## **Finances**

## D-1 2025 World Conference Presiding Bishopric Report

The 2023 World Conference marked a leadership transition with the ordination of Ron Harmon as Presiding Bishop and Carla Long and Wim van Klinken as counselors. The following two years brought both significant challenges and meaningful achievements. Consistent throughout has been the generous response of many to a divine cause that inspires hope and possibility for the future.

During this interconference period, Worldwide Mission Tithes supported ministers and leaders around the world in preaching, teaching, and transformative ministry. These ministries reflect Christ's mission in Luke 4:18–19 and our mission initiatives. *https://issuu.com/cofchristhq/docs/issuu -sharing-in-community-of-christ* 

In practice, these ministries take many forms: providing clean drinking water, funding education through scholarships, developing creative online outreach, supporting the most vulnerable through compassionate care, and addressing systemic oppression through transformative action for the common good.

This report provides summary financial information for ministries supported by the 2024 Worldwide Mission Budget and projections through 2030. For more detailed information during the interconference period from 2023 to 2024, we encourage you to read the financial updates that are available at: https://www.cofchrist.org/financial-updates

## **Review of 2024 Results**

## Worldwide Mission Budget

In 2024, Worldwide Mission Tithes totaled \$11.64 million—significantly above the \$10.2 million budget goal—and included \$681,000 from Giving Tuesday. This contributed to an overall surplus for the Worldwide Mission Budget of \$875,000. Church leaders are deeply grateful for the generosity of contributors and the responsible staff financial management that made this possible.

Worldwide Mission Tithes support many aspects of our mission, including special initiatives by the Council of Twelve to combat poverty and hunger. The World Hunger Fund, rooted in our gospel call to justice and compassion, was established in 1978 (WCR 1148) and reaffirmed in 1992 (WCR 1227). It addresses the root causes of hunger and inequality.

For example, in 2023, \$200,000 was allocated to World Hunger projects, administered by the Council of Twelve. Highlights included:

- Six clean water projects in Congo DR, Kenya, and Zambia
- Soap-making training for 300 women and youth in Malawi
- School benches in Congo DR (through Health-Ed Connect)

These projects improve health, empower women, and expand education—especially for girls who often miss school to collect water.

We also celebrate past projects like solar irrigation, brick-making, sewing workshops, and microfinance efforts. Through member and friend generosity, lives continue to be transformed.

## **Endowment Balances**

As of December 31, 2024, the Temple Endowment balance was \$213.0 million, with \$197.5 million invested in marketable securities. The Worldwide Mission Endowment totaled \$17.6 million, with \$14.9 million invested in marketable securities.

In line with our endowment spending policy, the current 3% spending rate applies only to the liquid portion invested in marketable securities.

Looking ahead, our funding strategy includes growing the liquid portion of the Temple Endowment to \$200 million. This will enable sustained support for Temple ministries, mission support services, and the Temple Complex's operations. Supporting the Temple and its ministries remains a strategic priority of the World Church Leadership Council and honors the legacy of those who gave sacrificially to the Kirtland Temple.

With the Temple Endowment well-funded, our future focus shifts to growing the Worldwide Mission Endowment. As it grows, the 3% spending rate will generate income to fund ministries in the USA and globally, as part of the Worldwide Mission Budget.

The following additional endowment balances are reported as of 12-31-2024 (USD):

Endowment	Balance as of 12-31-2024
Canada Mission Endowment	\$11.677 million
Canada Temple Endowment	\$3.645 million
Canada Worldwide	\$3.631 million
Communications Endowment	10000000000000000000000000000000000000
General Operating	\$6.069 million
Endowment	10.004 IIIII0II

## **Operating Reserve**

Operating Reserve balances at 12-31-2024 totaled \$10.567 million and included a world conference designated reserve of \$3.865 million, a Worldwide Ministries Contingency Reserve of \$4.199 million, and donor Designated Reserve of \$2.503 million. These strategic reserves provide stability as we look to support mission and ministries into 2025 and beyond.

