



Diocese of Toronto
Anglican Church of Canada

162nd Regular Session of Synod

November 17 – 18, 2023

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1. ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF TORONTO FOUNDATION

Introduction

Incorporated in 1999, the Anglican Diocese of Toronto Foundation (ADTF), exists to provide financial support to the Diocese of Toronto or any parish of the Diocese. It is the key charitable arm of the Diocese of Toronto tasked with raising legacy and endowment funds for the Episcopacy, FaithWorks, diocesan parishes, and the wider needs of the church community.

Mission

The Foundation resources the Diocese of Toronto and local parishes as they plant and grow bold strategic initiatives for the future of God's Church.

Supporting Objectives

- To perpetually support the Bishop of Toronto in proclaiming the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
- To invest in new and emerging ministries
- To invite gifts of encouragement as demonstrated by the early Church (Acts 4: 36-37)

Funds

The Foundation retains assets of over \$14,500,000. In the last 5 years, over \$2,000,000 has been distributed. The Foundation currently provides financial assistance through the following funds and endowments:

- Anglican Community Development Fund
- Clergy and Theological Student Endowment
- John Strachan Trust to Fund the Office of the Bishop of Toronto
- The Archbishop Colin R. Johnson Fund for Clergy and Lay Education
- FaithWorks Endowment
- Canon Robert L. Falby Memorial Endowment for Aboriginal Ministry
- Most Rev. Fred Hiltz Scholarship
- Douglas C. Cowling Bursary in Liturgical Music
- W. Alex and Shirley Johnson Memorial Endowment (for St. John, East Orangeville)
- Howland Estate
- Canon Shea Fund

The ADTF invests its assets with two independent investment management firms: RBC Phillips, Hager & North Investment Counsel and Burgundy Asset Management.

Distributions

The Foundation made the following distributions totaling \$680,099 for 2023:

FUND	AMOUNT	PURPOSE
Anglican Diocese of Toronto Fund – Theological Education	\$24,362	To assist with theological education bursaries



Anglican Community Development Fund	\$2,270	Designated to children's ministry in "at-risk" neighborhood (St. Bart's, Regent Park Breakfast Ministry)
FaithWorks Endowment	\$99,419	Allocation to FaithWorks
Howland Estate	\$16,859	To assist clergy at the discretion of the Bishop
Shea Fund	\$4,213	To assist clergy at the discretion of the Bishop
Samuel Chamberlain Fund	\$10,232	For FaithWorks ministries in the City of Toronto
Office of the Bishop of Toronto	\$477,000	Includes remuneration, expenses, and office costs (budgeted contribution)
Anglican Diocese of Toronto Fund	\$4,966	Travel grant for Bishops
Canon Falby Endowment for Aboriginal Ministry	\$20,801	Subsidy for cleric in Aboriginal Ministry
Douglas C. Cowling Bursary*	Varies	To a Parish Director of Music in the Diocese of Toronto
The Most Rev. Fred Hiltz* Scholarship	Varies	To assist with expenses in attending St. George College in Jerusalem
Alex & Shirley Jackson Memorial Endowment	\$975	Annual payment for operations of St. John, East Orangeville
The Archbishop Colin R. Johnson Fund for Clergy and Lay Education	\$19,002	Evenly split between Community of Deacons and Lay Education at discretion of the College of Bishops.

* Allocation withheld due to pandemic

Board Members

The Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors comprised of five (5) clergy and six (7) laity who are active members of the Anglican Diocese of Toronto. These include:

Mr. John Whincup (Chair)
 Mr. Stu Hutcheson ODT (Treasurer)
 Ms. Leslie Hadju ODT (Secretary)

The Right Reverend Andrew Asbil
 The Reverend Adrienne Clement
 The Reverend Molly Finlay



Ms. Mary Pember, ODT
The Rev. Shelley Pollard
Mr. Ryan Ramsden ODT
The Right Reverend Kevin Robertson
Mr. Stephen Rodaway ODT
Ms. Gail Smith

Direct staff support is provided by:

Ms. Mary Lynne Stewart, Executive Director

2. **CHURCH OF SOUTH INDIA, TORONTO**

Praising God Almighty for His abundant blessings that guided us through one more year in the post pandemic era. Remembering all the forerunners; The Clergy and The Laity; who have given valuable leadership to this congregation in the past. We thank Almighty God for enabling us to be part of this blessing too. We like to take this opportunity to share some of the activities we had done in the last year. We are very fortunate to have vibrant talented members again this year to lead the ministries in the church. The relentless dedication, hard work and continued support of the members are the key contributions to the growth of our Church, especially during this challenging time. Many new members joined the church this year - A warm welcome to all the new members!

Painting/Clean-up of the Church Parsonage at 1311 Kipling Avenue - Men's Fellowship undertook painting/clean-up project, of the church parsonage. The planned date for the painting was June 12th, 2022 after the General Body meeting. Special thanks to Hans Thomas, Director of MF for coordinating this major project.

Warm welcome to our new Vicar, Reverend Binu Philip - Reverend Binu Philip, and his son Dan Philip arrived at the Toronto Pearson Airport on Thursday, June 16th, 2022. Rev. Binu conducted the Holy Communion Service on Sunday, June 19th, 2022. We hope and pray that Vicar's wife Roshen, and his two other children Darshan and Diya will be able join us soon.

Men's Fellowship Annual Fishing Event - Men's Fellowship annual fishing event took place on Saturday, June 25th, 2022 at Timeless Cottages, Bolin Road, Peterborough.

Missions Retreat - Missions Retreat was held on July 16th, 2022 at our church. Thanks to Christopher Moothedom, Missions Director for the coordinating the retreat.



Kerala Christian Ecumenical Fellowship - St Thomas Day - KCEF St Thomas Day celebration took place on July 16th, 2022. This hybrid celebrations took place at the CSI Church, Toronto.

Vacation Bible School (VBS) - The virtual vacation Bible School (VBS) was held from July 20th and 21st, 2022 and in-person on July 23rd, 2022. Three days of fun filled activities as our children learned the word of God.

Church Annual Family Picnic - Church annual family picnic was held on August 27th, 2022 at the Petticoat Creek Conservation Park. A time to have fellowship with each other in the outdoor. It was a great success.

Back to school Sunday - Back to school special prayer for all students, teachers and school administration staff was held on Sunday, September 4th, 2022.

Choir Sunday - Sunday, September 11th, 2022 was observed as Choir Sunday. Thanks to Chris George, Director of Choir for coordinating the activities of the day.

Kerala Christian Ecumenical Fellowship – KCEF Bible Quiz Competition - KCEF Bible Quiz Competition took place on September 17th, 2022. Our church team won the first place.

CSI Anniversary - Diamond jubilee - Sunday, September 25th, 2022 was observed as CSI Diamond Jubilee.

Mission Sunday - Sunday, September 18th, 2022 was observed as Mission Sunday. Thanks to Christopher Moothedom, Director of Mission, for coordinating the activities of the day.

Senior Citizen's Sunday - Special prayers were offered for the senior citizen's during the worship service on September 25th, 2022.

Hybrid Thanksgiving & Harvest Festival - Thanksgiving & Harvest Festival was held on October 23rd, 2022. With gratitude, we acknowledge the good participation of our members. Praise God for His presence and guidance through the entire planning of the event and the countless blessings we enjoy every day in our life.

Youth Retreat – The Youth Retreat was held from September 29th to October 1st, 2022 at the Anchor Retreat Centre in Gilmour, Ontario. Rev. Binu Philp was the main speaker for the retreat.



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Youth Sunday - Sunday, October 31st, 2022 was observed as Youth Sunday. Thanks to Jefin Mathews, Director of Youth Fellowship for coordinating the activities of the day.

Women's Fellowship Retreat - The Women's Fellowship Retreat was held on November 5th, 2022. Rev. Roji M. Abraham and Mrs. Ancy Roji Mathews from Marthoma Church, Markham, were the main speakers for the retreat.

World Children's Sunday - Sunday, November 6th, 2022 was observed as World Children's Sunday. Samuel Anselm Samuel gave the message. Our Sunday School Children and teachers took part in the lay ministry.

Youth Christmas Get-Together - Youth Christmas Get-Together took place December 23rd, 2022 at the residence Abraham P. George. Thanks to Jefin Mathews, Director of Youth Fellowship for coordinating the activities of the day.

Kerala Christian Ecumenical Fellowship (KCEF) Carol Service - KCEF carol service was held on Saturday, November 19th, 2022 at The Canadian MarThoma Church. Our Church choir participated in the program.

Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols - Our Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols, titled "Bring Us Hope", was held on Saturday, December 17th, 2021 at 6:00pm. A traditional service of Choral music, Scripture readings and Congregational hymns.

Christmas Day Service - Worship Service was conducted on Christmas Day at 10:00 am. Sunday School children presented a special Christmas program immediately after the service.

Watchnight Service - Our watchnight started at 10:00 pm on December 31st, 2021 with prayer followed by Holy Communion and Covenant Service

The Annual General Body meeting held on Sunday, February 28th, 2023 was chaired by Rev. Binu Philip, Vicar and President of CSI Church, Toronto. The Annual Reports and Financials for 2022 were accepted and Budget for 2023 was passed by the General Body.

We are extremely thankful for all your kind gestures of care and love. We are extremely thankful to Rt. Rev. Andrew Ausbil (Bishop, The Anglican Diocese of Toronto) and Rt. Rev. Dr. Malayil Sabu Koshy Cherian (Bishop, CSI Madhya Kerala



Diocese) for the Episcopal supervision to our congregation. They continue to be pillars of support in our faith journey.

3. ST. JOSEPH'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

The year under review (2022/2023) has seen a slow but steady recovery process and we are hopeful in God. St Joseph's Church added a few new programs to our portfolio to draw in slacking members and also attract new ones.

Some of the programs embarked upon include the following below:

- Food support to help families in the church.
- Online Worship services are still ongoing simultaneously with in person services.
- Fund Raising programs initiated to help deal with our financial crises including:
 - a. Flea Market
 - b. Main Fundraiser in October
 - c. Special Offerings on first Sundays of the month
- Special Programs like: Wellness and Mental Health, financial Literacy, Spiritual Emphasis Month and Volunteering Talks
- Service with St. Matthias is still ongoing.
- St Joseph's Cultural Group (drumming, dancing, and singing) to connect the religion and the culture of the people.

The Lay leaders (Wardens) of the church included the following:

- Peoples Warden: Lily Agyarko
- Ass. Peoples Warden: Joyce osei
- Priest Warden: William Akraasi Sarpong
- Ass. Peoples Warden: Charles Ebo Mayne Jnr
- Treasurers: Kwesi Amo Jnr

CHURCH LIFE

We are back to full in person even though attendance has been a roller coaster. Numbers swing from 45 to 100 depending on the program for the day. We however continue to receive an average of 4 visitors a month.

Online worship services have become a constant in our church life. Our various online portals include 2 Facebook platforms (St. Joseph Anglican Church, Toronto, and Rev. Kenneth Korsah) YouTube: which is redistributed via WhatsApp increased during this period. Zoom has always been used to connect persons to our live and in person services. We have continued to employ social media to embark on the following:

- Advertise and execute our Online Services (Bible Studies, Prayer Meetings and Teaching Services)
- Raise funds for the church, advertising the church's e-transfer accounts.



Some of the special liturgical activities apart from Sunday Divine Worship included the following:

Births	-	2
Baptisms	-	2
Bereavements	-	1

SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND PASTORAL CARE

Most services are now in hybrid format including the following:

- Thursdays ARENA OF PRAYER
- Friday Relationship and Marriage Discussion via Zoom on all Social Media platform
- Saturday's Youth and Children's engagement
- Sunday Thematic Divine Services (at 11:15am)
- Sunday Divine Services with St. Matthias at 10:00am
- Monthly Prayer Vigils (8:30pm – 12:00am) on last Fridays of each month.
- Periodic phone calls and visitations are made to members by priests and visitation team to check up on them and their families to help facilitate parishioner's pastoral care needs; where necessary.

CHALLENGES

Our biggest challenge throughout the period under review has been consistency in attendance and finances which impact every area of church life especially our rector's accommodation rent and indebtedness to the diocese. We hope our finances would improve even more as people keep coming to church.

CONCLUSION

We keep working, we keep believing and we keep praying that the ministry of St. Joseph's bounces back to make gains to contribute our quota to the wellbeing and ministry of the Diocese of Toronto. God is our helper.

THE REV. KENNETH KORSAH | PRIEST IN CHARGE

4. INCORPORATED MINISTRY IN FLEMINGDON PARK

I would like to thank all members of the Synod for this opportunity to share our thoughts and lessons learned and reflect on the challenges and the experiences we went through in 2023. This has been a very difficult year for Flemingdon Park Ministry, our finances are extremely tight and the demand for our services has grown considerably. Our core funding was reduced and although our hard work resulted in an increase in donations and grants, money is never enough to properly respond to



the challenges our clients face and the proper support and help we are devoted to providing.

