested in property and equipment	159,017	292,193
Total without donor restrictions	<u>1,567,489</u>	<u>1,898,085</u>
With donor restrictions	4,373,525	3,457,966
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>5,941,014</u>	<u>5,356,051</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 6,324,086</u>	<u>\$ 5,692,378</u>

- Accounts payable and accrued liabilities increased by \$58,000
- Net assets increased by \$584,000 (Due to Income)

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES – SUPPORT AND REVENUES

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	2023	2022
OPERATING SUPPORT, REVENUES AND RECLASSIFICATIONS				
Support:				
Diocesan contributions	\$ 1,718,073	\$ -	\$ 1,718,073	\$ 1,978,403
General contributions	55,081	665,803	720,884	997,573
All American Council	-	-	-	108,839
Total support	1,773,154	665,803	2,438,957	3,084,815
Revenues:				
Interest and dividends	8,419	76,013	84,432	60,733
Investment income, net	927	659,955	660,882	(607,824)
Other revenue	7,289	-	7,289	92,858
Total revenues	16,635	735,968	752,603	(454,233)
Reclassifications:				
Net assets released from restrictions	490,705	(490,705)	-	-
Total operating support, revenue and reclassifications	\$ 2,280,494	\$ 911,066	\$ 3,191,560	\$ 2,630,582

- Increase in net assets \$584,963
Total revenues and other support - \$3,191,560
Total expenses - \$2,611,090
- Overall support and revenues increased from prior year
- Investment income current year \$660,000 vs. losses in the prior year \$607,000
- Other revenue \$108,000 decrease (All American Council)

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES – EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	2023	2022
EXPENSES:				
Program services	\$ 956,089	\$ -	\$ 956,089	\$ 1,928,996
General and administrative	1,626,123	-	1,626,123	1,376,945
Development	28,878	-	28,878	25,946
Total expenses	<u>2,611,090</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,611,090</u>	<u>3,331,887</u>
Change in net assets from operations	(330,596)	911,066	580,470	(701,305)
Nonoperating activities				
Change in actuarial value of annuities and unitrusts	-	4,963	4,963	12,131
Investment income, net	<u>-</u>	<u>(470)</u>	<u>(470)</u>	<u>(4,759)</u>
Total operating activities	<u>-</u>	<u>4,493</u>	<u>4,493</u>	<u>7,372</u>
Change in net assets	(330,596)	915,559	584,963	(693,933)
Net assets at beginning of year (restated)	<u>1,898,085</u>	<u>3,457,966</u>	<u>5,356,051</u>	<u>6,049,984</u>
Net assets at end of year	<u>\$ 1,567,489</u>	<u>\$ 4,373,525</u>	<u>\$ 5,941,014</u>	<u>\$ 5,356,051</u>

- Overall expenses decreased by 22% or 720,000
 - Transportation and travel decreased by approximately \$227,000 (All American Council)
 - Scholarships, grants and other assistance decreased approximately \$646,000 (Ukraine relief)

Thank you

QUESTIONS?

21st All American Council Report
Metropolitan Council Fall Session 2024
Protodeacon Peter Ilchuk

Introduction

Since my last report, much work has begun in planning the 21st All American Council slated to be held in Phoenix next summer. The dates will be Monday July 14th to Friday July 18th, 2025 at the Arizona Grand Resort. As you all know, the Preconciliar Commission has begun its work as well as the local committee Chairpersons.

The Executive Board of the FOCA has also begun planning for their 98th National Convention, which is scheduled to take place during the Council from Tuesday, July 15th to Thursday, July 17th, 2025, also at the Resort in Phoenix.

Preconciliar Commission

The Preconciliar Commission recently met to begin discussing the various aspects of the Council Agenda and overall schedule. At a recent meeting of the Diocesan Chancellors and Treasurers, the official budget and assessment amounts were approved by the PCC and will be presented for adoption at this meeting of the Metropolitan Council and the upcoming session of the Holy Synod.

The next meeting of the Preconciliar Commission will take place in the next few months to continue developing the agenda and schedule and will be ready to launch the official webpage and registration information in January 2025.

Local Committee

The local committee, Co-Chaired by Dn. John Weiss and Ms. Lydia Osolinsky, also met with Protodeacon Peter on a few occasions to review its role with the planning of the All-American Council. The local team has begun to assemble subcommittee chairs to review their roles and responsibilities for the operation of council. At this point, there is a lot of preplanning work begin done locally to be ready to activate those committees when the times comes. The recruitment of volunteers is currently the focus of the local committee. Once again, they are very excited to start up their work and look forward to welcoming the Hierarchs, Clergy, and Faithful of the Orthodox Church in American back to the Diocese of the West.

General Updates

All of the major contracts that we traditionally need to sign have been negotiated and signed for the operation of the Council. The A/V company and exhibit company, our largest contracts have been agreed upon within the council budget.