## 2025 Worldwide Mission Tithes Goal

The Worldwide Mission Tithes goal range for 2025 is \$10.16 to \$11.16 million. We are deeply grateful for the continued response of the church to our divinely instilled call and vision.

## **Bridge of Hope Retirement Responsibility**

In February 2024, the Presiding Bishopric announced the Bridge of Hope retirement responsibility goal had been met and exceeded. This occurred prior to the sale of historic assets and without the need for any Affiliate Investment Pool Ioans. This is a significant accomplishment made possible by the work of many field, mission center, congregational leaders, and members across the church.

Recognizing the church's broader mission funding needs, many congregations and mission centers chose to contribute to the retirement goal, often at a personal or local sacrifice. The church is deeply grateful for this unified commitment to honoring those who have dedicated years of service and ministry.

Work is now underway to finalize retirement funding arrangements in the U.S. and internationally. As previously shared, any remaining funds after this process will go toward endowments—the second goal of Bridge of Hope. A final summary report will be included in the December Financial Update.

## **Historic Asset Sale**

The sale of historic assets in March 2024 was a difficult and painful moment for some. The Presiding Bishopric, along with other leaders and members around the global church, have deep personal connections to these sacred places that are part of our shared faith story. Through online opportunities for gathering and many hours of one-on-one conversations, we have supported one another through the range of emotions associated with the historic sale.

Had it not been for the historic assets' sale, instead of looking to the future, the church would have been considering significant reductions in staff, ministry, and services in 2025. Although the sale did not resolve all the financial challenges, it is providing assets that position us for the future through our endowments.

## **Endowments Position us for the Future**

On May 23rd, 2024, the World Church Finance Board approved a resolution to move \$165 million from the sale of historic assets to the Temple Endowment and \$10 million to the Worldwide Mission Endowment. By placing these funds in each Endowment, the spending rate (currently 3%) will generate annual income to the budget for years to come in accordance with the Spending Rate Policy on Endowments.

A \$2 million endowment was set up as part of the Temple Endowment to support the ongoing efforts of Community of Christ in partnership with the Historic Sites Foundation to engage in projects that convey our sacred story.

## **Remaining Net Process from Sale of Historic Assets**

The Presiding Bishopric completed a study with J.E. Dunn in 2024 to identify maintenance and replacement needs of the Temple and Auditorium over the next decade. The first phase which will occur over the next three years includes the following projects:

- Temple Roof Sealing and Repair
- Original Carpet Replacement in Office and Educational Section of Temple
- Concrete Steps Replacement at World Plaza
- Complete Heating and Cooling Systems
  Replacement

- Securing, Caulking, and Cleaning External Auditorium Stone Panels
- Landscaping replacement and improvements including Temple Rooftop Garden
- Electronic Door Replacements at Temple Main Entrances
- Lighting Control Upgrade in Temple

These projects have an estimated cost of \$12 million and will ensure these buildings are able to meet the needs of the church into the foreseeable future.

## Worldwide Mission Tithes: An Essential Part of our Funding Strategy

Worldwide Mission Tithes will remain a key source of funding for global mission. As endowments grow, the income they generate will gradually reduce the burden on tithes, allowing more of those funds to directly support mission work.

This shift will help the church engage younger generations who value seeing a clear connection between their giving and mission outcomes.

Looking ahead, the church's funding model will rely on endowment income—especially from the Temple Endowment—to support the Temple Complex, operations, and global services. Meanwhile, field ministries and mission projects will continue to be funded by Worldwide Mission Tithes and the growing Worldwide Mission Endowment.

## Looking Ahead to 2030

95% of contributions to Worldwide Mission Tithes in 2024 came from USA fields, 4% from Canada, and 1% from other multi-nation fields.

The number of individual contributor households declined from 6,157 in 2023 to 5,754 in 2024.

