



The EPISCOPAL DIOCESE *of* **WESTERN MICHIGAN**

August 24, 2020

While we were heartened by the good news that so many of our congregations have adapted very well to the changes imposed on us due to the coronavirus, we also recognize the complications the pandemic has caused. In response to the continuing pandemic, and social distancing guidelines, the Diocesan Council has discussed our audit policy and consulted with the Treasurer of the Episcopal Church and have decided that the 2019 audit will not be required.

We believe that a transparent financial picture will guide vestries as they develop their 2021 budgets and will have a positive impact on giving. We also recognize that the restrictions placed upon all of us by the necessary actions to safeguard our members have greatly compromised the ability of many parishes to do the necessary work. Therefore, we encourage all parishes that *can* complete an audit of 2019 do so, but we will not require this to be accomplished for the 2019 fiscal year.

If your parish elects not to perform the audit in compliance with our canons, we will require that you submit the following items to the Diocesan Office, no later than September 30, 2020:

- Year-end financial reports for 2019 - Income Statement comparing budget v. actual, Balance Sheet
- Year to date financial reports for 2020 through August 31st
- A report of the audit committee findings on policies and procedures from the 2018 audit, and what corrective measures were applied to remedy the deficiencies

Please email your reports to Tammy Mazure at tmazure@edwm.org, or mail a hard copy to the diocesan office. Please feel free to reach out to Tammy with any questions that you may have.