



**ORTHODOX
CHURCH in
AMERICA**

Metropolitan Council Meeting

Spring 2018

Committees/Departments Reports



**Meeting of the Metropolitan Council
February 6 to February 8, 2018
Committees/Departments Reports
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8.	Department of Youth and Young Adults	Fr. Christopher Rowe
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10.	SOCA	Archdeacon Joseph Matusiak
11.	Pension Board	Fr. Gleb McFatter

Charity Committee Report for Spring 2018 Metropolitan Council Meeting

Charity Committee members: His Eminence Archbishop Melchizedek, Episcopal liaison, Archpriest John Jillions, Chancellor, Melanie Ringa, treasurer, Archpriests John Dunlop, Thomas Moore, Antonio Perdomo, Dennis Rhodes, Alexander Kuchta, chair, Priest Joseph Lucas, Robert Graban, Maureen Jury, and Lisa Mikhalevsky.

Donations 1/1/17 - 1/30/18	\$2,784.00
Charity Distributions 1/1/2017 – 1/30/18:	
- Dental Surgery Bill	(\$2,790.00)
- Diocese of Eastern PA for injured clergy	(\$1,000.00)
- Church World Service - refugee resettlement	(\$1,000.00)
Stripe Fees 1/1 - 1/30/18	(\$32.95)
Total Distributions and expenses	(\$4,822.95)
Balance as of January 30, 2018	\$6,107.81

We had one additional request for help, but another option was sought and received.

Comments:

- We added several new members since the Fall: Frs. Rhodes and Lucas and Bob Graban.
- An appeal article for OCA Charity to appear on OCA.org in November was prepared, but did not run as it would have interfered with the appeal for SOCA. I would still like to see an appeal take place
- Since a number of us on this Committee including me will finish our terms on the Metropolitan Council at the end of this year, I would ask for 2 to 3 additional members of the MC to get involved. If anyone would consider doing this, please speak to me.

Respectfully submitted,



Archpriest Alexander Kuchta

Ethics Committee Report for Spring 2018 Metropolitan Council

No Written Report

Finance/Investment Committee Report for Spring 2018 Metropolitan Council

See Treasurer Report

Human Resources Committee Report for Spring 2018 Metropolitan Council

No Written Report

Legal Committee Report for
Spring 2018 Metropolitan Council

Executive Session

Orthodox Church in America
Department of Liturgical Music and Translations
Report to the Metropolitan Council – Feb 7, 2018

The Department of Liturgical Music and Translations serves as an advisory body to the Metropolitan and the Holy Synod of Bishops in matters concerning liturgical translations and music, liturgics, and other matters affecting the liturgical life of the Church.

Chair: David Drillock

Episcopal Liaison – His Grace, Bishop Irénée

Special Consultant: His Eminence, Archbishop Benjamin

Members: Abbot Igumen Sergius (Bower), V Rev Sergei Glagolev,
V Rev Paul Lazor, V Rev Lawrence Margitich

Included in the mandate of the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations is the directive to produce the necessary music and textual resources for the Orthodox liturgical services celebrated in the parishes of the Orthodox Church in America.

Music Downloads

1. over 6,600 pages of music, available for free download.
2. Troparia and Kontakia – Thou, Thy form – Mat Beth Johnson
3. Vigil services of American Saints (Innocent, Tikhon, New Martyrs Alaska)
4. Complete Pre-lenten and Lenten Sunday Vespers
5. Resurrection Kanons and Praises (for matins)
6. Complete scanning “Nativity of Christ”
7. Complete texts and music – Baptism, Matrimony, Burial of Priest, Layperson

Texts for Liturgical Services

1. 2014 October 1, 2 versions: You, Your; Thou, Thy
2. Approx 200 services. Sat Vespers, Div Lit,
3. Presanctified Great Lent
4. Sunday evening Great Lent
5. Holy Week
6. All services of Nativity, Theophany, Pentecost

Tutorial for the Study of the Eight Tones

1. Part I – stichera all 8 tones; Common Chant; Kievan Chant

2. Part II – to be Prokeimena; Troparia and Kontakia not a priority
3. Scheme: identify musical phrases for intonation, recitation, cadence

Audio Files for Teaching Liturgical Music

1. Tutorial also includes recorded choral demonstrations: Minneapolis choir
2. SATB plus individual lines for soprano, alto, tenor, bass
3. Will add Resurrection Kanons in 8 tones