4,047 or 70% of the 5,754 contributors in the USA and Canada were over the age of 65. Those same 4,047 contributor households gave \$8.5 million

## **Worldwide Mission Tithes Contributors**

(Canada and USA only) CY2013 - CY2024

Calendar Year	# of Contributors	% Difference
2013	11,630	
2014	10,832	-6.9%
2015	10,608	-2.1%
2016	10,705	0.9%
2017	9,775	-8.7%
2018	9,088	-7.0%
2019	8,458	-6.9%
2020	7,578	-10.4%
2021	6,577	-13.2%
2022	6,334	-3.7%
2023	6,157	2.8%
2024	5,754	-6.5%

A contributor is defined as a household unless individuals in the household give through separate envelopes

Totals do not include jurisdictions, corporations or estates

or 73% of all Worldwide Mission Tithes (see chart below). This data tells a familiar story. We are still largely dependent on those age 65+ in the United States to support our Worldwide Mission budget. This highlights the need to focus on building younger generations of generous disciples who are engaged in mission with their whole lives.

While contribution data helps tell the story of generosity, it's incomplete—especially in countries outside the U.S. and Canada where tithes are reported

AVG	742	759	489	430	474	785	1,534	976	1,253	1,411	2,516	1,712	2,242	1,875	2,399	1,793	1,996	3,475	
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\$ amount	\$ 94,200	\$ 12,142	\$ 16,629	\$ 22,376	\$ 47,379	\$ 130,310	290,007	\$ 190,302	354,634	\$ 675,886	\$ 1,741,094	\$ 1,383,170	3 1,928,392	\$ 1,327,338	\$ 1,355,300	\$ 537,958	\$ 227,492	\$ 229,337	\$ 10,563,946
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AVG	808	370	654	340	695	834	1,370	1,155	1,164	1,418	2,067	1,718	2,101	1,834	2,116	1,739	1,524	1,457	
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\$ amount	\$ 122,950	\$ 11,849	\$ 15,036	\$ 20,745	\$ 81,287	\$ 137,559	\$ 272,604	\$ 245,991	\$ 370,186	\$ 778,261	\$ 1,525,518	\$ 1,551,269	\$ 1,830,331	\$ 1,356,824	\$ 1,222,810	\$ 544,291	\$ 161,584	\$ 115,106	\$ 10,364,201
23	-	32 \$	23 \$	1	117 \$	55 5		3	8	549 \$			1 3	740 \$	8/	3		79 \$	6,157
2023	3 152			1 61	•••	165	199	213	318		738	903	871		. 578	313	106		6,1
AVG	\$ 853	\$81	\$ 313	\$ 441	\$ 581	\$ 1,029	\$ 1,445	\$ 1,063	\$ 1,613	\$ 1,335	\$ 2,352	\$ 1,868	\$ 1,975	\$ 2,557	\$ 2,151	\$ 1,806	\$ 1,556	\$ 5,548	
\$ amount	125,345	890	10,638	30,905	72,050	170,769	268,829	252,928	587,070	807,526	1,799,448	1,720,775	1,698,712	1,963,416	1,255,945	579,852	174,266	321,757	\$ 11,841,118
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2022	5 147	5 11	2 34	0 <i>L</i> 0	8 124	3 166	0 186	3 238	9 364	8 605	9 765	921	1 860	2 768	5 584	5 321	4 112	5 58	6,334
AVG	745	115	262	540	768	958	1,580	1,093	1,349	1,338	2,299	1,839	1,941	2,322	2,045	2,466	1,824	3,405	
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\$ amount	\$ 114,038	\$ 1,376	\$ 11,777	\$ 45,323	\$ 102,902	\$ 169,616	\$ 293,862	\$ 273,171	\$ 523,358	\$ 891,009	\$ 1,846,314	\$ 1,817,297	\$ 1,769,951	\$ 1,832,115	\$ 1,267,860	\$ 794,013	\$ 175,087	\$ 265,564	\$ 12,194,633
2021	153	12	45	84	134	177	186	250	388	666	803	988	912	789	620	322	96	78	6,703
AVG 2	187	132	414	438	602	1,245	855	1,106	1,079	1,994	1,422	1,671	1,801	2,292	1,766	1,568	1,333	3,937	9
	Ş	Ş	Ş	Ş	Ş	Ş	Ş	Ş	Ş	Ş	Ş	Ş	Ş	Ş	Ş	Ş	Ş	Ş	
\$ amount	\$ 23,784	\$ 1,846	\$ 25,637	\$ 52,550	\$ 100,464	\$ 283,923	\$ 196,561	\$ 338,523	\$ 556,891	\$ 1,589,035	\$ 1,299,775	\$ 1,938,213	\$ 1,700,396	\$ 1,929,683	\$ 1,116,008	\$ 539,522	\$ 130,651	\$ 303,155	\$ 12,126,617
20			2				230 \$	306 \$				1160 Ş							7,578 \$
2020	127	14	62	120	167	228	23	30	516	797	914	11(	944	842	632	344	98	77	7,5
Age Group	0-17	18-23	24-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	62-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85-89	90-94	95+	No age listed	TOTAL

