



Finance and Administration End-of-Year Checklist

During December:

- Vestry approves Housing Resolution for all clergy
- Vestry approves changes in compensation for coming year for lay and clergy
- Notify Church Pension Fund of changes to clergy and lay compensation for coming year for pension calculations.
- Ask lay employees (and clergy in a voluntary withholding agreement) about W-4 changes.
- Adjust payroll records for coming year (if in-house) OR notify payroll processor of changes for coming year.
- Review and update Church Warden and Treasurer Job Descriptions.
- Obtain imputed value of excess life insurance paid by parish for any clergy/employee insured for more than \$50,000 from Church Insurance Group. If you prepare your payroll in-house, make the appropriate additions to wages prior to running your year-end totals for wage reporting/W-2 preparation. If you outsource your payroll, see below.

During January:

- Schedule an outside consultant to conduct a Mutual Ministry Review for Vestry and Clergy
- Add up 4th quarter payroll totals (assumes in-house payroll).
- Add up 4th quarter totals for annual payroll totals (assumes in-house payroll).
- Prepare and file form 941 (quarterly basis) OR prepare and file form 944 (annual basis). Compile data for W-2s for all employees.
- Determine who requires 1099-MISC or 1099-NEC filed. Gather needed data and information.

By January 31

- Confirm all W-2s and 1099s have been filed and individuals provided copies.
- Prepare and distribute contribution (pledge) statements to ALL donors, especially cash contributors.
- Confirm donation confirmation letters have been provided for ALL in-kind, non-cash donations.
- Remind clergy to check out the *Tax Guide for Episcopal Ministers* distributed at cpg.org.
- Review Federal Reporting Requirements for Episcopal Churches by the Church Pension Group.
- Review Property Inventory for needed updates (or make one if one doesn't exist). Good to do with the Wardens.
- Review Property Insurance Coverage to determine if adequate for needs. Good to do with the Wardens. [search cpg.org for 'Property and Casualty Insurance']
- Review if church is taking the benefit of its tax-exempt status on all accounts.
- Review previous years' audit

Close out financial books for the year just ended:

- Make necessary year-end accounts payable payments dated 12/31.
- Reconcile end of year bank statement to the books.
- Make any necessary inter-fund transfers, adjustments, and journal entries.
- Reconcile petty cash (if used).
- Close out all income / receipts / revenue and expense / disbursement accounts.
- Verify all cash and investment funds correspond to balances as reported on financial institution statements.
- If computerized accounting is used, make a year-end back up of data and store off site.

Prepare reports on end of year items to the church:

- Prepare end of year Operations Budget Report (Income / Expenses) and Non-Operations Report (Receipts / Disbursements).
- Prepare end of year Cash and Fund Balances Report, showing cash and investment assets, liabilities (such as outstanding loans or lines of credit), and all fund balances.
- Prepare financial statements for presentation to the Annual Meeting of the congregation.
- Prepare the financial section of the Parochial Report and submit electronically. You need to download the workbook and keep it for future reference.
<https://www.generalconvention.org/forms-and-instructions>

Disposition of Records

- For computerized accounting, print complete ledger for the year.
- For computerized contribution recording, print all individual contribution (pledge) statements.
- Move financial documents related to previous year, except those with continued relevance (like a loan note) and store. Keep available for reference and financial review.
- Review and destroy obsolete records according to the Records Retention Schedule found in the *Manual of Business Methods in Church Affairs*.

Organize for the New Year

- Consider changes to make in record-keeping, procedures, etc. for the coming year. Now is the time to make the changes.
- Recruit additional counters for preparing deposits.
- If you are looking to end your time as church treasurer, consider inviting someone to serve as assistant treasurer for a year.
- If there will be a new church treasurer, contact to set up two or three meetings to bring them up to speed on their duties.
- If changing payroll providers have all information set up prior to the end of the year. Start in October.

If PPP Loan was received

- Complete all forms and provide supporting documentation for Loan Forgiveness in accordance to Lending Bank's instructions.
- Notify Diocese of final status of PPP Loan (loan forgiven, repayment amount)