On-line Course in Choral Conducting

1. 2012 – Trial with 8 participants – NY NJ diocese
2. 2013 thru 2017 --- 90 registrants; 72 successful completion
3. 40 now choir directors or assisting in OCA; 18 in other national churches
4. 12 sessions; 1st part: text and music; accented and unaccented; beat patterns
5. 2nd part: conducting chant; singing in phrases; metered and unmetered
6. Sessions posted on website; by Friday skype; conduct the exercises
7. Feedback from instructor at skype meeting; email evaluation of each session

Order of St Romanos

1. Established by Holy Synod in 2014
2. Acknowledge importance of Church music and singing in Orthodox worship
3. Recipients: arrangers, composers, teachers, conductors
4. Archpriest Sergei Glagolev, Archpriest Igor Soroka, Prof Dr David Drillock, Walter Shymansky, Archimandrite Roman (Braga), Dr Vladimir Morosan, Aleksei V. Shipovalnikov, John Sutko

Orthodox Church in America - Department of Youth, Young Adult, and Campus Ministries
Winter 2018 Report to Holy Synod and Metropolitan Council

His Grace, Bishop David, *Episcopal Liaison*
Priest Christopher Rowe, *Department Project Manager*

Introduction

David Lucs, who had previously been appointed the temporary administrator for the Department sent an email to His Grace, Bishop David on Thursday, January 18, 2018 requesting to step down from the position for personal reasons. On Friday, January 19, His Grace sent an acknowledgement email, accepting David's request.

Department Work

The work of the OCA's Department of Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministries (YYACM) is ongoing, with a variety of projects underway. This summary report will include updates for each project, organized in four categories: Content, Staffing, Events / Programs, and Inter-Orthodox Relations.

Content

- A **Master Calendar** was created to help the Department work strategically. The lack of administrative staff has prevented the application of this initiative.
- The Department continues to have a presence on **Social Media**, **Instagram** postings focus on feasts and saints, with "Words for Christian Living" from the featured saint whenever possible. The postings are also 'shared' to **Twitter** and **Facebook**. The number of followers continue to grow – however the engagement score (likes + comments and shares) still lags behind those of other Orthodox youth programs on social media.

The **wonder Blog** website continues to host new content with once to twice monthly reflections.

Rebekah Moll, a parishioner of St. Mary's Cathedral in Minneapolis and new Department members asked to be involved, but not as Content Manager – she prefers to write instead of managing and posting content. Adam Rusinak, another parishioner at St. Mary's has agreed to help review, edit and post the articles to the blog.

- The new stand-alone **YYACM Website** designed for youth and young adults ages 10-25 is still in development. A logo and brand has been created for it – and Mike Varian has been leading plans to build the site. Content is now needed to complete and launch the site.

As a review, the site will begin with three main components:

- **Today in Orthodoxy** – a calendar of feasts, saints, historical events, daily scripture readings and curated social media postings which use the hashtag #iamorthodox
- **Reflections** – content from the former **wonder blog** along with new articles and reflections curated by our content team.
- **Perspectives** – a series of thematic videos and articles produced on a seasonal basis in a mini-series format. Possible topics include: sacraments, North American saints, etc.

Additional content including resources for the 19th AAC youth program will be built in over time, based on current events, and the needs of and feedback from youth and young adults who will be engaged in use testing.

The current YYACM web presence (oca.org/about/departments/youth-young-adult) will be maintained in some form with the wealth of resources and content for youth ministry activities.

- The first video of the **Lives of the North American Saints** series is nearing completion. The video, exploring the life of St. Tikhon of Moscow, is being developed by Luke Popadics and Masha Khoruzhik, parishioners of Holy Virgin Cathedral (2nd St, NYC) who have created the graphics and animation. Our goal is to publish the video in the coming months.
- Existing Content: the most popular being in the form of two magazines: **On the Upbeat** and **Young Life**. Evergreen content from past issues of Upbeat in the mid-1980s has been scanned as readable text, and is ready for editing, formatting, and placement into new resources from the Department.
- The December 2017 edition of the Finnish magazine *Candlelight* published quarterly by the Orthodox Church of Finland's Youth Department included an article by David Lucs about the ongoing youth work within the OCA and North America.

