

Treasurer's Report:

You will find a balanced budget in the packet that will be presented to the body. The budget is under some controversy after discussion at the Board of Directors meeting. Is it realistic? Can we do it? Maybe.

The budget is a guess. We look at the final numbers from 2017 and make some guesses on what 2019 will look like. Obviously, we know health care goes up. We owe an increase to our staff. The rest is similar to what was spent in 2017. There are not many places left to reduce our spending.

The controversy comes in the income. Are we looking are realistic numbers? The budgeted amount for OCWM income is \$253,108, more than 9% increase over 2017.

A few facts to ponder:

The following chart is the OCWM receipts from the churches. (This is not total income.) We have seen a 10% decline in the last 5 years.

2013	\$252,000
2014	\$249,000
2015	\$243,000
2016	\$230,000
2017	\$228,000

Only 86% of our churches support OCWM.

33% of the churches INCREASED their support in 2017

53% of the churches decreased their support in 2017

So, the question really is, when you are asked to approve the budget, are you going to support it? Are you going to vote 'yeah' and then forget it? Or, are you going back to your churches and tell the story of the conference? Why it is important to support the conference? Why you (and that is every one of you) are needed to make it work?

Deb Long, Treasurer