



2025 Annual Meeting - Treasurer Report **by Michael Freehling, Treasurer**

The goal of our finance committee is to do everything possible to ensure that Parish programs can continue to be paid for, uninterrupted, as far as possible considering environmental constraints.

Over the past year, the Finance and Investment committees, in addition to the Vestry, have worked together to ensure oversight and approval of all functions and decisions.

Briefly, here are the preliminary results for 2024:

- Our revenues were \$2,534,000 and our expenses were \$2,550,000, resulting in a net loss of \$16,000.
- The two main areas where we exceeded our budgeted expenses were brush clearance and safety.
- We also had one-time expenses related to the retirement of clergy and staff.
- In 2024, we made great strides for the long-term financial security of the Parish. There are costs and hiccups in these transitions, but the Parish has been able to handle them and come close break-even in 2024 while more than meeting our Outreach goals.
- Also in 2024, a new accounting system was implemented, replacing one which was outdated and no longer supported by our vendor. Adam Jones & Co. was retained to handle all accounting and reporting. They have a depth of staff and years of experience working with churches. This means that regardless of what occurs, church accounting will continue without interruption, which could not be assured if it depends on one employee.
- HBM was retained in 2023 to manage all Building and Grounds functions, including sextons, but 2024 was the first full year of their operations. This should make costs and operations predictable and controllable in the future. While brush clearance costs exceeded budget, it very likely saved the Church from burning.
- We also retained a top-notch accounting firm to perform annual audits and internal control reviews.
- Over the course of 2024, Investments were handled conservatively but effectively in accordance with Vestry guidelines. The Church's Endowment gained 17% vs. a benchmark of 15%. Operating Reserves and other cash were maintained with necessary liquidity while still earning returns.

For our 2025 Budget, before the fire, we projected revenues of \$2,466,000 and expenses of \$2,493,000, with a projected loss of \$27,000. Note that the expected expenses are about \$57,000 below 2024, which is due to a projected savings in



Buildings and Grounds. We have been working closely with HBM, our outsourced Building Management company to better manage these expenses in 2025.