A contributor is defined as a household unless individuals in the household give through separate envelopes Totals do not include contributions from jurisdictions, corporations or estates.

Iotals do not include contr All dollars reported as USD by congregations or mission centers, not individuals. The numbers also don't capture the dedication of the many employed and volunteer ministers and leaders who live out the church's mission worldwide.

Generosity is expressed in countless ways. For example, the Masina Congregation in Kinshasa rebuilt and expanded their church building—adding new tiles, doors, and windows—all with locally raised funds. They also support regional mission efforts through their mission center.

In Chandragiri, India, members of the Antarba Congregation have spent 20 years sacrificially working toward building a church that reflects their faith. The church in Odisha was established by missionary Sambara Raika, one of only two evangelists to serve the church in India. Though he has passed, his daughter now serves as the first ordained female elder in Odisha's tribal areas. They plan to dedicate the new building by late 2025.

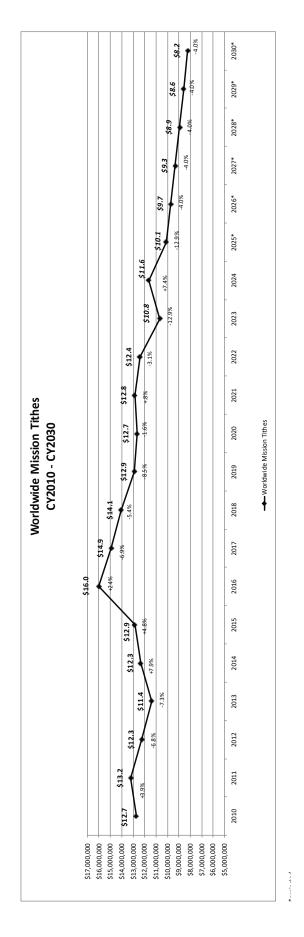
The Presiding Bishopric is deeply thankful for the individuals and communities across the globe who support mission through their giving, leadership, and ministry. Their generosity fuels hope and helps the church become a living expression of Christ's peace.

However, with an aging donor base in the U.S. and Canada, a gradual decline in Worldwide Mission Tithes is expected. This will create a growing gap between income and expenses, requiring a budget reduction by 2030. To address this, the church must develop additional income sources while working to engage younger contributors.

The chart below illustrates actual and projected Worldwide Mission Tithes contributions through 2030 based on current trends.