Our farm, The Common Table, that feeds more than 100 families a week during the harvest season, is facing closure due to lack of funding. We are embarked in an aggressive fund-raising campaign to try to save the farm and at the same time we are exploring partnerships that would allow us to find a way to continue alleviating food insecurity in our community and providing educational opportunities for at-risk-youth, families, and children.

At the office, we have decreased expenses to the bare minimum, and we had to take the harsh decision of letting go employees, leaving just two full time staff to manage all the programs and administration of our organization. It's hard work, but our priority is serving the community as we have been doing for so many years.

Programs

- **Drop -in:** we receive around 80 people every week for breakfast, clothes, housewares. It is a great opportunity for newcomers to socialize, make new connections, and learn about services in the community.
- **English Conversation:** the demand for this program has grown so much that we had to add a new group to the two existing ones. At present we are running two low level and one intermediate group with a total of around 50 participants per week. We are now trying to incorporate a literacy group since many of the new arrivals are illiterate.
- **Women's Program:** there has been a renewed interest for this program that runs once a week with around 15 participants. We encourage them to share their skills and teach each other so that they establish social connections and learn about their new Canadian social environment.
- **Quran Class:** every week around 10 participants get together to learn Arabic and be able to read and understand the religious text in its original language.
- **Health and Wellness:** following our clients' interest, we added a new session. Now we run this fun and active program for women four times a week.
- **Bread distribution:** thanks to our generous donor – Cobb's Bread – we can distribute bread and pastries every 2 weeks, around 50-80 families come to receive this sweet benefit!
- **Food and Friendship:** Thanks to a generous group of donors we are running this very much anticipated event twice a year. Around 100 residents are invited to participate of each event. In our continuous effort to help residents of Flemingdon Park, in 2023 we chose ladies from our neighbourhood as caterers, their food was delicious and very well received and appreciated by the attendees. We also added a Silent Auction where residents could choose to bid for unexpensive items and, in that way, feel that they are helping us continue helping them. This initiative was very well received so we will add it to our next event in December.



- **Food Distribution:** as usual, food hampers were distributed to 80+ families every week. Due to the relentless increase in food prices, we have now a waiting list to access this program but unfortunately, we do not have funding to respond to the demand.
- **Senior Wellness:** Our stable group of 40+ seniors continue attending this fun and active group every week. When weather permits, the group moves outdoors to enjoy the sun!
- **Senior Food Distribution:** We continue providing fresh vegetables, eggs, milk, and some groceries to around 50 seniors every week, the cost of food has impacted everyone, especially seniors, so we have increased the number of recipients.
- **Hair Cuts:** we continue offering this service free of charge once a week.
- **Bible Study:** this program runs once a week, participation has been increasing, we now have around 15 participants per session.
- **Art Class:** new weekly program that helps people with emotional trauma to express through art.
- **Tax Clinic:** after the two-year COVID hiatus, we went back to the in-person format. We helped around 80 families complete their tax return and learn about benefits that they might be entitled to.
- **Community Gardens:** The City of Toronto keeps entrusting us with the administration of the 109 plots at the Community Gardens on Grenoble Ave, that we assign to Flemingdon Park residents to grow vegetables for their own consumption. This is another example of our continuous efforts to educate our community and fight food insecurity.
- **Young Farmers:** Students in grades 9-12 come to the farm every day for 2 weeks to learn about sustainable farming, we teach students practical skills that can help alleviate the food insecurity most of them experience at home.
- **Workshops on Pollinators:** students (G 3-8) learn about the fundamental role insects play in agriculture.
- **Mini Farmers:** Students (JK-Gr 5) learn how to grow your own vegetables; they were given their own plots to make their first attempt as “mini-farmers”.

In writing this brief account of the year, I am truly amazed and infinitely grateful for the generosity of our donors, the tireless commitment of our minuscule staff, the dedication of our devoted volunteers, and the constant support of our Board. Every day is a struggle to find the financial resources we so desperately need, the only thing that keeps me and my staff going is the certainty that what we do is valued and appreciated by the community. We respond to a need that would go unattended and unheard without us; we hope God will help us find the support we need to keep fulfilling our mission.

Respectfully submitted,

MARIA REOLIN | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



5. POSTULANCY COMMITTEE (CANON 34)

The Postulancy Committee, governed by Canon 34, exists to discern vocations to the priesthood from eligible applicants for postulancy, to advise the Bishop and College of Bishops on the selection of postulants, and to provide ongoing support and formation for postulants anticipating ordination. (The discernment and selection of candidates to the vocational diaconate is a different process that occurs under the auspices of the Community of Deacons, as described in the report from Archdeacon Kyn Barker.)

The Chair of the Postulancy Committee is the Bishop of Toronto, with additional leadership provided by the Diocesan Executive Assistant Canon Mary Conliffe and the two co-coordinators, the Rev. Canon Janet Read-Hockin and the Rev. Mark Regis. Additional membership on the Committee includes Mr Bill Benson ODT, the Rev. Julie Burn, Dr Anita Gittens ODT, Ms Elizabeth Hill ODT, the Rev. Ian LaFleur, the Rev. Lisa Newland, the Rev. Canon Stephen Peake, the Rev. Canon Geoff Sangwine, the Rev. Canon Nicola Skinner, the Rev. Kevin Wong, and Ms Marge Watters Knebel ODT. Unfortunately, Ms Beth Kinghan ODT retired from the Committee in May; we thank her for her dedication and wisdom over eleven years of faithful service. We welcomed however the new Canon Pastor, the Rev. Canon Susan Haig, to the Committee, who brings insight and experience to Postulancy starting in the fall. The two Suffragans, Bishop Riscylla Shaw and Bishop Kevin Robertson, attend all working group sessions and meetings of the Postulancy Committee, while representatives from the two Anglican theological colleges - Professor Marsha Hewitt from Trinity College and the Rev. Dr. Peter Robinson from Wycliffe College – are present in an advisory capacity when decisions are made.

While we continue to be concerned about the unusually low (for Toronto) number of applicants during and since the pandemic, we are grateful to God for the sufficient number of high calibre candidates that have presented themselves for consideration, and we believe that there is an observable increasing interest in exploring the priesthood. We continue to pray for new vocations, and ask the Church to help us in the work of identifying and encouraging future clergy.

In spring of 2023, 6 individuals applied for postulancy to the priesthood, five of whom were accepted. (The sixth was encouraged to reapply another year.) Adding these to our continuing (second-year) postulants, we are delighted with our current complement of ten and invite you to pray for them by name: Amy Pauley, Becca Whitla, Denise Byard, Jonathan Kang, Mackenzie Wolf, Matthew Waterman, Michael Brain, Oliver Lim, Rajini Lyman, and Tiffany Robinson. We rejoice in the diversity of our postulants – theological as well as by age, sexuality, race, culture and language – and hope that that diversity will grow as more candidates apply.

An additional Bishop's Committee that functions as a sub-group of the Postulancy Committee is the Bishop's Advisory Committee for the Reception of Orders (BACFRO), a group that considers those priests episcopally ordained in other



traditions and would like to have their Orders recognized by the Anglican Church of Canada. The BACFRO committee has been reinstated in the past two years. It is staffed by Canon Mary Conliffe, with Bishop Peter Fenty as the Chair, clergy members the Rev. Canon Sister Constance Joanna Gefvert, the Rev. Canon Richard Dentinger, the Rev. Don Beyers, the Rev. Kevin Wong, and lay member Ms Laurie Robertson. (Dr Arlene Ralph also served for a time in 2022.) It was through the BACFRO process that Bishop Andrew Asbil received the orders of the Rev. Max Price from the Roman Catholic Church in Spring 2023. A new applicant is currently under consideration.

The Postulancy Committee recognizes that the work of discernment and formation for ordained ministry is a privilege and a trust. We engage in this work from a position of humility and an attitude of prayer, seeking always to be open and faithful to the leading and direction of the Holy Spirit. We are confident in God's provision for clergy leadership for Christ's Church, and count ourselves blessed to walk alongside those who are journeying into their ministry of Word and Sacrament, in hope and promise. We seek your prayers.

6. CONSTITUTION AND CANONS COMMITTEE (CANON 37)

Please refer to the Section E of the Convening Circular of 2022 Regular Synod in the Diocese of Toronto Website.

7. INVESTMENT COMMITTEE (CANON 39)

- Under the new governance structure, the Finance Committee is responsible for all financial matters, including the management of the investments of the Consolidated Trust Fund (CTF) and Cemetery Fund. The Finance Committee has oversight of the Investment Committee which adheres to the parameters set out under Canon 39 (currently suspended). The Investment Committee meets at least four times a year to review the results of the Funds and to set policy directions. The Investment Policy Statement can be found in the Parish Finance Manual.
- Members of the Committee include - Mr. David MacNicol (Chair), Mr. Graham Beck, Mr. Stephen Rodway, Mr. Peter Stanley, Mr. Julian Scarfe, Mr. Kennedy Marshall, The Rev. Ian LaFleur and the Rev. Canon Dr. Eric Beresford.
- The Investment Committee has given the management of the funds to five managers - Burgundy Asset Management, Letko Brosseau and Associates Inc., 1832 Asset Management L.P., Manulife Investment Management and Northleaf capital.
- RBC Investor & Treasury Services is the custodian for the Burgundy and Letko investment funds.
- 1832 Asset Management L.P. is the investment manager for the Cemetery Fund and Scotia Trust is the trustee.



- The fund managers' performance is measured against a moving five-year benchmark. The benchmarks used for each fund is shown in the table as follows:

Fund Manager	Benchmark
Letko Brosseau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FTSE Canada Universe Bond return Index • S&P/TSX • MSCI EAFE • S&P 500
Manulife Investment Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FTSE Canada Universal Bond
1832 Asset Management L.P. - CTF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S&P /TSX • S&P/500 • MSCI EAFE • FTSE Canada 91 Day T-Bill Index
1832 Asset Management L.P. - Cemetery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dex Universe Index • S&P /TSX • S&P 500 • SC 31 days T-Bill index
Burgundy Asset Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FTSE Canada 91-days T-bill index • MSCI EAFE • S&P 500
Northleaf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annualized Canadian 3-month Treasury bill + 5%

- The dividend yield rate and dividend distributed per unit for 2023 is as follows:

Fund	Dividend yield rate	Dividend distribution per Unit
Consolidated Trust	4.25%	\$ 10.38
Cemetery	2.81%	\$ 4.84

- For CTF, the audited unit value as at December 31, 2022 is \$253.7457 and \$279.4724 as at December 31, 2021. The unaudited unit value as at June 30, 2023 is \$266.7997.



- For CEM, the audited unit value as at December 31, 2022 is \$169.5215 and \$188.3816 as at December 31, 2021. The unaudited unit value as at June 30, 2023 is \$172.9468.
- Historic information on the investment funds can be found on the Diocesan website at the link below:

<https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/parish-administration/finance/investments/>

8. YORK RECTORY COMMISSIONERS (CANON 46)

- Under Canon 46, the Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Toronto delegates to a board of three commissioners, the power to apportion the surplus income derived from the endowment of the First York Rectory and the Etobicoke Glebe funds.
- Members of the current Board of Commissioners are:
 - Ms. Marg Creal, Chancellor
 - The Rev. Shelly Pollard
 - Ms. Joy Packham

Funds	Jan - June 30, 2023	Jan – Dec 2022
<u>York Rectory Fund</u>		
<u>Capital Account</u>		
January 01	15,244,027	16,789,584
Change in Market value	784,232	(1,545,557)
Balance December 31, 2022		15,244,027
Balance June 30, 2023	16,028,259	
<u>Dividend Account</u>		
January 01	1,538,249	1,270,870
Cumulative Grants distributed to previous quarter	(910,620)	(705,620)
Income Generated	311,794	617,581
Distribution to incumbents / Grants	(267,834)	(555,202)
Balance December 31, 2022		627,629



Balance June 30, 2023	671,589	
Projected Income – July -Dec 2023	311,794	
Remaining Distribution – July -Dec 2023	(172,834)	
Projected balance December 31, 2023	810,549	
<u>Etobicoke Glebe Fund</u>		
<u>Capital Account</u>		
January 01	296,093	326,114
Change in Market value	15,233	(30,020)
Balance December 31, 2022		296,093
Balance June 30, 2023	311,326	
<u>Dividend Account</u>		
January 01	61,763	56,968
Income Generated	6,056	11,995
Distribution to incumbents / Grants	(3,600)	(7,200)
Balance December 31, 2022		61,763
Balance June 30, 2023	64,219	
Projected Income – July -Dec 2023	6,056	
Remaining Distribution – July -Dec 2023	(3,600)	
Projected balance December 31, 2023	66,675	

AREA COUNCILS

9. YORK - SIMCOE

The York-Simcoe Episcopal area covers the northwestern area of the diocese and consists of 47 parishes – 28 single-point and 19 multi-point – with a total of 74



congregations. It includes York Region and Simcoe County made up of the deaneries of Nottawasaga, Huronia, Holland, and Tecumseth.