The Council Webpage is live on OCA.org and there will be a direct link on the homepage for easy access. We will begin to post updates and resources as they become available in order to drive enthusiasm for the Council. I know that many of us are looking forward to seeing our friends and family once again in Phoenix.

We will once again have an online registration system. This system will provide us with a user-friendly way to register, process, and keep track of council attendees. It will also provide valuable data that is needed to assist the hotel in planning our event.

The youth program has also begun its preparations. Under the direction of Fr. Jason and Matushka Ashley Foster, the team has started to create its program and build their volunteer and staff numbers that will be needed to ensure a successful and fun program for our children and young adults.

Plans are also in progress to make the youth program a little different than in years past. It will be separated into the following three areas:

- Kindergarten through 8th grade (under the direction of Fr. Jason and Matushka Ashley)
- 9th grade to 12th grade (under the direction of Dima Rentel)
- College age and Young Adults (under the direction of Dima Rentel)

Mandated Timeline (Per Statute)

- Official All-American Council Agenda to be approved by the Holy Synod and Metropolitan Council at the 2022 Spring Sessions (February – March 2025)
- Proposed Statue Revisions 90 days prior (April 14th, 2025)
- PCC to publish agenda, notices, and arrangements 60 days prior (May 14th, 2025)
- Chancery to publish credentials and certification 30 days prior (June 14th, 2025)
- Council reports to be posted by Chancery 30 days prior (June 14th, 2025)
- All Statue changes or amendments, resolutions, etc. to be posted 30 days prior (June 14th, 2025)

General Timeline for AAC

- Hotel Registration, Council Registration, Youth Program Registration opens during the **first half of January, 2025.**
- Hotel Reservations Cut-Off date will be **Friday, June 20th, 2025.**
- Council Registration and Youth Program Registration Cut-Off date will be 30 days prior, which is **Saturday, June 14th, 2025.**

- Chancery Team and Local Staff will arrive on **Saturday, July 13th, 2025**, to begin setup and load-in.
- The 98th FOCA National Convention will take place on **Tuesday, July 16th – Thursday, July 18th, 2025**.
- The Council will begin Monday and finish on Friday. Tear down and load-out will take place throughout the afternoon and evening.

Conclusion

Once again, I would like to thank His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon, and the members of the Metropolitan Council for their continued prayers, guidance, and support in my role as our Council Manager. I think this will be another great opportunity to gather as a Church and renew our vision for the Orthodox Church in America.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pdn. Peter Ilchuk, Council Manager

September 27, 2024

Your Beatitude and esteemed members of Metropolitan Council,

Most blessed master, bless!

The communications of the Orthodox Church in America maintains a steady stream of daily content across Facebook, X (Twitter), Instagram, and Telegram including its news items, scripture readings, liturgical text updates, and other regular additions.

In the past three months we saw the following changes in our metrics:

Facebook: Engagements: 15k. Followers: 43.6k. Average new followers per day: 2.

X (Twitter): Engagements: 5k. Followers: 28.6k. Average new followers per day: 7.

Instagram: Engagements: 15k. Followers: 11.6k. Average new followers per day: 4.

Telegram: 958 subscribers.

The most popular posts include the post congratulating Your Beatitude and the Holy Synod on birthdays, Name's Days, and enthronement anniversaries. Others include Your Beatitude's visit to the St. Tikhon's Camp in July, the archpastoral visits to St. Vladimir's and St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminaries, and the entry for the Sitka Icon of the Mother of God. We average 2 social media posts per day.

Of particular note were the releases surrounding Your Beatitude's visit in June to Ukraine, Romania, and Istanbul. This trip received a lot of interest, especially the greetings offered to His Beatitude Metropolitan Onuphry at the conclusion of Vigil at the Chernivtsi cathedral and the Liturgy celebrated at the Putna monastery. The quality photography, detailed account of the trip, and interesting subject matter combined to bring about its success.

In the last three months, oca.org had the following metrics:

Users: 446k, Sessions: 1.07M, Average length of time: 3m 22s. There were 2.97M unique page views, with the most popular sections remaining the Scripture readings, Lives of the Saints, catechetical material, and liturgical downloads.

The In Memoriams are visited frequently, especially those for Mka. Annice Oleynik, Igumen Leonty (Arrowsmith), and Priest Anthony Estabrooks. The canonization of Mka. Olga continues to generate interest, in particular the video "Recollections of Saintly Matushka Olga" published in June. Other pages of note include the story about the digitization of the Russian American Orthodox Messenger and those of Your Beatitude's trip to Constantinople, Ukraine, and Romania.

With the upcoming All-American Council less than a year away, we have begun the process of collecting responses to Your Beatitude's Grand Invitation to parishes and institutions to reflect on this moment in time for the Orthodox Church in America. The call for reflection has been

sent out and a committee is being established to analyze responses in preparation for further refinement at the AAC. The page announcing the call and downloadable study guide was one of the higher viewed news stories. Plans are also being developed for interviews to further highlight the project.

The Technical Manager and I met several times over the spring and summer in order to explore website redesign ideas and identify specific future needs for oca.org. We have since contacted a web design consultant and had our initial conversations with her several weeks ago.