As illustrated in the financial projections shown on page 42, we have approximately 5 years to generate new sources of income before a projected budget reduction of \$1.5

## Worldwide Mission Tithes Contributors By Age



# Income and Expense Projections Through 2032

	Endowment	as % of total	income	13%	24%	34%	35%	38%	40%	42%	43%
		Surplus	Balance	501,017	1,261,314	2,090,803	2,341,658	1,763,366	1,894,511	1,424,227	358,132
		Surplus /	(Deficit)	501,017	760,297	829,489	250,856	(578,293)	131,146	(470,285)	(1,066,095)
			<b>Total Income</b>	17,109,269	17,806,446	18,489,299	18,526,419	18,355,191	18,246,235	18,296,948	18,376,758
3%		Needed	Strategies								
3%	Strategy 1 -	Expand	Contributors	60,000	121,800	185,454	251,018	258,548	266,305	274,294	282,523
	Temporary	Endowment	Support	2,000,000	1,000,000						
	NSA	Endowments	Income	2,303,000	4,226,000	6,210,000	6,569,000	6,911,000	7,249,000	7,601,000	7,967,000
			Other Income	1,864,269	1,980,646	2,003,685	1,988,568	2,005,243	1,983,666	2,003,801	2,025,616
	Mission	Worldwide Partnerships	(Designated)	782,000	782,000	782,000	782,000	602,000	512,000	512,000	512,000
-4%		Worldwide	Mission Tithes (Designated)	10,100,000	9,696,000	9,308,160	8,935,834	8,578,400	8,235,264	7,905,854	7,589,620
3.6%			Expenses	16,608,252	17,046,149	17,659,810	18,275,564	18,933,484	18,115,089	18,767,233	19,442,853
			<b>Expense Reset</b>						(1,500,000)		
				2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032

## **Basic Assumptions:**

- Income and Expenses are sustainable through 2029.
- Total Expenses increase by 3.6% per year. b.
- Worldwide Mission Tithes contributions decrease by 4% per year.
- Strategy 1 (Expand Contributors) begins to impact budget beginning in 2025. f.e.d.
- Endowments annual income is calculated based on Spending Rate Policy on Endowments (Report 009).
  - Additional income strategies are needed to avoid a budget reduction in 2030.

million is needed in 2030. These projections support a consistent level of ministries and services through 2029 using worldwide mission tithes, designated gifts, other income, and endowment spending rates.

Avoiding a potential reduction in 2030 will require working together to:

- Engage new generations of disciples in mission, encouraging response through whole-life stewardship. As older contributors pass on, new disciples are essential to help offset the loss in income. This approach will take time to significantly impact income.
- Identify and develop new income sources to grow endowments and support global mission. This includes evaluating how all church assets can best serve our vision and mission.

The Presiding Bishopric along with church leaders have been working on strategies related to growing the contributor base and alternate income such as those listed above for multiple years. The following 5 Strategic Priorities outline the focus of the Presiding Bishopric as we work to find ways to fund our global mission now and into the future.

## **PB Strategic Priorities and Initiatives**

## Priority #1

Engage new generations of disciples and seekers in our transforming mission including whole-life stewardship response.

Our top priority is addressing this missional and financial challenge by creating opportunities for new generations to engage with Christ's transformative mission and practice whole-life stewardship.

Steps have already been taken to align resources with this goal, including hiring two new mission development ministers, funded by the generosity of a family who recognized the need to connect with people under 65. These ministers are working with church leaders and an advisory team to explore innovative ways to teach generosity and engage younger generations in financially supporting the church's mission.

## Priority #2

*Explore and implement new sources of income to build endowments and sustain focused support of our global mission.* 

The Presiding Bishopric will continue to evaluate how we utilize all assets while exploring and implementing new sources of income. This will include new funding models and creative approaches to attract funding to various aspects of our mission that have appeal beyond traditional forms of organized religion.

In support of this, in September of 2025 the Presiding Bishopric will hold an entrepreneurial roundtable to engage a group of business leaders to explore opportunities to generate net revenue to support the church's global mission.