The York-Simcoe Area Council has gone through significant changes since the 2022 diocesan synod. The post-COVID experience has meant working on and discussing new areas of ministry as well as incorporating diocesan restructuring changes. However, even with these significant alterations, the council's aim continues to be that it supports ministries in the area, allocates Ministry Development Grants, and provides a variety of programs for clergy and lay people.

There were some shifts in the council makeup in 2023. The council's chair The Rev. Canon Darrell Wright stepped down as he became part of a new territory, Sarah Grondin stepped away as Youth Ministry Area Coordinator to be ordained, and the admin assistant for the area, Jenn Kean, moved to another diocesan position. Their guidance and leadership over the years will be missed and we thank them for their important contributions.

York-Simcoe council continued to work to support ministry in the area with the following grants:

- St. John, Oak Ridges – Mandarin Ministry Program
- Parish of Georgina – Summer Park Chaplaincy Program
- Area VBS program
- Bishop Lucy – Coral Harbour Nunavut – Money to support building a parish hall for outreach.
- Pride bus funding
- St. Christophers – Triannual Asian Spring Conference
- St. Lukes, Creemore – Community Food bank Ministry
- St. John's East Orangeville – Trust yourself to Garden – Building community with Syrian refugees through an outreach initiative to decrease food insecurity.
- St. James, Orillia supported by St. Davids, and St. Athanasius Orillia – Community Hub: Breakfast Program, Loonie Lunch, Pennywise Thrift Store, and HeARTS Seniors Program

There will be continued conversations around Cast the Net and more work to support new and innovative ministries in the area as the York-Simcoe Area Council moves forward in 2023.

10. YORK – SCARBOROUGH

The York-Scarborough Area Council supports and celebrates the life and ministry of five Deaneries within the Diocese: Scarborough, Eglinton, Toronto East, St James, and York Mills.

Under the guidance and leadership of Bishop Kevin Robertson; the Regional Deans, clerical, youth leaders, and lay representatives from those Deaneries have worked to



encourage innovative ministry plans and learned more about the way in which the Gospel is being heard and lived in the 60 parishes.

Highlights of some of the work from the past year include:

- the support of a growing and vibrant youth ministry program under the able joint leadership of Ian Physick and Sara Mair.
- Along with other Area Councils, through a Ministry Development Grant, we supported the 4-Parish Anglican Joint Spring Conference at St John, Willowdale.
- Also through a Ministry Development Grant, St John the Baptist, Norway was able to secure the loan of The St John's Bible to increase and nurture the creative arts community and invited neighbouring parishes for a unique time of learning and fellowship.
- We also invested in Leadership Development of clergy from Trinity East attending the Alpha Collective Course.
- We supported 11 young people starting their post-secondary school programs through our bursary grants.

Over the past year, the realization of the pending motion to suspend the current Area Council structure has been one we knew was coming.

The new structure of the 5 Archdeaconries, born out of the hard work of the Episcopal Leadership Working Group, is one that has introduced change, but it has not dulled the spirit of the York-Scarborough Area Council to fulfill its mandate of support and encouragement.

Although there have been many standing members of this council over the years, we give thanks for the commitment and hard work done by the incredible administrative assistance provided by Sue Willoughby and from its current members: The Rt Rev Kevin Robertson, The Rev Carol Brunton, The Rev Canon Greg Carpenter, The Rev Andrea Christensen, Bob Horne, The Rev Leonard Leader, The Rev Shelley McVea, Sarah Mair, The Rev Nicholas Morkel, Ian Physick, Ryan Ramsden, The Rev Pamela Rayment, The Rev Canon Geoff Sangwine, Maxwell Wynter,

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev Canon Greg Carpenter

Regional Dean of Scarborough

BISHOP'S COMMITTEES

11. COMMITTEE ON HEALING MINISTRIES



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Healing arises from a deep listening and presence, to God, to God's love and, to all whom we meet and all who are beyond our borders and doors. This means we let go of assumptions, holding power, fear of the unfamiliar and learn what is needed, or wanted, with eyes and ears open. This is a casting of nets from the other side. Jesus calls us to turn his way, with a willingness to see different lives, to participate in God's realm and open our hearts, to allow ourselves to hear and benefit from all the possibilities God brings to creation. We participate in the vast healing love given to us in Christ, individually and in community. The charter for our committee begins by quoting Paul's letter to the Romans, "We, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another" The work of healing ministries cannot be separated from Christ's love through whom we live well together.

Healing is a loving and active word. Involving mind, body and spirit. Each intertwine and weave together in our lives to support whole health. Sometimes the Spirit needs to carry mind and body. Healing work has a foundation that is spiritual, Spirit-filled in the trusted embrace of God, to bring healthy hope, peace, and joy. Sometimes the body is hurt, or unwell and healing ministries bring presence and prayer, and the support for care, recovery and wholeness, into the world of healthcare. Sometimes the mind is hurt or exhausted or lonely and the work of healing is active listening, accompaniment and seeking God together.

We have representation on the committee from various branches of healing ministries including, lay and ordained health-care chaplains, faith community (parish) nurses, lay anointers, lay pastoral visitors, and seniors' ministry. The Committee provides for the coordination and collaboration of the Healing Ministries of the Diocese. We are a resource for the communities and people of the Diocese and promote the networking of resources. We support, develop, coordinate, and present educational material, events and retreats. The Committee is responsible for the ongoing support of Anglicans in our diocese engaged in the healing ministries, through education, training and fellowship. We would be very pleased to hear from you with your questions and about your ideas and needs.

Here are some ways we are living out our responsibility:

- The training for Lay Anointers has resumed, with a new format of one day in-person training. In general, we will arrange for the training twice a year in a parish church. This works particularly well if a parish has a group of folks who are ready for training or discerning a call to be a Lay Anointer. Please contact us about hosting a diocesan training day, or with any questions about the training and licensing. Lay Anointing has a page on the diocesan website.
- [//www.toronto.anglican.ca/diocesan-life/healing-ministries/lay-anointers/](http://www.toronto.anglican.ca/diocesan-life/healing-ministries/lay-anointers/) On this page is general information, including the date of the next training, contact information and a video to about the path to becoming a licensed Lay Anointer.
- There is a Facebook page for Healing Ministries in general and another particularly for Seniors' Ministry. Both are public pages, and a Facebook Account is *not* required. Search for @Ministries2 and @perennials1 on Facebook.



- A video conversation, facilitated by Cynthia Majewski with the Rev. Maria Nightingale, Laurie Robertson, and the Rev. Canon Jo Davies, Learning from the Pandemic, Care for Seniors. It is available to see on our Seniors' Ministry Facebook page.
- Pamphlets are available on each of the ministries of the committee.
- Restructuring and redeveloping the diocesan education for Lay Pastoral Ministry is ongoing and a priority. We have prepared several templates for the one day of virtual or in-person general training. We can also create workshops according to the needs of a parish. We are also beginning the specialty training, i.e., hospice, palliative care visiting and grief care. We look to have resources and references available on the Healing Ministries pages of the Diocesan website. We will begin the work in 2024 on forming teams to lead the courses in the hope and vision to be available to all areas of the diocese. Please contact Jo Davies if you have any questions, needs or want to be involved in training.
- Refresher Days for all ministries of healing have returned. We hope to have these days every year in various churches throughout the diocese, We celebrate the wonderful Refresher Day in May 2023 that included a workshop on ICE (in Case of an Emergency) by a paramedic and a workshop on prayer. We are currently planning a Refresher Day for May of 2024.
- The committee continues to connect with healthcare Chaplains in the Diocese of Toronto who are Anglican (lay and ordained). We are pleased to be actively involved, and to support, a national Anglican Healthcare Chaplains network which continues to focus on Chaplains' needs and their contributions to the life, values and mission of the church.
- With all we have learned from the pandemic about the importance to the care for the health of each other, Cheryle Pollock and Nancy Truscott, the Faith Community nurses on our committee, have created the brochure, Reducing Risk of Infection During Worship and Liturgical Practice.
- This brochure is *available* to download on the diocesan website.
- We continue our new work of visioning and creating a way and resources to offer and respond to the need for prayer for all. This is a pastoral healing ministry, which we are currently naming "A Dose of Prayer". If you have thoughts and experiences to share, please contact one of our committee members.
- We are grateful for the support of Bishop Riscylla Shaw, who has been our link bishop. We are pleased to welcome the care and counsel of Bishop Kevin Robertson. Our current committee members are, The Rev. Canon Jo Davies (chair), The Rev. Greg Lane, Cheryle Pollock, Nancy Truscott, The Rev. Theadore Hunt, The Rev. Grace Caldwell, Cynthia Majewski.

May all that we live, begin and end with the love of Christ.

Respectfully submitted,



JO DAVIES

12. WORKING GROUP ON INTERCULTURAL MINISTRIES

Background

Nine years ago, Archbishop Johnson formed this committee with a mandate arising from the 2011 report, “Being Multicultural, Becoming Intercultural”, which was a study concerned with how we as a Diocese worked to address issues left over from colonization, wherein our systems continue to reflect deep-rooted, structural inequities to which we too often remain blind unless they affect us directly. Our members are deeply committed to the work of promoting racial justice, full representation and equity throughout our beloved Diocese, and you will see below some of the ways in which we act to carry out these goals. We’re an action-oriented working group that meets monthly to pray, plan and strategize so that we can be faithful to our vision.

We work closely with the College of Bishops, and we’ve been blessed by the involvement of Elin Goulden, Social Justice and Advocacy Consultant, and of Bishop Kevin Robertson, who has acted as the Diocesan Diversity Officer, a role which Bishop Riscylla Shaw now holds.

Current

- ABAR (Anti-Bias, Anti-Racism) Training has continued at the Parish level. We’re honoured to have been involved in the early development of this training and its testing, and we have plans in place to meet with the leadership to discuss how our two groups envision overlap and mutual support.
- This year, we’ve looked carefully at how we can enhance and enrich our membership, reaching out particularly to some faithful young members of our Diocese who have helpful skills, lived experience, wisdom and vision. We are truly excited about the fresh insights and direction this will bring, and we look forward to presenting these new members to you.
- We continue to work closely with Black Anglicans of Canada, an important group which provides support, resources and events for our Black Anglican membership. We’ve had some cross-representation between our two groups, and we hope to carry on in collaboration and in the sharing of wisdom and strategy.
- Our Facebook page can be found by searching “Anglican Intercultural Ministry – Toronto”. This page continues to offer informative posts on opportunities around the Diocese to engage in events that address our work, and it also offers reflective articles, essays and questions to ponder. Please seek us out and contribute your own thoughts and responses.
- We continue to be a presence in the Diocese which points to the ways in which optics tell our story. We continue to urge our leaders at all levels to remain keenly



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aware as to whether or not those raised to positions of power amongst us truly represent our vast diversity.

- We continue to be invited to speak and take questions at parish events where issues of race, discrimination or bias are being explored, and there have been some very helpful, life-giving moments arising from these gatherings. If your parish would appreciate such an event (in person or via Zoom) please contact us through our Chair, Andre Lyn, at the email address noted below.
- One of the most important things we continue to do is to absorb pain, fear, confusion and loss of trust as people come to us when they've had an experience of racism in our Diocese. We are the gathered people of God, yet we are human, and although we mean well, blindness and lack of understanding do arise amongst us by which we can deeply hurt one another. We provide support, listening, and a way forward for people who have been hurt. We are also skilled to support parishes or individual members that encounter hate incidents or hate crimes. We have the resources, language and expertise to advise the Diocese and to work with the College of Bishops on policy and protocol for these incidents.

CONTACT US: *If you have questions, or you experience a racial/hate incident and you wish to contact us directly, please use the private email address for our Chair person, Andre Lyn at intercultural.ministry@toronto.anglican.ca . Your safety will be prioritized and your privacy will be respected.*

Looking Ahead

- It's a sad reality that racist incidents have occurred and continue to occur at the parish level and at the individual level in our beloved Diocese. We're working on offering a simple plan for immediate response when this happens. In the first moments of such an event, we find ourselves in shock and disbelief and we often don't know how to act. This plan will help parishes and individuals to immediately follow a few simple steps for safety as they await the advice of their Bishop.
- Since hate incidents occur beyond the issue of racism and include, for example, homophobia and misogyny, we plan to reach out to other leaders in our Diocese to formulate this plan, such as Integrity, the ABAR pods and others striving for similar goals. We are stronger together.
- In order to keep apace with most organizations in our country, we continue to seek to work with the Diocese in the collection of Socio-demographic data so that we remain accountable to ourselves and to our members in terms of recruitment, hiring and remuneration. Analysis of this data will provide much-needed clarity as to the degree to which our current practices reflect our good intentions.

