

Treasurers Statement

1.

The annual financial report 2019 is drafted by Eveline van Engelen. It is approved in Council's meeting of May, 11th 2020. The task of the examiner is to check and double check the finances of a specific year, in case 2019. That is what Bram did and he approved them. He says: *Apart from the system, in which all the transaction data of the Church are stored, the Treasurer has handed over for review an archive on paper, and an archive in the Cloud. In the paper archive I found amongst others the Monthly bank transactions, the Incoming invoices, the Expense reports, and Tax Claims. In the Cloud I found amongst others a Cash Book, Auxiliary Excel Files, and Digital incoming invoices. I checked and cross checked those on completeness and correctness, and I have found no flaws.*

2.

In the meeting of July, 13th, Eveline gave notice of a serious financial setback. Our salary administrator calculated that we have paid to less tax in the last three year. We must count with an extra tax assessment of approximately € 30.000 or € 40.000 for the years 2017, 2018 and 2019 together. In 2020 we will exceed the budget for personel costs for several reasons. In 2020 we pay € 29.000 more tax than budgeted. We have lived in great style the last few years.

3.

Because Eveline moved to Berlin, I stepped in as an interim treasurer mid August. Bram's report appeared short after. Besides his approval Bram gave some advices. I agree with Bram that a financial report based on cash flow method is not as solid as a report based on historic cost convention method. Thus council should ask the new treasurer to report on historic cost convention method. That will give a better insight in the numbers. A quarterly financial report will give council better opportunities to govern our church. These advices are very helpful. By the way, I know that Eveline have made a communication plan for the finances that describes what information when must be given to the council and to the whole congregation. That communication plan is approved by council in their January/February 2020 meeting. By approving the annual report, council agreed with Eveline's proposals about the funds. Bram sent a few suggestions to Eveline about how to process the additions to the funds and I will add these suggestions to the annual report for the AGM.

4.

The annual report is as it is. Now we know better, we know about the tax set back. We must work very hard to solve the issues this year. Hopefully we can finish all the calculations and payments and can make a new start coming year.

5.

First of all I'd like to mention that we can give Eveline a big thank you for her time and energy she spent on the church finances in the year behind.

6.

About the 2020 numbers. I made an overview of the 2020 numbers so far, compared to the annual 2019 numbers. It must be said that we are a very faithful and loyal church family. We all generously contribute to keep this church running. Let us be grateful for that. A few comments about the figures.

Revenue side:

There is a significant decrease of income through PGP envelopes. The collections has slightly increased, but not enough to compensate the loss of income through PGP envelopes. If we can come and collect your PGP envelopes, please let us know. The start of the electronic collection plate brings a new life to the collections. It is a good addition to our means. The rental income has decreased a little. That is understandable due to covid-19. By other income is meant income from extraordinary donations, legacies and so on. You cannot budget that. Last year we were very lucky to receive a few huge donations.

Cost side:

This year we face a serious shortfall. For now a shortfall of 41.000 is already indicated and this will get worse. We still have to pay our contribution to the Diocese of € 25.000.

So, even if we are able to sustain our pre covid-19 income, we will face a shortfall of approximately € 60.000 euro. If our income keeps decreasing, the shortfall will be higher. There is enough money on our savings account. So, no panic. But council has to cut costs and must work on a healthier financial household.