Staffing

- The Department has sent emails requesting assistance from both Deans at St. Tikhon's and St. Vladimir's for staffing positions at the 19th All-American Council Youth Program. To date, no seminarians have applied.
- A goal for 2018 would still be to have at least one seminary intern for the summer, and possibly additional support staff for the **19th All-American Council** in St. Louis, MO.
- The Department still has open positions from a number of OCA Dioceses, both in **diocesan representatives** as well as those who would be willing to collaborate, work on shared projects, eliminating duplicate efforts, and partner on key initiatives for greater awareness by youth and young adults of available programs and resources from the Church.
- The role of a **National Director** for the Department of Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministries needs to be filled with someone who has time and effort to do a lot of initial set-up and building of connections and relationships across the OCA.

With a limited database of names and contacts, much of the networking which previously existed is no longer current, yet many parishes and dioceses are leading their own efforts – often resulting in duplicated efforts and minimal funding.

Department Events / Programs

- Plans for the **Youth Program for the 19th All-American Council** are on track under the leadership of Priest Benjamin Tucci of Minneapolis. Father Ben has been coordinating efforts with Dn. Peter Ilchuk and members of the Pre-Conciliar Commission for logistical plans.

Missy Barry of Holy Trinity Church, Overland Park, KS has been brought on board to assist Fr Ben in coordinating the curriculum, logistics and overall plans for the 5-day program.

- There are no current updates on the **St. Peter the Aleut Grant** program.
- There are no current updates on the **St. Peter the Aleut Award**, which needs to be revised and relaunched to encourage youth to participate in social responsibility projects benefitting their local communities.

Inter-Orthodox Collaboration

- The Department is committed to greater collaboration with the other **Departments, Boards, Commissions, Committees and Offices** of the Orthodox Church in America to partner on projects, developing resources and opportunities to share costs and efforts.
- The Department is faithfully represented by Deacon Alexander Cadman at the national **Orthodox Christian Fellowship** (OCF) board. His involvement provides us with a capable voice and effective communicator to ensure the OCA has a respected and engaging presence at the table. He contributes to the work of OCF on many levels.
- Contact with the **Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America** (FOCA), has been limited, and repeated attempts to connect with both their current president, Marge Kovac and their appointed Youth Director, Becky Kozak, have unfortunately not resulted in any plans or connections for possible collaboration.
- The 2018 “Celebrations of Faith” contest, organized by FOCA has been announced, along with plans for a FOCA youth program prior to the 19th AAC, however the Department has not been briefed or involved in any of the plans.
- Father John Bacon continues to represent the Department at the national level of **Scouting programs**, however has not responded to any attempts to provide an update or briefing on his work with the national Scouting or EOC programs.
- Youth Department directors and chairs from each of the **Orthodox jurisdictions in North America** meet quarterly via teleconference to review a variety of topics and on-going plans for future events.

Fr Christopher Rowe participated in the annual youth and camp workers conference in Atlanta, GA, Jan. 31 – Feb. 4, 2018.

Stewards of the Orthodox Church in America
Metropolitan Council Winter/Spring 2018
REPORT

Where we stand

When I reported to you in the fall our donations to the Stewards stood at \$46,173. I also reported that I was confident that with a year-end appeal we would be able to bring that total to over \$100,000. Unfortunately we did not meet that goal, ending the year with a total income to the Stewards of just over \$60,000.

What we did

STEWARDS SUNDAY APPEAL

Our plan in the last quarter of last year was to focus on creating and introducing an annual Church-wide appeal using direct mails and social media. While our initial target for the appeal was a Sunday in October, due to the many natural disasters which affected the United States in the fall of 2017, and the potential of giving fatigue caused by the humanitarian needs caused by these disasters, we decided to push Steward Sunday back to the middle of November. Going forward our hope is to settle on a Sunday in October.

METHOD

Beginning last summer I began calling, emailing and engaging in person parish rectors to build up, or upon personal relationships with the priest and to talk with them about the work of the OCA. My purpose was to listen to our clergy, find out what is going on in their parish ministry, what perceptions they have about the work of the chancery, how our department ministries are working for them, and to then share with them the work of the Stewards. This work continued into the late fall.

The appeal itself had three components:

Social Media lead up

Direct email to clergy,

Direct mail to clergy / parish.

Social Media Web: Two weeks prior to the appeal we began announcing the appeal through short pieces highlighting the work of the department ministries posted to Facebook and OCA.org. These postings continued every other day up until Steward Sunday. One week before the appeal we posted a video appeal from me. And the Friday before Steward Sunday a video appeal from His Beatitude was posted.