Cast the Net

As we gathered to prepare this report, we took time to prayerfully sit with that beautiful moment in John's gospel where Jesus invites his followers to try a new thing – to cast the net on the other side – and we were deeply moved by the power of the



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story. Since the advent of Covid, much has been lost as fear, anger and despair overwhelm many. The death of the beloved Archbishop Michael Peers calls us to remember his heart-wrenching apology to our Indigenous brothers and sisters, and yet we still face the horrific rising numbers of innocent children tossed unceremoniously into unmarked graves. Within 36 hours of writing, we heard of no less than three hate incidents in our Diocese. In all of this, we continue to cast the net for equity, compassion and hope which is free from judgement. To do this, we see more clearly than ever that we must keep our eyes on Jesus in order to prayerfully help shift a sense of scarcity and suspicion to a theology of abundance and trust. Throughout this gospel, when people work on their own, there isn't enough wine or bread or fish. When we follow Peter and jump in and swim towards that breakfast on the beach, we are nourished in love and made strong enough to do this work – to obey Jesus' call, "Feed my lambs".

Faithfully submitted by,

Andre Lyn, Chair, the Rt. Rev. Kevin Robertson, the Rev. Adrienne Clements, Donna Scantlebury, Lance Wilson, ODT, the Rev. Canon Maurice Francois, the Rev. Leonard Leader, the Rev. Susanne McKim.

13. COMMITTEE ON INTERFAITH MINISTRY

When Cast The Net was launched, Bishop Andrew remarked, "God is calling us to do things in a new way. What will happen if we cast our nets on the other side of the boat?" Interfaith ministry is one attempt "to do things in a new way." It advocates mutual understanding, cooperation, friendship and peace-making in relations with those of other faith traditions. This stands in contrast to more traditional modes of engagement that can presume the superiority of the Christian faith—which history has shown to generate colonial arrogance and violence. In the spirit of the Second Vatican Council, the Bishop's Committee for Interfaith Ministry is casting its net on the other side not so much to "catch" but to learn and build relationships with those in the sea of religious diversity.

Throughout 2023 the Committee has pursued this work on several fronts. On January 30, between the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and World Interfaith Harmony Week, we delivered our first ever educational event on Zoom. Attended by 65 people—clergy and laity from across the Diocese—the event began with presentations by Committee members and breakout rooms discussing why interfaith ministry is important. The second hour featured three panelists—Dr. Jenny Bright (Buddhist), Guru Fatha Singh Khalsa (Sikh), Imam Hai Patel (Muslim)—discussing why interfaith cooperation is important despite the challenges posed to it within their respective faith traditions. The panelists also shared promising interfaith initiatives in which they've participated. Overall this event lived up to everything we hoped it would be. Our goal is to host an annual event with differing topics from year to year.

Members of the Committee each continue their own interfaith work; including, the Rev. Gerlyn Henry is connected to the Vaughan chapter of the Ahmadiyya Muslim



Women's Association, the Rev. Jim Leatch serves on the executive of the Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Toronto, and the Rev. Roshni Jayawardena is part of the Christian Interfaith Reference Group (Canadian Council of Churches). We are pleased to welcome our newest Committee member, the Rev. Claire Latimer-Dennis, who has recently been appointed chaplain of Bishop Strachan School, which has a very diverse religious student body. Claire succeeds Jim Spencer, part of the parish of St. Francis of Assisi in Mississauga, who stepped down after two years of service on the Committee. We are also pleased that Bishop Kevin is now providing episcopal linkage to the Committee. We look forward to having him participate in our bimonthly meetings.

Communication is important to how we go about our work as a Committee. Our webpage—toronto.anglican.ca/diocesan-life/interfaith-ministry—provides liturgical, prayer, and worship resources. We have plans to expand these resources in 2024. Our Committee email address—interfaith@toronto.anglican.ca—also receives regular messages from clergy and laity with questions about interfaith ministry. The Committee co-chairs oversee this account and respond to any and all inquiries.

We look forward to deepening all of this important work in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Roshni Jayawardena and The Rev. Jeff Nowers,
Co-chairs, Bishop's Committee for Interfaith Ministry

14. YOUTH MINISTRY COMMITTEE

Members: The Rev. Brian Suggs, Chair; Sarah Layman, York-Simcoe Area Coordinator (ended June 2023); Cormac Culkeen, Trent-Durham Area Coordinator; Ian Physick, York-Scarborough Area Coordinator; Sarah Mair, York-Scarborough Area Coordinator; Constance Kendall, York-Credit Valley Area Coordinator; The Rev. Ali McIntosh, Michelle Clouter, and Tammy Bussey.

Events:

- On April 26, 2023 we again hosted our VBS & Day Camp Leaders Workshop online. This event provides an opportunity for networking and sharing ideas and resources for those hosting VBS/Day Camp programs in the summer.
- On Saturday, April 29, 2023 we gathered with youth leaders (volunteer or paid) at All Saints, Kingsway who were interested in attending this year's ReCharge Retreat. This was an opportunity to get feedback from last year's event and begin to make plans for this year. It was a good time together reflecting on the past and envisioning what could be. We also spent time together worshipping and praying for the youth of our Diocese.
- On Saturday, May 27, 2023 we held our SPARK Youth Leaders Retreat Day at All Saints, Kingsway. We spent time praying, singing, reading scripture, making prayer beads, eating a delicious lunch together, engaging with the Cast the Net team from



the Diocese, and enjoying reconnecting in-person. This was a great opportunity to be encouraged and refreshed as we worshipped together.

- On June 7, 2023 we held an online Youth Ministry Apprenticeship Program Info Session. This was open to priests in the Diocese who were interested in learning more about this program.
- We were delighted to be back in person this year for the diocesan ReCharge Youth Retreat. We had 87 participants from across the diocese gather on Sept. 23-25, 2023 at Muskoka Woods. It was a beautiful fall weekend, and we enjoyed time together praying, worshipping, eating, playing and even getting some sleep.

Bishop Andrew Asbil joined us on Friday night and was there to greet everyone as the bus rolled in from Toronto and for our first session. Bishop Riscylla Shaw was also in attendance and stayed with us the whole weekend. She made time to chat with youth and youth leaders on Saturday afternoon during free time and celebrated the Eucharist with us on Sunday.

Our theme for the retreat was Redemption: The Story of Us All. Cormac Culkeen, youth coordinator for Trent-Durham and co-coordinator for the Youth Ministry Apprenticeship Program (YMAP), was our speaker for the weekend, and the Rev. Yohan Dumpala, assistant curate at St. John the Baptist, Norway, led us in worship.

YMAP

The Youth Ministry Apprenticeship Program (YMAP) is meant to equip and prepare potential leaders for a youth ministry position in the Diocese of Toronto. YMAP is led by Cormac Culkeen and Rose St. Thomas. We are excited that the word about this amazing program is getting out to the churches and that there continues to be an uptake in inquiries and follow-through with apprentices. This program normally runs from October to June and includes: mentoring, training, fellowship and lots of opportunities to network and build relationships in the Diocese.

Cast the Net

We were happy to engage with the Cast the Net team as youth leaders at our retreat day. It was an insightful conversation and concerns about how the church views and interacts with youth were top of people's mind. In addition, we discussed the lack of priority to engage with youth in many parishes and the ongoing desire for youth ministry to expand in the Diocese but without properly planning and resourcing it.

Our hope is that this feedback is heard and acted upon. It will require doing things differently or "casting the net on the other side of the boat". Current methods and efforts have produced the results we see now, in terms of youth engagement and identification with the church. In order to grow and see more youth becoming disciples of Jesus we have to do things different at every level - parish and diocesan.

Ideas abound on what is needed in order to engage more young people and make disciples of Jesus, but what is first required is listening to how God's Spirit is calling us and then responding with the required effort and resources to live out that calling. There are roadblocks to be removed, prayerfully and with intention, as well as work to be done as we seek to see God's kingdom expand in the hearts and lives of youth in



this Diocese. It is both exciting and scary exploring new waters, but we remain committed to making disciples of Jesus as He has called us to do.

In Faithful Service,
The Rev. Brian Suggs, chair

15. BISHOP'S COMMITTEE ON CREATION CARE

The Bishop's Committee on Creation Care was formed in the Spring of 2020. Since that time, our membership, our focus, and our discernment of how God is calling us, continues to evolve. But the simplest statement of our mission as a committee is this: we seek to invite Anglicans and Anglican parishes throughout our Diocese to **Christ-centred, creation-informed discipleship**, encouraging people to join in the saving work God has already begun in creation.

New project: Hiking Church. In past years, our focus has been on creating educational, devotional, and practical resources such as the Lenten Fast for the Earth, the Lenten curriculum From Ecological Grief to Creational Hope, guides to creating outdoor worship space, practical support for creating community gardens, and so on. This year, we have focused on Hiking Church as a way for parishes to deepen their connection to creation. While the words "hiking church" may conjure up the image of a pristine forest trail, Hiking Church events can and should take place in many different environments: rural, suburban, or urban. The walk begins with a gathering song and prayer, moves to a Eucharist (contextualized for the location), and culminates in a re-gathering, closing prayer and dismissal. During the walk itself, participants are invited to walk in silence, with awareness, noticing signs of life where creation is flourishing, as well as where it is stressed.

Our Chair, the Rev. Susan Spicer, has hosted a number of Hiking Church events, in different contexts, including at the 2023 Clergy Conference. In addition, the Committee has produced a guide and liturgy and a compilation of additional resources, now available on the Diocesan website, for parishes to hold their own such events.

Hiking Church events are a way for a parish to get to know and appreciate their natural surroundings, and to see them as places where God is present, where prayer and worship happen. This deepening of connection to a local place can, ideally, deepen our commitment to caring for it, as well as connect us to others, including Indigenous communities, who love and care for that place. Through the combination of worship and physically expressing our connection to a place by walking in it, we become more open to the deep change of heart that moves us to care for the land in which we have been placed, and the creatures with whom we share it.

Working with other Diocesan Bodies on Practical Greening: Last fall, Synod passed a joint motion from the Property Committee and the Bishop's Committee on Creation Care to have the Diocese of Toronto adopt the Net Zero Churches Network model for the management of Diocesan Property. This model will gradually move our parishes toward the goal of net zero greenhouse gas emissions. It begins with asking



parishes to do a walk-through building and energy audit as part of their five-year building review. A link to a downloadable guide to doing these audits can be found on the Diocesan website. Before a parish embarks on a major renovation or upgrade to its HVAC system, the motion urges the parish to have thermal imaging done where possible and consult with the Diocese about recommended energy solutions. One of our committee members, Roberto Chiotti, who is an architect with extensive expertise in creating sustainable sacred spaces, has made himself available to consult with parishes free of charge about potential energy solutions. Roberto is already working with several parishes in our Diocese. It is our goal to raise up additional experts within the Diocese to assist with consulting on moving our buildings toward the goal of net zero emissions.

In the same vein, we have started conversations with the Investment Committee about how our investment policies and practices reflect our creation care values as a Diocese. We look forward to continuing these conversations with the Investment Committee.

By working together with these committees and other bodies within our Diocese, the Bishop's Committee on Creation Care is committing to find ways to put our shared mission and values into practice.

Looking ahead: As we look ahead to 2023-24 and beyond, we are discussing ways in which we can reach out more systematically to parishes, to introduce them to the work of the Committee and to hear from them what would be most helpful. We are beginning with a survey this fall to find out what parishes are already doing around creation care and what they most need from us. One possibility is a set of Diocesan-approved lectionary resources (including readings, propers, and stories from our Diocesan context) for the Season of Creation, but perhaps parishes feel themselves in greater need of other resources. We look forward to the results of our survey so we can better serve our Diocesan parishes.

We also envision a mailout or other communication with parishes to include helpful resources on practical greening, education, advocacy and worship activities as well as contact information.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Susan Spicer, Chair

16. BISHOP'S COMMITTEE ON RIGHT RELATIONS

Under the strong leadership of the Rev. Leigh Kern and with the support of the Bishop's office, this collaborative was formed firstly to decolonize the language used in our liturgy which pertain to collects, prayers, music and symbols used to mark the National Indigenous Day of Prayer and the observance of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (Orange Shirt Day). Latterly, this collaborative on Right Relations aims to provide protocols and resources for non-Indigenous Anglicans and their parishes when learning from and engaging with our Indigenous siblings. We hope to cast the net and widen the circle of Anglicans who will commit themselves to Indigenous justice and translating for decolonization.



