

# Covenant Church gains unparalleled faith-based accounting experience with AcctTwo's Managed Accounting Services

## BACKGROUND

Covenant Church was founded 43 years ago as a church committed to reaching people for Christ and empowering them to take steps of spiritual growth in covenant relationship. In October of 2016, there was a generation transition from the founding pastors to their son, Pastor Stephen Hayes, as the Senior Pastor of the four DFW metroplex campuses. Covenant Church continues to be dedicated to life change and to seek to reflect the diversity each community, while lifting high the values of the Kingdom.

## OPENING THE DOOR TO OUTSOURCING

Pastor Misty deMelo, Covenant Church's Executive Chief of Staff, spoke to us about their decision to outsource their accounting using AcctTwo's Managed Accounting Services (MAS), and about the Sage Intacct platform on which AcctTwo delivers those services.

"When we first engaged with AcctTwo, we employed a full accounting department. After our initial generational leadership transition, a series of events opened the door to the idea of outsourcing some administrative departments; one of which was accounting. At that time, we had two accounting positions that had been open for over a year, which led to unnecessary stress on the department. It is incredibly hard to find people with the right skillset that are willing to commit themselves to our church and our values," says Pastor Misty.

The AcctTwo faith-based Managed Accounting Services team has over 30 years of Christian-focused financial experience and has implemented



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Pastor Misty deMelo, Covenant Church's Executive Chief of Staff



over 140 churches, missions, and Christian camps on Sage Intacct. “We loved AcctTwo’s experience with large churches. After deciding to go with AcctTwo’s Managed Accounting Services, they paired us with Shelly Einspahr, one of AcctTwo’s Faith-Based Controllers, and we felt immediately comfortable. Shelly is so strategic and knows large churches so well that she’s on the same wavelength as us. In addition, AcctTwo interviewed and hired two of my accounting team members. Having them in the AcctTwo family and on our MAS team is fantastic.”

## THE SEARCH FOR A MODERN SOLUTION

From a technology standpoint, Covenant Church’s accounting system, Abila, wasn’t cutting it. With a new generation of pastors, Covenant Church also started outsourcing their Information Technology services. In addition to IT advancements, they wanted a modern, cloud-based, best-in-class accounting solution. On the Sage Intacct platform, Covenant Church’s leadership team can access customized and robust dashboards and reports.

“Before Sage Intacct, if we had questions we needed to go to Accounting and have them run a report. Now, the answers are at our fingertips. It has made our leadership team extremely self-sufficient,” says Pastor Misty. With customized dashboards, Covenant Church can track mission funds (local, national, global), operating costs, payroll, and budget to actual income. For a church in this age, it is so important to empower their pastors with financial information so that they can be good stewards of God’s grace.

## ABOUT ACCTTWO

**AcctTwo is focused on delivering the future of finance and accounting to our customers.** Our dedicated team of over 100 people has helped more than 800 organizations optimize finance and accounting through software implementations, accounting outsourcing, and consulting. AcctTwo has been recognized by Sage Intacct as its Partner of the Year from 2014 – 2018 and by our customers as a leader in overall satisfaction and popularity through their reviews on G2.

AcctTwo is headquartered in Houston, Texas. For more information, please visit [www.accttwo.com](http://www.accttwo.com) or call **713-744-8400**.

## MANAGED ACCOUNTING SERVICES RESULTS

Covenant Church’s accounting hadn’t been reconfigured in a very long time. There was a lot of cleanup and modernization that needed to happen. AcctTwo worked with Covenant Church to:

- Streamline their chart of accounts
- Eliminate unnecessary entries
- Simplify their accounting processes
- Create reports that were useful and informative to help push their mission forward and communicate results compared to core mission objectives
- Keep finance team headcount low
- Provide proper accounting procedures and guidance

In addition, the Chief of Staff and COO were able put more time and energy into the mission and less time into overseeing the financial aspect of the organization. “The successful partnership between Covenant Church and AcctTwo is key to its success. I trust AcctTwo. They understand our environment and mission,” says Pastor Misty.

“I truly enjoy working with Covenant Church; they are very receptive to new ways of doing things if it can be shown that it increases efficiency without jeopardizing financial integrity. I love how mission-minded they are; seeing the work they do is encouraging,” says Shelly Einspahr, Controller at AcctTwo.

## ADVICE TO ANYONE CONSIDERING OUTSOURCED ACCOUNTING AS A SOLUTION

“Be bold. Things will change – don’t be afraid to do things a new way. Do your homework and think about things differently,” says Pastor Misty.