



# Parish Profile

## ST.GEORGE'S ON-THE-HILL

Prepared: November 2024



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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It is our pleasure, on behalf of the parishioners of St. George's on-the-hill Anglican Church, to present to you our parish profile. With a history rooted in faith dating back to 1844, when Bishop John Strachan established our parish, our original church structure was dedicated in 1847 and features a tall, tin-clad spire that has long served as a beacon of hope.

We are a progressive and curious Parish community and we support and welcome historically marginalized groups. Our parish is financially stable, allowing us to actively participate in outreach programs both locally and beyond. Kingsway College School, an independent school and a tenant, contributes to our financial foundation. St. George's on-the-hill incumbents, both past and present, have provided and continue to offer chaplaincy services to the school.

Through our worship and fellowship, we embody four metaphors that reflect our mission and vision. These images, born from the Parish community's discernment, are:

- Singing God's love-song in harmony, faith, and compassion.
- A beacon on-the-hill, sharing the light of Christ with the community.
- A fertile garden, continually growing and rooted in love.
- Hands joined in prayer and outreach, promoting justice and compassion.

Located in the west end of Toronto, our parish is easily accessible and surrounded by green space, including our active cemetery. We enjoy a diverse membership across the GTA, fostering a supportive environment for all.

Our new Incumbent will be committed to long-term ministry, a forward-thinking priest who can involve youth, retain elders, and engage actively with the neighborhood. We seek someone who will inspire through thought-provoking sermons, enhance our outreach initiatives, and involve lay members in all aspects of parish life.

As you explore our profile, we invite you to reflect on how you might join us in our mission to live out God's love in our community.



# A SHORT HISTORY OF ST. GEORGE'S ON-THE-HILL

In 1844, Bishop John Strachan authorized the establishment of a new parish halfway between Islington Village and Lambton Mills, on the west side of the Humber River. This new congregation marked a period of growth for the Anglican Church in the area, responding to the increasing number of settlers in the surrounding region. The first church building was completed by 1847, and a tall, tin-clad spire was added shortly after, making the church a prominent landmark visible for miles around. In 1894, the church was raised onto a solid stone foundation with a basement for a growing Sunday school program.

Over the years, the church, with its iconic white spire, has undergone numerous renovations and restorations, yet it has remained a steadfast beacon of faith and community. Through the decades, it has continued to serve as both a place of worship and a symbol of hope, standing strong through many changes in the local community and beyond. Today, the church is proud to offer a welcoming, inclusive parish with a core group of dedicated volunteers. The church provides a beautiful space for both worship and social events. Additionally, a four-bedroom rectory, located near the church, is available, further strengthening the connection between the church and its clergy.

The land where St. Georges is located was part of the Toronto Purchase (Treaty 13). Currently at St. George's we start the service with a Land Acknowledgement and are aware of Reconciliation issues.

## WORSHIP

Average attendance at our two Sunday Eucharistic liturgies is about 80 total

During the summer, a single Sunday service is offered.

### Additional services include:

- A Wednesday morning Eucharist at 10:00 am
- A candlelight, Wednesday evening Eucharist at 7:30 pm.
- Chapel services on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8:45 am, for Kingsway College School

# WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Service type	2021	2022	2023
Attendance - 08.30 am	N/A	15	17
Attendance - 10.30 am	Sept - Dec. 36.	49	61
Weekly Attendance (online devices)	Jan-Aug, 33 Sept-Dec.16	14	13
Wednesday Morning	N/A	-	-
Wednesday Evening	Jan-May: 15 Devices Nov-Dec (17 in person, 6 devices )	20 in person 5 devices	21 in person
<b>Total Attendance</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>111</b>

Service type	Sunday 8.30 am	Sunday 10.30 am
Type	Eucharistic	Eucharistic
Liturgic Resources	Book of Alternative Services	Book of Alternative Services
Music	Organ	Organ, choir, Instrumentalist occasionally
Streamed Online	No	Yes

## Weekday Worship

Weekday worship includes two services Wednesday as outlined below:

Service type	Wednesday 10.00 am	Wednesday 7.30 pm
Type	Eucharistic	Eucharistic
Liturgic Resources	Book of Alternative Services	Book of Alternative Services
Music	-	Variety from Gregorian chant, Renaissance polyphony, a capella choral composition
Streamed Online	No	Yes

St George's also has informal styles of worship. Family Friday is held once a month and welcomes all members of the community for a craft, pizza dinner and a Godly Play Story.