<https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/diocesan-life/social-justice-advocacy/indigenous-justice/?lang=en>

Two Zoom workshops were organised in 2022. The first was held on September 27, 2022 at 7pm when we had Jillian Harris, a knowledge holder, Elder, and former Chief of the Penelakut Tribe who offered teachings on the hidden histories of colonization. Jillian Harris is a Survivor of the notorious Kuper Island Residential School. Jillian also shared the traditions of her homelands and the impact of colonization on her Nation.

On October 11, 2022, at 7pm, Deborah Tagornak, an Inuk author, renowned public speaker, long-time Indigenous rights activist and knowledge keeper, offered teachings on "Inuit Principles and Societal Values: Empowering Capable Human Beings." She coordinates the family wellbeing program at Ottawa-based Inuit organization Inuuqatigiit and is the Inuit advisor to the Anglican Bishop of Ottawa. Deborah Tagornak is an organizer in Inuit health, wellbeing, and innovation. She utilizes traditional knowledge and language to build healthy families and communities. She is a leader, trailblazer, and inspiration to many. We were blessed to welcome and learn from her virtually.

The response to both these workshops was very good as there is a strong desire among Anglicans to learn and be better equipped to support Indigenous justice and be in right relationship with those on whose lands we live and worship.

The collaborative comprising the Rev. Leigh Kern, the 2 co-chairs, the Rev. Canon Simon Li, the Rev. Claudette Taylor and the Rev. Samantha Caravan met regularly by Zoom until the Rev. Leigh Kern went on parental leave. Thereafter, the Rev. Rajathy Gerlyn Henry and the Rev. Maria Ling provided online resources and support to parishes seeking to plan worship services held during the month of June 2023 when many churches observe Indigenous History Month & National Indigenous Day of Prayer. Much of the work of translation had been done before June 2022. The work continues as we hope to have more translation done into languages used in churches in the Diocese of Toronto.

As priests in local parishes, both co-chairs are actively pursuing Indigenous justice within their churches. It is indeed a privilege to share in this important ministry.

Submitted by:

The Rev. Rajathy Gerlyn Henry and the Rev. Maria Ling

OTHER

17. DIOCESAN ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN

The purpose of the Toronto Diocesan Anglican Church Women is to be a focus for Christian community among all Anglican Women, affirming their gifts and encouraging their ministries through fellowship, worship and service.



In 1966, by resolution of General Synod and with the agreement of all involved, Anglican Church Women was formed by the amalgamation of the four existing women's ministries: the Mother's Union, the Chancel Guild, the Church Year and the Women's Auxiliary. On November 22, 1967 the Toronto Diocesan Anglican Church Women was legally incorporated in the Province of Ontario, undertaking to carry forward the aims and programs of all four founding ministries.

Today, the Toronto Diocesan Anglican Church Women is an umbrella organization which assists, informs and encourages the Parish Women's Groups. Through the combined efforts of these Parish Groups, we are able to give financial assistance to various outreach projects. Through the Diocesan ACW newsletter: ideas are shared, Prayer Links for the quarter listed, messages from the Chaplain to ponder over, Parish A.C.W. activities highlighted, Social Concerns and Action projects discussed. The Board of Directors meet monthly, usually by Zoom, to share ideas, discuss financial decisions and report on what is happening with Parish women around the Diocese. Most of the work in the Parishes involves learning about the needs of the changing world around us and providing service and/or funds to those who need our help. Our new 2022 initiative, the sponsoring of regional gatherings for all women for fun and fellowship, has been enthusiastically received. The first gathering was held in October 2022 at St Paul's, Minden focusing on the work of Vocational Deacons. The second was held in April 2023 at Holy Trinity, Thornhill, focusing on 'getting to know you'.

Some Anglican Church Women choose to meet in formal Groups known as "the A.C.W.". These groups allow for more intentional involvement. They provide fellowship and support for their members as well as structure for encouraging their members' ministry and spiritual growth. They are as varied as their members. The number of meetings/events per year, the number of groups, the time the groups meet, the type of activities they wish to be involved in, are all decided by the gifts, needs and interests of the women in their Parish.

At the Diocesan level, our outreach work in this changed world, includes:

- Council of the North – supporting the work of the Council of the North through a major annual donation. In January 2023, we also gave a one-time donation to the newly formed Council of the North Retired Clergy Fund.
- Theological Student Bursaries – providing to assistance to women theological students
- Lay Ministry/Vocational Deacons Bursaries – providing assistance to women pursuing training in Lay Ministry or for the Vocational Diaconate
- Missionary Appeals – providing assistance to women who are participating in a mission event usually outside of Canada
- Threshold Ministries – (formerly Church Army) helping their work and continuing support on behalf of the founding Chancel Guild commitment
- Chancel training and information – sharing knowledge pertaining to Chancels and Sanctuaries of our churches and chapels



- Memorial Book – providing a permanent remembrance for any A.C.W member who has died.
- Ecclesiastical Needleworkers – providing working space and support for the group of women who meet weekly to create and sell altar clothes and small linens as well as custom, hand embroidered vestments and hangings. They also repair and remount old hangings and vestments.
- Social Concern and Action Special Projects – facilitating increased awareness of social issues in our communities, our areas, the nation and the world. Each Area chooses an organization to receive our annual Special Project financial support in keeping with the Social Justice theme, voted on by the members at our AGM. Many groups invite speakers to address them about the various social issues in their communities. The theme for 2022 was Mental Health for Children and Youth. The organizations receiving support in 2022 were: Carea Community Health Centre, The Neighbourhood Organization, New Paths (Simcoe) and Youth Without Shelter.
- Newsletter – publishing a newsletter three/four times a year. The newsletter is sent to every parish in the Diocese earmarked for the women’s groups. Many women choose to have their own personal subscription.
- Ecumenical work – being involved with various ecumenical activities in our Diocese such as World Day of Prayer Services, Catholic Women’s League AGM, WICC.
- Interfaith work – working with members of other faith communities, primarily around children and women’s issues.

Diocesan A.C.W. is funded mainly by donations from Parish Anglican Church Women Groups, most of which money is designated for Council of the North and Special Projects. These donations are supplemented by the sale of public relations items such as A.C.W. and chancel pins, newsletter subscriptions, memorial book inscriptions, P.A.L subscriptions and individual donations. The work of the Ecclesiastical Needleworkers and investment income cover the office expenses.

The 2023 Annual General Meeting was once again by Zoom, with the theme “Having Faith”. Bishop Riscylla Shaw bought greetings from the College of Bishops. We were privileged to have two priests from Henry Budd College for Ministry, The Pas Manitoba, as our guest speakers. Lydia Constant was in conversation with Kara Mandryk about her faith journey in which theology and ministry practice take place in a uniquely Indigenous context.

The National Conference for the Diocesan Presidents of Anglican Church Women was in Cornerbrook, Newfoundland, September 2022. The 2023 Conference will be in October by Zoom. We receive newsletters from several Dioceses to help keep us informed of the ministry of women across Canada and now the Diocesan presidents are having bi-monthly Zoom get-togethers.

We extend our sincere thank you to all who support us through donations, encouragement and prayers.



Respectfully submitted,

Enid Corbett, MA, ODT
President

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

18. TRINITY COLLEGE

“But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare” (Jer 29:7).

New beginnings can be a time of both excitement and nervous energy. In the Faculty of Divinity, we are experiencing both emotions as we find ourselves in the midst of a season of change and experimentation: the launch of our [Reimagining Contemporary Ministries](#) program, enhancements to our field education program, and the building project of the [Lawson Centre for Sustainability](#). All of these undertakings promise to strengthen Trinity College and the Faculty of Divinity and equip it to respond creatively to the needs to the Church in the coming years.

As the 2023-24 academic year begins, we are grateful for many developments in the life of the Faculty over the past year:

On May 6, [17 students](#) graduated from the Faculty, including those receiving Master's and Doctoral degrees (which are awarded conjointly with the University of Toronto) and 3 additional students received a diploma or certificate. We were also delighted to award honorary degrees to the former Primate of Canada, Fred Hiltz, in recognition of his long and distinguished service to the Church.

In October 2022, the Faculty underwent an accreditation review by the North American Association of Theological Schools (ATS), and all its degree programs were re-accredited for another seven years.

The academic year began with some adjustments in staffing. With Chris Brittain on sabbatical in Germany, Marsha Hewitt accepted the role of Acting Dean of Divinity, the [first woman](#) to serve as head of the Faculty of Divinity. She served the Faculty with distinction, including representing the Faculty of Divinity on the Diocese of Toronto's postulancy committee.

Other developments among the teaching staff included welcoming Sister Connie Gefvert, SSJD, to the team of adjunct instructors, as she took on leading a course on Anglican Spirituality. Tom Bell was hired as the College Director of Music and Organist, as John Tuttle retired after many years of distinguished service. Geoffrey Ready was hired to serve as the Director of the Pathways Initiative, the Faculty's new project of curriculum renewal, funded by the Lilly Foundation. Sadly, Richard



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Schneider, one of the promoters of Orthodox Studies at Trinity, died of illness, and his presence around the College will be greatly missed.

The Faculty's Lilly Foundation grant (a "Pathways for Tomorrow" award of just under one million dollars US) launched its first year this past year under the banner "[Reimagining Contemporary Ministries](#)." This project focuses on four primary initiatives: gathering a team of models and mentors for creative mission to help our students think more deeply about contemporary ministry; funded Spiritual Direction for all MDiv students; developing a new intentional "Introduction to Christianity" curriculum for new Christians; and the recruitment of four Diversity Advisors to work with the Faculty as it renews its curriculum to better serve a diverse church and society. These [mentors](#) include the Rev'd Alison Hari-Singh, the Rev'd Randy Williams, the Rt. Rev'd Patrick Yu, and Sandra Cambell of the Toronto Native Ministry. The combined effect of these four initiatives will undoubtedly transform the curriculum and community life of the Faculty in a variety of ways in the coming years. We look forward to these developments and the creativity we trust will flow from them.

Some of the events hosted by the Faculty over the past year grew out of this project, including the virtual conference in May "[Colonialism and the Anglican Church](#)," a seminar on the intersection between the [Arts and Church Ministry](#), and [Intercultural Ministry in the Church](#).

Meanwhile, Trinity College's major building project, [the Lawson Centre for Sustainability](#), has broken ground, and major construction is ongoing. The new building will incorporate 350 residence beds, new eating and teaching spaces, and a rooftop urban garden. The new facility is scheduled to open for students in the Fall of 2025.

During the coming academic year, the teaching staff will be focused on renewing the mission statement of the Faculty of Divinity, continuing to develop the four initiatives of the Reimagining Contemporary Ministries project, and devoting focused energy to student recruitment.

With these tasks and opportunities in view, the Faculty of Divinity looks forward to taking up once again the task outlined by Jeremiah for God's people: to seek the welfare of the communities in which we find ourselves, and to continue to pray continuously for their health and well-being.

Sincerely,

The Rev'd Dr. Christopher Brittain, Dean of Divinity chris.brittain@utoronto.ca

19. WYCLIFFE COLLEGE

Lord, turn us back to you, and we shall come back; renew our days as in times long past.' (Lamentations 5.21).



As I begin my eighth year at the college, I am grateful to the bishops, clergy and people of the Diocese of Toronto for their support of Wycliffe and our mandate to produce *visionary leaders with Good News for a vibrant church and a changing world*. We are full of thanks for the willingness of parishes to take students in, for the wisdom and patience of supervisors, and for the readiness of the Synod Office to respond to our initiatives and needs.

The past academic year turned out to be more challenging than we had anticipated. All but one Anglican (Episcopal) seminary in North America recorded a significant drop in enrolment. At Wycliffe there were fewer theological students living in residence and the Refectory became more important as a study space than a place to share a meal. Along with nearly every other college, we invested greater resources in delivering courses remotely, and we have seen a decline in the percentage of students attending full-time. While our two-year Masters programs have grown in popularity, there are fewer students enrolled in the three-year MDiv program. And yet, nearly a dozen Canadian bishops contacted me this year to say that they are desperately in need of clergy. We are proud of the leadership our graduates exercise in the Anglican Church, but we pray that parishes might be more intentional in fostering vocations.

Faculty and staff transitions – Wycliffe itself continues to be an institution in transition. This past summer Professors Annette Brownlee, Judy Paulsen and Ephraim Radner retired. At the same time, we hired new Directors for our Master of Theological Studies in Development program and for the Institute of Evangelism. The former is now being led by Ahmeda Mansaray-Richardson. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture and Environmental Studies from McGill and a Master of Public Health from Lakehead. Our new Director of the Institute is Dr Jeremy McClung, a recent TST PhD graduate. Jeremy wrote a Master's thesis on evangelism while at McMaster and has worked with Professor John Bowen on exploring why Canadians become Christians. He is an experienced church planter.

