

YOUNG CLERGY WOMEN INTERNATIONAL



ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021



2021 IN REVIEW

2021 was another full year of life and ministry for Young Clergy Women International. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, YCWI continued to engage and connect Young Clergy Women together around the world. This was especially true with our second virtual conference. Through the wonders of technology we were able to gather for conversation and worship.

The year was also marked by new and strengthened partnerships. Story Stoles created and produced a "This Pastor Loves You" stole inspired by the YCWI Pride line, Chalice Press published the second volume of *When Kids Ask Hard Questions: Faith-filled Responses for Tough Topics*, and a new relationship with Consecrate was built as a way to share YCWI swag and connections with more clergy.

The YCWI Board continued work in the commitment to anti-racism learning and action – starting each board meeting with a time of education, discussion, or action step. Most notably, the board read *Dear White Peacemakers: Dismantling Racism with Grit and Grace* by Osheta Moore. The book and subsequent discussions were part of our important shared work.



YCWI BY THE NUMBERS

MISSION STATEMENT

Young Clergy Women International creates a holy and authentic community that sustains generous collaboration for Christian clergy women under 40.

With a growing membership body, the community can create and sustain holy connection worldwide.

1600

ACTIVE MEMBERS

Members of YCWI around the world.

700

ACTIVE ALUMNI

Clergy women continuing to be in holy community after the age of 40.

43

DENOMINATIONS

Our membership supports, prays and encourages each other across denominational lines.



NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Meet our New Board Members!

We are thrilled to welcome six new members to our YCWI Board. Their passion and enthusiasm is as beautiful and varied as their calls and location. As we continue this journey of discernment, seeking God's Spirit as we grow and deepen our work as YCWI, we are blessed to have the gifts of these outstanding persons helping to guide this holy work.

Let's say hello to each person as they share their reason for joining the board:

-Rebecca hails from Pennsylvania and is connected to the ELCA. "The amount of support and inspiration I have received from this group has been so powerful that I wanted to give back in a way that could help share that with others."

-Kate calls Maryland/Virginia area as home and is connected to the UMC. Her contagious smile is matched by her humor as she shared "I joined the board because I need more zoom meetings in my life".

-Laurel is a beautiful rarity as a Baptist pastor in Missouri. "I love it when female identifying humans get together, it's just the best thing. And life is hard, and clergy life is hard and when we get together its holy and I want to encourage others to be a part of it."

-Hannah hails from Indiana and is connected to the UCC. "I want to help support this mission that has meant so much to me. YCWI is a lifeline for me and for others and I wanted to support that."

-Diane is our international star in the new board class, calling Cambridge England home. She is connected to the UMC. "I wanted to be on the board to encourage YCWI's work in seeking racial justice as an organization."

-Laura calls Connecticut home and serves with the UCC. When looking at what groups were most important in her life, YCWI rose to the top. "It's so valuable, the connections."



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

2021 was a strong financial year for YCWI. Partnerships led to additional income for the organization. We received money from Chalice Press with the printing of *When Kids Ask Hard Questions: Faith-filled Responses for Tough Topics* under the YCWI imprint. Additionally, collaborations with Story Stoles led to a significant contribution to the organization. In 2021, we were also able to hire our first staff person. Amy Diller Guida joined YCWI as the Administrative Assistant. Continued strong generous giving from members and friends along with additional sources of income led us to finish the year with a net operating income of \$14,000. This places the organization in a strong place for 2022 and the work planned.



2021 REVIEW & 2022 BUDGET

	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget
Revenue			
Donations	\$30,000	\$31,900	\$30,000
Conference	\$9,000	\$0	\$8,500
Other	\$9,840	\$5,700	\$5,500
Total Revenue	\$48,840	\$37,600	\$44,000
Expenses			
Administrative	\$28,300	\$20,800	\$17,700
Conference	\$4,000	\$250	\$14,000
Anti-Racism	\$5,000	\$200	\$5,000
Staff	\$700	\$2,800	\$11,140
Total Expenses	\$38,000	\$24,050	\$47,840
Net Operating	\$10,840	\$13,950	(\$3,840)



HOW IT STARTED, HOW IT'S GOING.

About three weeks into my first appointment as a United Methodist clergywoman, I got a message from a former seminary classmate. She congratulated me on my commissioning and asked if I'd heard of a group called Young Clergy Women International, and invited me to join. Little did I know what that Facebook message would lead to...

In my first three years of ministry, YCWI proved its worth over and over again. Having a space where being a young clergywoman was normative, and not an exception, is a deeply appreciated safe haven for me, both online and in-person at local and international YCWI gatherings. In a profession where so many (let's be honest, mostly men) have made their mark by hoarding and selling their best ministry ideas, the free exchanges of ideas, sermons and more continues to be a breath of fresh air. Rarely do I come to a YCWI group with a question or need and come away without something useful to help move me forward.

YCWI sub-groups have been an especially life-giving space for me. At a time of denominational turmoil, my friends in my United Methodist subgroup know the unique pains of pastoring in our context intimately. We not only support each other, we also act in support of those our denomination silences, and have been successful advocates for victims of clergy sexual misconduct across the US. In the Q&Q (queer and questioning) subgroup, I found support as a clergywoman in the closet, and the group became a source of spiritual sustenance and succor as I gradually made my way out of the closet in my personal and professional lives. Without those two sub-groups in particular, I would likely not have survived my first years in ministry.

When the opportunity came this fall to join the board of YCWI, I accepted gladly; I'm thrilled to have a chance to give back a little of what this wonderful organization has given to me. YCWI stands at a crossroads of growth and opportunity, and I'm honored to be among those chosen to guide and protect our sacred spaces in this season of expansion and identity formation. I hope you'll join me in continuing to supporting Young Clergy Women International with your time, talents and treasure in 2022. God is doing a great thing in us and through us! And the best is yet to come.-Kate Mackereth Fulton

THANK YOU!

The generous support and championship of YCWI's mission through financial gifts and sharing the story of the organization continues to make and shape YCWI.

As we look ahead to the plans for 2022 - including a new model for our annual conference with local satellite locations, continued commitment to our work in anti-racism, advocating for the leadership of women throughout the church, and growing as a community filled with grace and hope - we give thanks to God for YOU!

We look forward to the plans that are held for YCWI and for your part in continuing to grow this work and mission in the days ahead!