## Priority #3

Explore and implement new partnership models to share gifts of ministry, story, leadership, and finances across fields, mission centers, and congregations in a decentralized church structure.

We will gradually build our endowments to fund most of the International Headquarters support expenses through endowment income. This shift will allow individuals, congregations, and mission centers to focus on funding mission work both locally and globally, in partnership with other areas of the church, as they respond to emerging mission opportunities.

This renewed generosity will go beyond finances, enriching the church with multicultural gifts of ministry, leadership, and stories that inspire new understandings of what it means to be a global, interdependent faith community.

## Priority #4

*Increase effective utilization of all our facilities, including International Headquarters facilities, for mission.* 

Stewardship of our physical assets requires effective use of facilities for mission across the church including the Temple Complex. We will support ways to expand utilization of the Temple and Auditorium as a center for community life, formation, and mission.

In the future we will continue to evaluate the best use of all physical assets to support mission. In some cases, this evaluation will lead to the conversion of physical assets (such as buildings and property) to liquid assets so those funds can be used for new mission opportunities locally and globally into the future.

## Priority #5

Experiment with new ways to convey and live our principles of generosity and commitment to economic justice, offering hope for a sustainable future for all.

We are inspired by a broader understanding of generosity that creates a world where there is enough for all if we share courageously. We will focus on teaching these principles to younger generations, including children, to encourage their generosity. We will also advocate for policies that value the worth of all people, particularly those trapped in poverty and injustice.

The Presiding Bishopric is exploring potential projects related to the 2023 World Conference's Climate Change resolution. This issue strongly resonates with the Order of Bishops and demonstrates how generosity, economic justice, and sustainability intersect.

## A Future of Challenge and Hope

The path ahead will not be easy. Even with our best efforts, we will face missional obstacles in nations that contribute the most to the Worldwide Mission Budget. Cultural and religious trends in these nations are affecting Christian denominations worldwide.

The Presiding Bishopric's focus on developing alternative income sources will be difficult but necessary to reduce reliance on Worldwide Mission Tithes. These new income streams will allow time to explore new strategies to engage younger generations in our mission and generosity.

In developing economies, opportunities for growth exist, but resources are limited. We will need to form creative partnerships between jurisdictions, exchanging resources such as money, leadership, ministry, and sacred story.

We recognize the challenges and opportunities before us. We are excited to support those who have accepted leadership calls and move forward, trusting that the Spirit who calls us will accompany us on this faith adventure.

## D-2a World Church Budgeting and Audit Process

The First Presidency has revised resolution D-2 on the World Church Budgeting and Audit Process, reducing the finance board by 12 world church leaders. The original item D-2 is withdrawn, and the revised D-2a will replace it.

From the First Presidency

## Resolution

*Resolved*, That World Conference Resolution 1315 be amended to read as follows (proposed deletions are indicated using the strike-out feature and insertions are shown in bold):

## World Church Audit and Budget-Development Policy

- 1. The World Conference shall establish a World Church Finance Board responsible for annually reviewing and approving the World Church audit, approving the annual Worldwide Mission Budget, and special appropriations. and making recommendations to the World Conference concerning special appropriations. The board shall present projections to each World Conference for annual budgets for the next inter-Conference period. These projectionsshall be based on the best estimates of potential church income and expenses, but they shall not bind the World Church Finance Board indeveloping and approving annual Worldwide Mission Budgets should circumstances changeor income vary. The World Conference shalldiscuss these projections, and the input gained shall be considered by the World Church Finance Board in forming and approving these annual budgets.
- The World Conference may establish parameters for the World Church Finance Board in developing and approving annual Worldwide Mission Budgets.
- The World Church Finance Board shall be presided over by the First Presidency and shall be composed of up to fifty-five forty-three (55 43) members as follows:
  - First Presidency (3)
  - Members of the Council of Twelve Apostles (12 3)
  - Presiding Bishopric (3)
  - President, High Priest Quorum (1)
  - Senior president of seventy (1)