We were pleased this summer to welcome Professor Boram Lee, our new Professor of Pastoral Care and Practice. With degrees in theology and psychology from Korea, the USA and Canada, and registration as a Psychotherapist in Ontario, Dr Lee brings not only practical and academic expertise, but also a cultural perspective that will enrich our teaching. We were also happy that The Reverend Ajit John agreed to serve our community as our new Chaplain.

We are also in the second round of interviews for a new Professor of Global Christianity and Intercultural Ministry. We are hoping that this individual will enrich our curriculum with expertise in Majority World scholarship and will prepare students to serve the growing diaspora and ethnic communities in our Church.

Convocation – In May 2023, Wycliffe held its 146th Convocation. We celebrated the achievements of 47 graduates, ten of whom obtained an MDiv degree. We were especially pleased that Bishop Matthias Der, a 1990 graduate of the College who is now the Bishop of Hong Kong Island (part of Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui), was able to be with us to receive an honorary degree.



Special Events – This year our 19th Principal’s Dinner featured Dr Alan Fung, a Christian psychiatrist who taught our course, “Understanding Mental Health and Mental Illness as Faith Leaders”. The event drew a capacity crowd of 125, and we are expecting to have a full house again on October 19th as we welcome the famed Canadian soprano, Measha Brueggergosman.

This year we also held our first annual Jocz lecture. Professor Jacob Jocz was a third-generation Jewish Christian who managed to escape from Poland while other members of the family perished in the Holocaust. He taught theology at Wycliffe from 1960 to 1976 and wrote 13 books, all of which explore the intersection between Judaism and Christianity. Scholars in the field are taking a renewed interest in his work, and the inaugural lecture was delivered by Dr Lori Baron, Assistant Professor of New Testament at St Louis University. The title of her lecture was ‘Hear O Israel! The Shema in John’s Gospel’. Over 100 came out to hear her.

Marc Chagall and the Bible – Wycliffe has been pleased to host a fabulous art exhibit featuring over 55 etchings and lithographs on biblical themes by the famous Russian-French artist, Marc Chagall (1887-1985). The installation has attracted thousands of viewers from the Jewish and Christian community. Admission is free, but the exhibit will leave the College in mid-October.

Looking ahead

- Wycliffe is excited to partner with St Paul’s Church in their new Ministry Apprenticeship Program, an immersive experience in the work of the church for those contemplating a vocation to ordained ministry. This year-long program will have interns living in the Wycliffe student community.
- The College has hosted a number of events with the Christian Legal Fellowship and the Christian Medical and Dental Association. We are now studying the possibility of establishing a Chair in Christian Ethics.
- Changes in the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act will require the College to bring our incorporating documents into conformity with the new legislation. A new College statute has been approved by the Board that we hope will come before the Provincial Assembly for ratification in the near future.
- Finally, there are hopeful signs that the College is emerging from its pandemic captivity. We are pleased that our enrolment has more than doubled since last year, and that we have a new catering contract with the Shahidi family, who ran the Innis Café for twenty-two years. Now the Acacia Café at Wycliffe College, they complete what was missing in our community life: healthy meals to sustain us in our habits of study and prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rt Rev. Dr Stephen Andrews
Principal and Helliwell Professor of Biblical Interpretation

FAITHWORKS MINISTRY PARTNERS **20. ALL SAINTS CHURCH – COMMUNITY CENTRE**



The All Saints art group is a drop-in program that began in the church parking lot in April 2022.

Started by volunteers Jane Halverson and Hilary Masemann, the group's members have learned new skills, developed confidence, and found community: all through making art together.

To celebrate the conclusion of its 150th anniversary year in June, All Saints Church-Community Centre held an exhibition and volunteer recognition event called "The Art of Community." The event showcased work by the All Saints art group and featured live music by both professional musicians and drop-in participants, tributes to artists and volunteers, and a short film by Erika Ware. Pieces for sale included visual art and jewelry, with the full price going to the artists.

Erika's film features interviews with several members of the art group. The interviewees reflect on what the group and All Saints mean to them.

Dan joined the group when he was living on the street. He says, "When I first got here, I had nothing. Now I've got a lot more than that, and a lot of it because of the church, and the people. I found that people were pretty open to me being here. People were pretty friendly, so why go away? I kept coming back." He adds, "I didn't know anybody in Toronto, you know, now I come here and it's like — I hate saying "family" —but a community. A group of people that get along and care for each other."

Danielle echoes Dan's sentiments. "We all need friends in life. There's times when I feel so alone, and there was a period when I was down. I got back on my feet and I continued to the art group, and now I feel so much better. [It] makes me feel content, makes me feel that, you know, we can see each other around and we say, 'Hi, how's it going?' you know, and we know each other because of the art group."

When asked what comes to mind when she thinks about All Saints, Kayla says, "I think community. I feel very positive, very welcomed. You're not alone. No matter what's going on in the world, even when you feel at your most alone, you're not." She speaks eloquently about people's gifts and artistic expression: "You don't have to be good at something to be great at something. To express yourself, that's the talent, it's that you're sitting right there, expressing yourself. That's the bravest thing you can do."

Thank you to FaithWorks, and FaithWorks donors, for helping All Saints nurture a space where people can discover their gifts, and find friends and community.

If you are interested in seeing more clips from Erika's film, you can see view them on Instagram and Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/AllSaintsTO>

<https://www.instagram.com/all.saints.toronto>

Photos:



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Art group, December 2022:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1a0qVHaYPINQehmAEZK_rnFUAdK6wd2Pt/view?usp=sharing

Exhibit sign:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RT08QcqP0f7HW6n5CX9pnrnXmuBvNGgb/view?usp=sharing>

Art group member:

Kayla Teixeira:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/10ofdIYPb60SaHLsvFjrCnr9pJCdJ7Mwj/view?usp=sharing>

Guests mingling at "The Art of Community":

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hehLUBw0SBhbf5pXvHKSbzohnpfXDkTA/view?usp=sharing>

21. ANGLICAN UNITED REFUGEE ALLIANCE (AURA)

"Creating Communities of Compassion: The Power of Refugee Sponsorship"

In a world where more than 108 million individuals have been forced to leave their homes, including over 36 million classified as refugees, the urgency to extend compassion and support has never been greater. The Anglican United Refugee Alliance - AURA, plays a pivotal role in providing structure and guidance for those who wish to provide safety and refuge to some of the world's most marginalized and vulnerable people.

In 2022, AURA worked with 84 sponsoring groups, consisting of over 750 dedicated sponsors, who collectively spent over 60,000 hours supporting 323 refugees from 16 different countries. These numbers, however, tell only a fraction of the story. Each hour spent volunteering, every warm welcome extended, and every obstacle overcome represents a step towards a brighter future for those who have been forced to flee their homes.

As travel restrictions continue to ease in 2023 from the height of the pandemic, international movement is increasing, creating a surge of refugee newcomer arrivals. This is eagerly awaited news for sponsored refugee families who have been waiting in terrible conditions for their cases to be processed for years. By the end of August, 33 cases arrived, consisting of 94 people from 7 different countries. This marks a 50% increase over last year's total, and there are still 4 months remaining in 2023. Unfortunately, this surge of movement has also given rise, in part, to the many heart-



breaking situations seen throughout the Diocese of refugees and migrants who arrive in Canada without the support and planning of refugee sponsorship.

Successful refugee sponsorship is not just about financial contributions; it is a collective endeavor that builds and develops connections of empathy and unity within our communities. Right now, there is an opportunity to make a tangible difference in the lives of displaced refugees. Refugee sponsorship is casting a net to create communities that foster a sense of belonging and acceptance that transcends language and culture.

It is a chance for individuals, parishes, and coalitions of communities to come together to create a world where compassion and understanding thrive, and every individual, regardless of their background, finds a place to call home. In a world where division sometimes appears insurmountable, we have the power to work together and build bridges of compassion that span across oceans, cultures, and religions. When we work together our collective efforts offer hope and a brighter future for those who have been displaced from their homes. How will your parish join in this work of extending hope and home?

22. COUCHICHING JUBILEE HOUSE

Jubilee House offers individualized programming and supportive housing to help women achieve and maintain independence and lives free of precarity. We are not a crisis shelter or emergency housing solution, we are unique in that we align with women to source the underlying cause of housing precarity and homelessness while providing them with the support and skills they need to thrive. We work directly with each unique individual to identify their specific needs and barriers to create goals and programs to navigate the systemic and individual complexities they face. It is through relationship building, partnerships and community engagement that we support women in setting and achieving goals in hopeful and affordable housing. Faithworks generously helps us to support both our supportive housing programs and our outreach programs, which are needed now more than ever due to the worsening housing crisis. We are able to provide housing to four women and their children for up to 4 years less a day with intensive individualized programs of support.

Empowering Programming and Housing Support to Date in 2023:

Outreach Participants to Date: 17 women and 21 dependents.

2023 Current Residents: 4 women and 10 dependents

2023 Residents transitioned to Permanent Housing: 3 women and 3 children

Programs Facilitated in 2023:

- 15 Coffee & Conversations (13 regular participants)
- 10 Therapeutic Art sessions (13 regular participants)
- Food Safety Certificate for 10 participants
- 3 community dinners/BBQs (15 participants)



- Movie outing (5 women, 12 children)
- March Break event (6 women, 10 children)

Looking Ahead: Starting in September, we introduce new programs:

- In the Kitchen: Nurturing culinary skills
- Book Club: Fostering a love for reading and discussion
- Drop-in: Providing laptops for research and education
- In the Workshop: Upcycling with the Furniture Bank

Meeting Basic Needs

In 2023, we addressed food scarcity and transportation/independence/social isolation: 115 Good Food Boxes and 36 bus passes

23. THE DAM, MISSISSAUGA

Through the school year we have met over 3000 youth (29,736 youth visits)! Our drop-ins have been loud, active and full! This, with a renewed sense of partnership between organizations in our community, restored the familiarity of running regular programming with no COVID restrictions. The youth were back and we couldn't have been happier!

We view each youth who comes through our doors as a person. Not clients, "kids" or numbers. Learning names is the first step in helping youth feel valued and important. When a youth returns for a second visit and they are greeted by name there is an unspoken acknowledgement that they are important. Sometimes youth will vocalize this with, "Wow! You remembered my name!?" which is just another way of saying "Wow! I was noticed!"; I matter even amidst the flurry of lunch hour, a packed drop-in or the roar of video game tournaments. It is our hope that this simple gesture of remembering names will be the first step towards youth feeling that they belong to a community who cares.

Our youth need places where they can receive care. When we surveyed youth during one week in March, 25% reported that they experience food insecurity. That helps explain why we go through so much food everyday in our drop-ins! We are thankful for our partners and donors that provide us with food to serve everyday, and the food, gift cards and essential items we can send home to our families who need it most.

Consistently every year our survey highlights that girls struggle with social and emotional health. 1 in 3 girls feel unloved. Some days we wish we could package up love and hand it out along with a hot dog. Yet to receive and embrace love takes a depth of relationship over a long period of time. Relationships are the key to the ministry of The Dam with 164 youth mentored by our program staff.



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“the amount of love and sense of belonging I get from being with the staff is astronomical much more than what I get at home.”

Financially it was a challenging year. There was a delay in the impact of COVID on program funding. We needed to use \$100,000 of reserve funding to keep the doors open this year. Thankfully for the current year we are receiving new program funding that will provide stability as we slowly build the reserve back to be ready for the next crisis.

Thank you for the partnership of Faithworks! The financial support and the prayers is foundational to impacting the lives of youth in Mississauga.

24. MIGRANT WORKERS MINISTRY

The Migrant Worker Ministry again expresses our thanks to FaithWorks for your support of our ministry to our migrant workers in the Durham region, Northumberland, and beyond.

Over the past seven years, I have worked to support migrant workers in Clarington through the Migrant Worker Ministry. Thanks to primary funding from the Ministry Allocations Fund of the Diocese and now through our partnership with you.

Prior to the pandemic we organized activities and programming that met many of the workers' social, spiritual, and recreational needs. As with most outreach ministries, the pandemic forced us to pivot and find alternative ways of providing the support to the workers, but we are grateful that in 2023, we have been able to resume our pre-pandemic in-person outreach activities.