Special services:

- Blessing of the Backpacks in September for all students and teachers
- Church-in-the-Orchard and apple picking
- Christmas Eve children's service
- Christmas Pageant in December
- Good Friday children's Stations of the Cross
- Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday
- End-of-the-year Church in the Cemetery



**St. George's**  
**has the following events to encourage fellowship after service:**

01. Hospitality hour hosted by different members of the parish on a sign up basis
02. Reception after Wednesday Night service for discussion and fellowship
03. Robbie Burns night on Wednesday closest to Jan 25th
04. Maundy Thursday Supper
05. Easter Egg Hunt
06. St. Patrick's day party on Wednesday night closest to March 17th
07. Potluck Picnic in June
08. Welcome back BBQ in September



# MUSIC

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Music plays a significant supportive role in our worship and our gatherings as a Parish community. It is woven into the Liturgy throughout all our services.

Our Director of Music Ministry uses a mix of paid and congregational choir members to augment the spiritual experience at church. There is regular planning between our Music Director and parish priest to match the music to the liturgy. Additionally, at the Wednesday night candlelight service, music is a focal point of this meditative service. Wednesday music explores the foundations of Renaissance polyphony and Gregorian chant, featuring a diverse range of eras and styles, including Jewish music. Wednesday service has a separate Wednesday Music Director.



## 2 Concerts per year

Are organized by our Music Director, highlighting various singers, instruments and instrumentalists. These concerts are well attended by church members but also provide an opportunity for members to bring friends and extended family to experience the physical beauty, wonderful music and hospitality of the St. George's congregation.

## Community Choir

A recent initiative to bring more parishioners into the music was the Community Choir which performed during a concert as well as a traditional Hallelujah Chorus at Christmas and Easter.

Additionally, St George's has an occasional well attended Jazz Vespers service to bring another musical style to worship services.

# LEARNING, AND SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

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## 01. Children and youth

- Staffed nursery for young children or those children who require extra support during services or Godly Play.
- Activity backpacks available for children who prefer to stay in Church.
- A full-scale, non-traditional Christmas pageant featuring a new script, created every two years by directors, youth, and children, with participation open to both parish members and children and youth from the wider community.
- Sleepovers for children are held in the church's Luxton Hall once or twice a year, including one on the night before the pageant.



## 02. Godly Play

- Trained Godly Play storytellers and a dedicated Godly Play room, complete with a full craft area.
- Circular curriculum that allows children to approach Bible stories in their own way and go deeper over time.



## 03. Youth Group

- Service projects e.g. Street Patrol.
- Youth mentorship to younger kids via Christmas Pageant.
- AV leadership/youth work to produce the 10.30 am service.



## 04. Christian Education

- Bible group Wednesday morning.



## 05. Activities that encourage Spiritual Nurturing and Reflection

- Communion at Retirement Homes, Pints of View, Mary and Martha's Kitchen, Wednesday Bible discussion, A weekly blog post by Father Andrew.



# FELLOWSHIP AND PASTORAL CARE

St. George's has an events' group, which forms to host social events.

- Reception after Wednesday Night service for discussion and fellowship
- Robbie Burns night on Wednesday closest to Jan 25th
- Celtic New Year, Wednesday evening closest to November 1
- Maundy Thursday Supper
- Games Night
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Potluck Picnic in June
- Welcome back BBQ in September
- Seniors Lunch 2 to 6 per year
- Pastoral Care Team



## Chaplaincy Services and Partnership with Kingsway College School

The current tenant in the Christian Education Building is Kingsway College School, a private co-educational institution providing education for Junior Kindergarten to grade eight students. The licence agreement between Kingsway College School and St. George's on-the-hill expires on June 30 2049.

The Church provides chaplaincy services to Kingsway College School for a fee which is paid directly to the church. The Incumbent, the Bishop and the Principal of Kingsway College School together agree who provides the chaplaincy with consideration towards the workload of the incumbent.

# OUTREACH AND MISSION

St. George's supports many outreach activities as we strive to live in accordance with the message of Jesus and bring that message into the community. Some of these are listed below

- Front Porch Food Drive
- Community Garden on the property to grow vegetables for St James Food Bank to address food insecurity
- Participate in Out of the Cold, Out of the Heat, providing food for the homeless.
- Prepare boxes at Easter for a local Women's Shelter as well as a Mitten Tree
- As a significant historical site in Etobicoke. St George's regularly participates in Doors Open. There are usually about 100 people who pass through the doors that weekend. There is often a short organ concert on Sunday to highlight this amazing instrument.
- Pastoral AA meetings on Monday nights, at no cost
- Dorothy Ley Hospice
- Ukrainian Relief Fund
- Active sponsors of and contribute to many diocesan programs, including Faith Works

# ABOUT OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

With a population of 2.8 million people, Toronto is Canada's largest city and the most multicultural. The city's motto is "Diversity is our Strength." Etobicoke, where St. George's is located, is just 20 minutes by public transit from downtown Toronto and is home to 317,000 residents (2021 census).