Direct Email: During the week leading up to the appeal I sent over one hundred personal emails to rectors introducing them to the appeal and making a personal request for them to keep Steward Sunday. This is on-top of a general email I sent to all clergy announcing the appeal.

Direct mail: Two weeks before Steward Sunday a mailing was done to all parishes in the OCA. The mailing included a letter from His Beatitude and the "For the Life of the World" Steward Poster.

THE RESULT

While it is impossible to know if every parish participated in Steward Sunday we do know what we received:

- We received donations totaling a little over \$8,000 from 27 parishes
- We received donations totaling a little over \$3,000 via check or paypal from 12 individuals on or immediately following Steward Sunday

LESSON LEARNED

With this appeal, the first church-wide appeal in nearly a decade, we made a good start in reestablishing an annual appeal. And while we did deploy a good strategy for the appeal, we did not give parish rectors enough lead time to announce the appeal to their communities. We will need to do better in communicating well in advance the appeal date so as to have maximum participation.

Professional Development

PRINCIPLES & TECHNIQUES IN FUNDRAISING

In November I completed the Principles and Techniques in Fundraising course at the Fund Raising School at Indiana University. The course added theoretical knowledge to compliment my practical experience. I am thankful for the investment of the Metropolitan Council in this course.

MAJOR DONOR CULTIVATION

Cultivating major donors is a long term time intensive process. The ability to properly raise up an annual giving society, while at the same cultivating major donors will be a challenge for the Stewards with our current resources. I have begun the cultivation process for four major donors: the owner of grocery store chain in New York / Connecticut; CEO of a major restaurant company; CEO and owner of a major-national insurance company.

Where we are going

Looking forward we will continue to keep up our presence on Facebook through the telling of stories. Soon I plan to begin a series which will highlight the 27 Steward parishes. We will again plan for an annual appeal to held on a Sunday in October. During the spring months I will focus my energy on building up individuals donors and the identification and cultivation of major donors.

Parishes that gave in the 2017 appeal:

All Saints of North America Salisbury Ct, All Saints of North America Los Alamos NM, All Saints Olyphant, PA, Cathedral of the Holy Protection, New York, NY, Christ the Saviour, Harrisburg, PA, Holy Apostles, Mechanisburg, PA, Holy Assumption, Kenai, AK, Holy Transfiguration, Livonia, MI, Holy Transfiguration, Iliamna, AK, Holy Trinity, Springfield, VT, Holy Trinity, East Stroudsburg, PA, St Peter and Paul Cathedral, Detroit, MI, St Peter and Paul, Altoona, PA, St Peter and Paul, Syracuse, St Elizabeth the New Martyr, Poulsbo, WA, St George Mission, Edenton, NC, St Innocent Cathedral, Anchorage, St John the Baptist, Alpha, NJ, St Joseph, Wheaton, IL, St Luke, McLean, VA, St Mark, Bethesda, MD, St Mary's, Minneapolis, MN, St Mary's, Central City, PA, St Michael's, Old Forge, PA, St Nicholas, Mogadore, OH, St Nicholas, Kenosha, WI, St Symeon, Birmingham, AL.



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February 7, 2018

Your Beatitude, Your Eminences, Your Graces, honorable clergy and lay delegates:

On behalf of the OCA Pension Board, I take this opportunity to update you on the status of the Pension Plan as of January 31, 2018.

The net time-weighted return for the period January 31, 2017 through January 31, 2018 was 16.57% compared to our benchmark of 16.27% for the same period. This improvement in the net return was due in large part to the change in strategy that the Plan initiated in December 2016. Markets globally continued to recover during the last half of 2017 and it is expected that valuations can expand further as market participants become more comfortable with the self-sustainability of this recovery. As monetary policy fades as the only driver of market outcomes, we see the re-emergence of volatility that is associated with real interest rates tracking real economic growth. The ending market value of plan assets at January 31, 2018 was \$26,562,105.

The Pension Board will review what should be included in the presentation at the “workshop”/booth at the AAC in July during its March meeting. This has been an important opportunity to meet with Plan Members and has been very well received in the past. Work continues on the effort to obtain endowments to the Plan as well as the continuing discussions regarding retired priests serving what is being called “distressed parishes”.

With regard to participation in the Pension Plan, there are currently 347 active participating members (the highest number to date) and 185 monthly benefits recipients.

Respectfully Submitted,

Priest Gleb McFatter, Chairman