Over the past year, we have focused on partnering with churches in the Trent Durham Diocese, the Adventist Development and Relief Agency and other churches in the area to provide monthly hot meal in person dinners for our workers. In addition, we have expanded our network of donors who provide clothing and non-perishable food items. Our clothing and food Hub, which started two years ago in 2021 out of St. Saviour's basement is a much-needed part of our ministry. Here, the men come during the week or on weekends to access clothes and shoes needed for work. The Hub is stocked by our ministry partners' donations and the funding we receive.

This season, we expanded our weekly bilingual services (Spanish and English) at St. Saviour's, Orono, to include worship in Spanish. In the Bowmanville and Orono areas, we are now providing Spanish services on the days the workers come to the dinners. Over 100 workers came to our dinner in August. Overall, we reach out to about fourteen farms where more than 250 men benefit from the ministry including five new farms added this year.

During the pandemic, the farms in Beaverton were closed but in 2023 they reopened and workers have returned. Father Ted McCollum and I have resumed the Spanish



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services on a bi-monthly basis at St. Paul's Beaverton. St. Paul's, Beaverton also provides light refreshments for the workers after the services and there is a time of fellowship and pastoral care.

Over the years, the ministry has worked tirelessly to establish respectful relationships, built on trust and integrity, with local farm owners. As a result this year some owners are adjusting work schedules and providing transportation for their workers to have the opportunity to attend Sunday morning services.

The workers express deep and sincere gratitude for all that has been done for them. They greatly appreciate the support of the Migrant Worker Ministry, as it positively impacts their lives. This impact is reciprocal and in closing, I would like to share a very touching message I received from Rev. Jeff Doucette, the Rector at Enniskillen Tyrone United Church:

"Words cannot describe how much I enjoyed being part of the dinner for the Migrant workers last night with Christine Barkey of our Enniskillen Tyrone United church and Rev. Lucia Lloyd and members of St. John's Anglican Bowmanville. You really had to be there. Upwards of 100 migrant workers came in mini buses and vans to St. Savior's Anglican Church. I stood out on the steps greeting them as they arrived with huge smiles directly from the fields. They were served to an incredible meal of rice and beans, veggies, chicken, ham, salads and desserts. In the background Father Augusto Nunez, the priest at St. Savior's and chaplain to the Migrant Workers was all smiles and welcoming and eventually he settled in to do some Karaoke with some of the guys joining in from their seats. Many churches are involved in putting on monthly meals for the workers and there is much gratitude. I could only think of how each one of those workers had a story that brought them to Canada to work to support their families. It was an incredible night. Thanks to all who made desserts and salads from our church. Everything went...they left with full stomachs and leftovers for each of the farms."

The Rev. Augusto Nunez
Priest-in-Charge, St. Saviour's Anglican Church
Pastor, Durham Region Migrant Worker Ministry

25. **INN FROM THE COLD**

Thank you for the opportunity to share some updates about Inn From the Cold (IFTC). It's been a busy year launching new programs, and expanding existing programming, as well as significant progress with our capital build process, and capital campaign. In late 2022 we added a System Navigator to our complement of staff. She has helped our clients with applications for identification, assisted clients with getting connected to mental health, dental and physical health supports, and works hand in hand with



our housing worker to ensure that clients are ready and able to secure and maintain housing.

In late 2022, we launched the Please Come Inn head lease program. Currently we lease three houses, supporting 14 of our clients. It has proved to be win-win-win, helping IFTC find housing solutions for our clients, benefitting landlords, and assisting our clients to secure long-term housing.

Our core shelter and drop-by programs were extended this year. Our shelter has always been seasonal, however it now runs 12 months of the year. Our drop-by, which operates 12 months of the year, has been extended to 7 days/week from 5 days/week. IFTC shelters 25 individuals (24/7), 5 individuals in our transitional housing, and 30 individuals/day in our drop-by, at both onsite and offsite locations.

This growth has challenged us in terms of hiring. It remains very difficult to hire people to work in this field. Though the work is extremely rewarding, it is difficult work and is, relative to other fields, low-paid. We continue to work on our total rewards and benefits to provide a counterbalance to the challenges of the industry.

As you may now, IFTC has a bold plan to build a new 17,000 square foot housing centre, with space for our shelter, programming and administration, as well as 18 units of transitional housing. We are well on our way to breaking ground. Our capital campaign reached its 2.5 million goal and has a stretch goal of 3 million. Further funding has been secured and we are in the process of interviewing design build firms and plan to break ground in early 2024, with occupancy estimated to be in early 2025. We appreciate FaithWorks' support of our work over the past years. It has helped us to stabilize and adapt as we strive towards putting a dent in the chronic homeless numbers. You are always welcome here; we'd love the opportunity to show you first hand what we do. Please don't hesitate to reach out if this is something you'd like to do.

Sincerely,
Ann Watson
Executive Director

26. NORTH HOUSE SHELTER

We have some exciting updates to share with you! In the later part of 2022, North House made a big move into our new office space within Uxbridge. We as an organization decided it was time to expand as our team has vastly grown, and we began seeing a need in our community that our previous space could not meet. Our new office space now allows us to provide a multitude of services that once were not possible. North House is now offering access to shower, laundry and kitchen facilities including pre-made meals for those without access to care for their basic needs. In addition, we also now have a resource center available to clients where they can get out of the elements, charge their phones, partake in various trainings, and to utilize our computers for things like housing searches, writing resumes and more. These services especially support individuals that are working through our Housing First program; an intensive case management program for high needs individuals and families experiencing homelessness.



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In addition to our new support services, we have begun exploring and operating our Harm Reduction program. Harm Reduction is a model of care for individuals using substances or engaging in risky sexual behaviours. We are now able to provide both education and supplies to practice safe use, which ultimately reduces the need for medical supports, and lowers the rate of overdoses. We as an organization strive to reduce barriers where possible, and provide our community with the needed resources to find long-term success.

It is no secret that COVID-19 turned our world upside down, and fast-forward to present day, we are now working through the damage and aftermath caused by the pandemic specific to inflation, mental wellbeing, and access to services. The increased cost of living has been felt by all, but those who are living with low fixed-income, they have felt the effects just that much more. The cost of housing has doubled, and in some instances, tripled, which has made it increasingly difficult to find housing for those who are struggling already to make ends meet. North House continues to try to combat these struggles and difficulties by building positive relationships with landlords, specifically through our Opening Doors in Durham Region program that offers signing bonus' and risk mitigation funds in hope this initiative will provide more access to housing opportunities.

While the landscape we are currently working within looks grim, we are determined and motivated to positively change the lens in which low-income individuals are seen in the eyes of the landlord, to increase access to services and support, and to advocate for the people we serve. Now more than ever, North House and organizations like ours, are working to find creative and innovative ways to navigate the current market and truly meet the clients where they are at, to give them a voice, and be in their corner when no one else is. North House continues to proudly serve the community and is grateful for the opportunity to make positive changes in the lives of our clients.

North House would like to thank you, our partner, for your ongoing and dedicated support to helping and supporting vulnerable individuals and families that are experiencing housing instability or homelessness. Your generosity and kindness go a long way and we appreciate you.

27. ONE ROOF COMMUNITY CENTRE

I am pleased to make this report on behalf of One Roof Community Centre, a ministry of the Church of St John the Evangelist, Peterborough, and a FaithWorks Ministry Partner.

Since January 1, 2017, One Roof has provided a daily meal and drop-in ministry to community members. Before the pandemic, we were open for lunch every day of the week and for dinner during weekdays. Our space was available for people to hang



out during the day when the overnight shelters were closed and we provided extended hours during extreme heat and cold. One Roof has been fortunate to partner with a number of community organisations over the years to provide this service to our neighbours. We work with the City of Peterborough and a variety of community/social services and church, business, school, and other groups to provide services, meals, and volunteers. One Roof truly is a community ministry.

In January 2023, One Roof entered into a partnership with the Elizabeth Fry Society of Peterborough (EFry) and the Peterborough AIDS Reduction Network (PARN) to provide services within the One Roof space. One of the challenges that many community agencies face in serving vulnerable community members is access. By providing each of these agencies with space in One Roof, they now have access to the people they serve where those people tend to gather in a trusted space throughout the day. EFry funds a light breakfast every day to tide people over until we can serve the main meal at 1:00 and they provide some workshops and a bail verification and supervision program. PARN took over our harm reduction program because it is in their area of expertise. Our ministry was able to expand the hours we are open because EFry provided additional staff to augment ours. It is a win-win-win arrangement for One Roof, our community partners, and the community members we serve together. This is a great model for outreach if other churches are thinking about how to serve the needs of vulnerable neighbours: working with agencies that can often do the job better than we can and sharing our spaces; which are often located in neighbourhoods where people who are experiencing homelessness, food insecurity, and other situations related to poverty; is a way to make a difference.

It is a small source of comfort that the number of meals we serve each day, which was above 200 during the height of the pandemic, has now decreased slightly to an average of around 160. We transitioned back to serving most of those meals as sit-down meals in our dining room, with only a few remaining as take-out. This has resulted in the recovery of the community atmosphere during meal times and in a major decrease in costs related to supplying take-out containers. From 9:00 to 5:00 every day, the entrance to One Roof and nearby spots on the church property are a hive of activity as people gather to socialise and access meals and services.

While the number of meals that we serve has decreased, we see more new people around the community centre. This tells us that the worsening economic environment is taking its toll on a wider range of people, including people who were not traditionally as vulnerable to poverty. With a vacancy rate of one per cent (the lowest in the province) and apartment rental prices up 22%, combined with stagnant wages and other economic pressures such as increased food and fuel costs, Peterborough is seeing the impact on people in lower-paying jobs who are unable to access housing and other supports. These people turn to One Roof Community Centre and other community partners to provide basic needs such as food and shelter.

The situation has grown to the point that St John's did not negotiate a new service agreement with the City of Peterborough to replace the current one which expires on



December 31, 2023. Our charitable model of ministry, with the additional challenge of being constrained by Anglican governance structures, is insufficient to meet the growing need. One Roof's ministry is currently in a time of transition as we discern what our continuing community ministry will look like. The City of Peterborough has contracted with another social service organisation to provide a drop-in program to replace One Roof's, but there is, as yet, no plan for providing meals. St John's is in conversation about how to continue our outreach to vulnerable community members in a way that is more volunteer-based and focused more on food than on drop-in.

One of the key takeaways of the last year has been that charity is not enough to address the systemic issues that vulnerable neighbours face. As the number of people facing shelter and food insecurity as well as a multitude of intersecting issues such as mental health and drug use continues to increase, things like meal programs are a band-aid solution. Many of the challenges we face are the result of almost thirty years of austerity measures at the provincial level, downloading of services onto municipalities without giving them the resources to fund them, and the global economy. The only way some of these issues will be solved is by a whole-of-society approach that sees compassionate and evidence-based policy at every level of government and partnerships between local agencies seeking to make the lives of community members better. I am reminded of the saying of the late Archbishop Desmond Tutu: "There comes a point where we need to stop just pulling people out of the river. We need to go upstream and find out why they're falling in." We know why people are falling in. As a society we need to advocate for the structures and systems we need to keep them from falling in.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Canon Brad Smith
Rector, St John's, Peterborough

28. ORILLIA CHRISTIAN MINISTRY "THE LIGHTHOUSE"

**Micah 6:8 (NIV) "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.
And what does the Lord require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your God."**

The Lighthouse seeks to live out God's call to work with broken people who need help and support. We have a staff team who are empowering individuals, made in God's image, to grow in health. We participate with them instead of working for them. We are giving them hope, home and a future.

Participant's Story

Linda Goss showed up to The Lighthouse with only a suitcase in hand. A family breakdown led to Linda experiencing homelessness for the first time at age 73. She stayed at The Lighthouse for four months until she eventually found housing. She recalls how she was welcomed to The Lighthouse with open arms and felt so blessed.



When we think of people in a homeless shelter, how often do we think of seniors? It happens far more than you might think. Linda looks back and shares how she became “family” with some of the other older participants; they were the “rowdy” table in the cafe. Laughing, doing puzzles, crafts and more. “All the staff and volunteers were amazing,” Linda said. The team did all they could for Linda, while serving a nearly full house of other participants to care for.

What does a stay at The Lighthouse look like?

Linda met with her housing worker every week. As she says, “If you work the program, it works.” When Linda first arrived, she had \$1,475/month from old age pension and CPP to live on. It was impossible to find a safe place to live.

Eventually, working together, she was able to increase her income to \$2,000/month. With this increase and a rent supplement, she was able to find a place at Hillcrest for \$1,400/month, leaving her with \$600/month for food, transportation, loan payment, and any other expenses.

Leaving The Lighthouse, Linda continued to work with The Lighthouse’s housing worker as well as Empower Simcoe’s housing access worker. She also continues to meet with our ministry coordinator and attends Redeemer City Church for added support.