The document project regarding Artificial Intelligence has stalled. Dr. Jonathan Elliot headed a team of four other scholars, clergy, and laity to work on this project. It started out strong but one member had to drop out due to time constraints and over time the group decided they were not able to produce something of quality that was tangible. At this time, the team is deliberating on if there are any paths forward on the project. My hope is that something can still be produced, even with a longer timeline, since the issue of AI is predicted to have deep impacts on the day-to-day life of clergy and faithful.

Thank you for your continued support in our work.

Yours in Christ,

Priest Kyle Parrott



Metropolitan Council

As of July 8, 2024

His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon
Archbishop of Washington and Metropolitan of All America and Canada
PO Box 31409
Alexandria, VA 22310

Phone: 516-922-0550
Email: metropolitan@oca.org

Officers of the Orthodox Church in America

Archpriest Alexander Rentel (Chancellor) Phone: 914-771-6252 Email: arentel@oca.org	Archpriest Alessandro Margheritino (Secretary) Phone: 516-353-4204 Email: amargheritino@oca.org
Andrew Smith (Treasurer) Phone: 828-638-0077 Email: asmith@oca.org	

Members elected by the All-American Council

Members elected at the 20th AAC

Archpriest Justin Patterson Phone: 859-361-2823 Email: priest@athanasiusoca.org	Elizabeth (Lisa) Mikhalevsky Phone: 703-899-7380 Email: lisamik56@gmail.com
Archpriest Lawrence Margitich Phone: 707-584-9491 Email: lmargitich@sbcglobal.net	M. Lynnell McFarland Phone: 360-480-2818 Email: mcfarlynnell@gmail.com
Archpriest Christopher Foley Phone: 336-688-9920 Email: frc@holycrossoca.org	Alexis Liberovsky Phone: 516-998-5167 Email: alex@oca.org

Alternates elected at the 20th AAC

Archpriest Jonathan Ivanoff Phone: 631-587-9460 Email: frjonathan@hotmail.com	Sarah Geana Phone: 603-391-2372 Email: a.happy.homesteader@gmail.com
--	---

Members Elected by Dioceses

Diocese of Alaska

Archpriest Maxim Isaac
Phone: 907-679-2002
Email: frmaxisaac@yahoo.com

Anthony Lekanof
Phone: 907-302-0897
Email: aclekanof@gmail.com

Albanian Archdiocese

Archpriest Dennis Rhodes
Phone: 203-598-4678
Email: dennisr648@hotmail.com

Donna Dimitri
Phone: 609-685-1651
Email: donnadimitri@gmail.com

Bulgarian Diocese

Deacon Bogdan Popescu
Phone: 310-954-6234
Email: raycnewman@sbcglobal.net

Daniel Ralich
Phone: 330-352-4739
Email: dralich@rrtrucksales.com

Archdiocese of Canada

Archpriest Gregory Scratch
Phone: 204-504-8792
Email: priestgregoryscratch@gmail.com

Jonathan Pageau
Phone:
Email: pageaujonathan@gmail.com

Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania

Archpriest Nicholas Solak
Phone: 570-350-1482
Email: nsolak@svots.edu

Danalisa Radu
Phone: 267-970-0028
Email: danalisaradu@gmail.com

Diocese of Midwest

Archpriest John Baker
Phone: 312-241-3301
Email: fjbaker317@gmail.com

Basil Kochan
Phone: 330-418-4584
Email: Basilkochan82@gmail.com

Diocese of New England

Archpriest Patrick Burns
Phone: 203-734-3988
Email: pnevromaticmotives@gmail.com

David Zavednak
Phone: 203-215-1792
Email: dzaved@comcast.net

Diocese of New York and New Jersey	
Archpriest David Garretson Phone: 732-740-6230 Email: dfmg@aol.com	Mitchell VanDuyn Phone: 585-278-6308 Email: mitch@catprint.com
Romanian Episcopate	
<i>No assigned</i>	<i>Not assigned</i>
Diocese of South	
Archpriest Joseph Ciarciaglino Phone: 727-692-7195 Email: fatherjosephciarciaglino@gmail.com	Clement (Joshua) Godbold Phone: 919-460-5363 Email: Joshua.Godbold@protonmail.com
Archdiocese of Washington	
Deacon Matthew Prentice Phone: 571-259-3956 Email: mprentice@comcor.net	Gregory Honshul Phone: 703-771-2596 Email: ghonshul@gmail.com
Diocese of West	
Archpriest Matthew Tate Phone: 503-381-3588 Email: fmtate@comcast.net	David R. Lane, Esq Phone: 916-925-7916 Email: drlane@yubasutterlaw.com
Archdiocese of Western Pennsylvania	
Priest John Parker Phone: 719-332-3925 Phone: 724-379-4827 Email: frjohndonora@gmail.com	Ray (Skip) Steeb Phone: 412-389-5684 Email: ray@mycci.net