Our Year in Review

As the sole Emergency Shelter serving Orillia and its surrounding areas, we have made a significant impact by assisting numerous individuals and families in overcoming chronic homelessness and food insecurity. Since January 1, 2023, we have provided 13,725 shelter beds, offering safety and stability to our community. Our dedicated kitchen team has prepared and served an impressive total of 60,535 meals so far this year, including three daily meals, two snacks, and meals to-go for community members in need.

Furthermore, we have expanded our services by inaugurating the Youth Wing, accommodating up to 8 young individuals at a time. Additionally, our Outreach program has been initiated to support community members experiencing homelessness who are not residing in the shelter. Our outreach team actively engages with the community, establishing connections, and providing essential resources. Next week we are introducing a mental health worker to our team from Catholic Family Services who will work out of The Lighthouse. This is a critical addition providing mental health support to our participants.

Our Supportive Housing building boasts 20 individual units designed for supportive living, and our Community Services building has a 24-hour emergency first responder room, a clinical treatment area, and a community kitchen/cafe.

We are excited to introduce David Warner as our Ministry Coordinator, who offers spiritual support to both our participants and staff members.

Our core belief is in the integration of individuals into the community, creating opportunities for social development, self care, and housing security. We strive to instill a sense of purpose and safety in every individual, promoting positive outcomes in their lives.

Mission:

To build a safe community through partnerships, servant leadership and faith.

Vision:

A Thriving community where everyone has hope, home, and a future.



29. PHILIP AZIZ CENTRE, GREATER TORONTO AREA

What may be most surprising about our hospice programming supports for people living with HIV/AIDS is the number of deaths, longer-term hospitalizations, and antiviral medication failures our clients have experienced in the last year.

At a time when the general public's assumption is that HIV/AIDS symptoms and disease progression are well managed by antiviral medications, there are still serious risks and complications. New challenges arise from the side-effects of being on antiviral medications for decades, ageing with AIDS, risks compounded as other health issues weaken the body, isolation/stigma, plus often, the negative influences of lower income and underemployment. One client shared: *“When I talk about HIV, people keep asking if “that is still a thing.” My doctor thinks I should be grateful to be alive. I am grateful. I thank God and everyone for keeping me alive when so many people have died. I feel that people have no idea what it is like, to not only take medication everyday, but to live in constant pain caused by the medication that is supposed to help you.”*

Managing HIV/AIDS can be a long and isolated marathon of challenges. Fortunately, it is not without Hope, in safe support groups, a specialized community of care, one-on-one counseling, and, under the covering of prayer and shared worship. While most HIV agencies in the GTA do not have Christian roots or a mission to support clients seeking a Christian perspective, the Philip Aziz Centre for Hospice Care continues to be the hospice leader – where HIV community supports and Christian beliefs can intersect. Over the past year, our program provided urgent short-term care based on each individual's needs assessment. We got to know each person, and helped facilitate resilience in their unique life journey – through counselling, client advocacy, mediation, peer/group supports, home visits, volunteers and connections to care. We were also able to provide: bed-side supports as an increased number of clients were hospitalized; youth and family counselling to support medication adherence; and, one-on-one support for clients who were struggling with isolation through in-home visitation by volunteers. The team has been intentional about reaching out to clients to make sure that they are linked to care and support.

Our client's story/testimonial continues: *“I live each day by the grace of God and the support I receive on a weekly basis from my support group at the Philip Aziz Centre, and our monthly group where my group members pray with me and for me. I am at a place where I can share my hurt, disappointment, anger and frustration, knowing I would not be judged. That this is a group of people who understand because their experiences are similar. I know I would not be able to continue without God and the people He has placed in my life to help me with this journey. I continue to pray for a breakthrough in my health, and that God will heal me from all these side effects. I know that His Grace is sufficient for me and that in my weakness there are others who are holding me up.”*



With thanks to **FaithWorks/The Anglican Diocese of Toronto** for prayer and leadership funding, at the heart of this program is compassionate care and community.

30. PRIMATE'S WORLD RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT FUND

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund is grateful to individuals and churches who have designated their gifts to Faith Works for PWRDF, as well as to Faith Works for grants received.

This past year, perhaps not surprisingly, our expenses were heavily weighted toward humanitarian responses. Climate-related emergencies along with war and conflict have combined to create extreme hunger around the world, prompting the number of refugees and displaced people to grow ever higher.

In Ukraine we are working with nine partners, meeting the needs of people with disabilities, and people without food and shelter as they struggle to cope with the ongoing war.

In the Horn of Africa, as people face a record-breaking drought, PWRDF is contributing to food security projects that are saving lives. We had the good fortune to welcome Mary Obiero of Church World Service Africa to Manitoba. She visited farmers who were supporting food relief through PWRDF and the Canadian Foodgrains Bank and that that our financial support is saving lives. Watch the video.

PWRDF is also investing in communities to help them become more sustainable and self-reliant. Our partners build wells and provide ways to make clean water accessible; they work with leaders to promote gender equality; they provide training to help women earn an income and become more independent. And they help people adapt to climate change by teaching conservation agriculture and providing seeds, tools and other necessary supplies to get started.

We don't need to look to other parts of the world to see the effects of climate change. As Canada experiences the worst wildfire season in its history, PWRDF has launched a new In-Canada Emergency Fund that will accept donations BEFORE disaster happens, so that we're always ready to respond. In the first few weeks of launching the new fund, PWRDF had already received more than \$30,000.

PWRDF is also deepening its partnerships with Indigenous groups in Canada. Through the Indigenous Program Response Grant we are funding more Indigenous-led organizations who are working to engage youth, provide clean water, adapt to climate change and improve community health. Many of the grant recipient programs focus on restoring Indigenous language and culture, so crucial to community health.



During the pandemic, PWRDF introduced Praying with PWRDF, a weekly gathering on Zoom. Even as churches reopened after the pandemic, participants told us how much they valued the time to learn more about PWRDF and pray together. We now meet monthly. We also adapted a virtual version of our reconciliation workshop “Mapping the Ground We Stand On.” This Zoom workshop is still available to those who prefer to gather online, but we are grateful to be returning to in-person sessions and have conducted many in the Diocese.

Whether you are praying in your church pews or online at home, we ask you to continue to pray for the work of PWRDF and its partners. Your support is helping us work toward a truly just, healthy and peaceful world.

31. TORONTO URBAN NATIVE MINISTRY

The Toronto Urban Native Ministry is a partnership between the Diocese of Toronto and national and regional bodies of the United Church of Canada. It has three staff positions: the diocesan Right Relations Co-ordinator, the Rev'd Leigh Kern, devotes part of her ministry to TUNM; Sandra Campbell is our Indigenous Outreach Coordinator; the third staff position has historically been occupied by a full-time United Church minister. TUNM provides culturally relevant chaplaincy services to Indigenous people across the GTA, supporting both Christian spiritual practices and Traditional Indigenous spiritualities and world views, and works toward right relations between Indigenous and Settler communities.

While the immediate frontline needs of the unhoused community encamped in the downtown area nearest TUNM's base at the Church of the Holy Trinity at the height of the pandemic have abated somewhat, the underlying issues highlighted by COVID remain acute. We have responded to support the spiritual, physical, emotional, and mental well-being of individuals through our “Unity Kitchen” partnership with Holy Trinity, offering traditional medicines, harm reduction supplies, clothing, shoes, survival supplies (sleeping bags and tents), and other necessities of life (hygiene and first aid supplies, and PPE), alongside a nutritious daily lunch; the “Unity Kitchen” project has recently been wound down, and we continue to seek ways of collaborating to address some of these urgent practical needs. TUNM's food-and-beverage wagon and neighbourhood walkabouts continue this work, and enable further one-on-one spiritual and social connections with individuals. We also work to refer individuals to culturally appropriate housing, medical, and legal resources on an ongoing basis.

The harmonious integration of Christian and Indigenous traditions is central to TUNM's mandate, and we have supported this vision with Christian and Traditional Indigenous spiritual teaching, ceremony, and mentorship, both in-person in the community and online through regular worship services and community drumming. Sandra Campbell offers workshops in Traditional Indigenous crafts teaching, connecting community members with a concrete expression of their cultural heritage. Staff are frequently asked to preach and speak in congregations, to facilitate presentations of the KAIROS blanket exercise, and to facilitate congregational reconciliation/education



programming. The Rev'd Leigh Kern has prepared numerous resources to support this work, and also participates in these conversations at the national level. Our staff have also prepared a chapter, entitled "The Housing Crisis and the Indian Residential School Legacy" for a collection of essays published last year by the University of Toronto Press.

With the Rev'd Leigh Kern currently on leave, and the United Church position temporarily vacant, responsibility for much of the ministry of TUNM this year has fallen on our Indigenous Outreach Coordinator, and we are very grateful for the FaithWorks support which has helped us to maintain this position as a full-time one. We hope that donors to FaithWorks may understand this support as a way to participate in the process of building right relations between Indigenous people and the Anglican Church, and to join us in providing practical and spiritual nourishment for the community we serve. We invite you to visit tunm.ca to connect with our staff and explore our work in greater detail.

32. A PLACE CALLED HOME

For over the past 30 years, A Place Called Home has been operating the only homeless shelter serving the residents of the City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County. We provide a safe place to sleep, meals, advocacy, and housing support to hundreds of men, women and families with children each year. Our compassionate staff provide moral support and guidance to help those experiencing homelessness, to help them get back on their feet and into our community. Our agency also provides critical outreach support to those who have recently moved out of our shelter as well as to those at risk of becoming homeless to increase their housing stability. These essential supports include hot meals, packed lunches to go, access to shower, laundry facilities, private phone, accessible transportation through our new Bike Share program, as well as important community referrals to other specialized services where required.

The vulnerable individuals who access our services come from all walks of life but sadly all share the traumatic experience of losing their housing. From clients who have long histories of addiction, incarceration or mental health struggles to families who have been displaced due to fire or floods to youths and seniors who are leaving abusive home environments and have nowhere else to turn. Our client pool is diverse, and often hard to serve, but they all have one positive outcome in common, when they arrive at our agency they are in extreme crisis and when they move out of our shelter, they are stable and heading towards building a more sustainable future.

The last few years have been very challenging for our clients and staff at A Place Called Home. Our organization survived the very difficult challenges of having to move our clients and staff into a hotel during the Covid-19 pandemic in March 2020 when we were unable to meet Covid -19 restrictions. Faced with a monumental decision, our agency launched the largest fundraiser of our agency's history to raise 1.5 million dollars to build a new purpose-built shelter. Only due to the generosity of our



community members and faith groups, were we successful in succeeding in our goal to build a new shelter. In June 2022, our clients and staff moved back into a new shelter but our housing needs remained at critical level due to the lack of affordable housing, Our organization again took immediate action and renovated our two old shelter building to provide both transitional and permanent housing options to the clients who are ready to move out of our shelter.

Faithworks has been an essential partner to our agency dating back to 2001 when a donation of \$22,000 was made to assist with our early outreach efforts. In the past two years, your donation of \$10,000 last year and the \$15,000.00 donation that we received this year has provided our agency with critical food resources for our Outreach program. Since moving into our new shelter, demand for our Outreach program has skyrocketed and our client's numbers have literally doubled. Your greatly needed donation provides food to hundreds of vulnerable individuals each year, many who are living rough, out on the street, and in other precarious situations as our community continues to face a critical housing shortage and increased inflationary pressures.

The \$10,000 provided last year was aimed at increasing our ability to provide meals to both clients in the shelter and those we are supporting in the community. With the completion of construction, many of our past clients have re-engaged with our services, meaning a significantly higher demand for food. With inflationary pressures, this additional funding was welcomed as food budgets are being stretched further than ever before.

The \$15,000.00 we received this year will be used again to support our food budget for both our Shelter and our Outreach programs. These crucial funds will help offset our increased food budget due to a rapidly increasing influx in client numbers and the skyrocketing cost of food.

Our agency provides three nutritious meals a day plus snacks and school lunches to residents residing in shelters as well as up to an addition 30-35 meals per day for Outreach clients who require food support to help stabilize their housing. Our modest kitchen will provide ~40,000 meals this year and the engagement these meals provide our clients is impactful. Food is a common bond, helping us to connect with one another and serves a warm comfort to those in crisis. Being able to share a meal in a communal setting opens positive social pathways, helping to build trust and provides an ideal opportunity where our clients can share their experiences, good and bad, with other residents, to build a healthy rapport with our agency staff which often provides valuable insights to the issues that affect the client's ability to move forward.

Recently our organization was awarded funding to develop a new strategic plan to guide our agency for the next five years. We are about to embark on the development of our new strategic plan this fall and are eager to build a positive new future for our organization so that we may impactfully support the homeless in our community.



As we strive to ensure everyone has a safe place to call home, we have deep gratitude and appreciation for FaithWork's continued support of our mission!