## 01. Nature and Community

Etobicoke offers over 100 parks, ravine trails, and 50 km of waterfront parkland, blending suburban tranquility with urban convenience for nature lovers and culture seekers alike.



## 02. Generational Balance

Etobicoke has a higher proportion of both seniors (16%) and youth (15%) compared to the Toronto averages of 14%, creating a community rich in both youthful energy and generational experience. We look forward to working with our new incumbent to identify possible initiatives to build the parish congregation membership from our community.



## 03. Economic Stability

Etobicoke has a higher median household income than the Toronto average, with a median of approximately \$92,000 compared to the city's \$84,000.



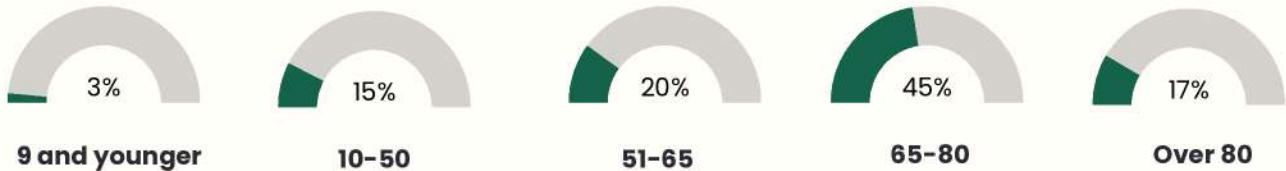
# HUMAN RESOURCES

## Parish Statistics

### Lifecycle events by year

Area	2021	2022	2023
Baptism	1	3	7
Marriages	3	3	0
Funerals	15	10	10

### Membership by age group



# PAID STAFF

**Full time**

- Interim Priest in Charge
- Facilities Manager
- Facilities Technical Specialist

**Part Time**

- Director of Music Ministry
- Director of Candlelight Choir
- Director of Youth Ministry
- Parish Administrator
- Lay Pastoral Associate
- Bookkeeper
- Honorary Assistant Clergy
- Some Choir Members
- Cemetery Manager
- Nursery staff

# VOLUNTEERS

At St. George's, the dedicated group of volunteers plays a vital role in nurturing our community. These individuals, serving in both appointed and ad-hoc roles, contribute their time and talents to support worship and community initiatives. Their efforts enrich church life and make a tangible difference in the lives of parishioners, reflecting our commitment to service and connection.

- Wardens
- Parish Advisory Council
- Treasurer
- Church Investment Advisory Committee
- Counters
- Lay Members to Synod (1 + alternate)
- Acolytes
- Lay Readers
- Chancel Guild
- Newcomers Team
- Heritage and Archives
- Outreach
- Prayer Shawl Ministry
- Sides persons
- Some choir members
- Godly Play storytellers
- Garden team





## PRESENT REALITY AND FUTURE VISION

St. George's on-the-hill has proudly stood as a beacon over central Etobicoke for nearly 200 years, and we believe that God has given our church a clear and enduring purpose within the community.

Our vision for the future is to be a vibrant, welcoming place where faith comes alive, and where people of all backgrounds find belonging, support, and love. We are seeking a new priest who will share this vision and help guide us as we nurture a community that cares for others, conducts outreach, and brings the love of Jesus to those in need, especially in troubled times.

St. George's aims to be a place of refuge, where the least, the last, and the lost find a compassionate home. We envision a church that fosters intergenerational connections, where people of all ages are loved, supported, and build lasting friendships.

As we look ahead, we recognize the need for sustainability and resilience. While we honour our rich history, we are prepared to evolve, embracing change with an open mind, creativity, and a willingness to take risks.

Our new priest should be a visionary leader, willing to work collaboratively with the congregation to make necessary changes, to explore ideas, try new things, and help us continue to be a dynamic presence in the community for years to come.



# OUR FUTURE PRIEST

At St. George's on-the-hill, we believe God has given our church a unique purpose in this community. We are ready for a new priest who will help us fulfil that purpose, leading us with vision, compassion, and creativity as we continue to be a place where people find refuge, support, and the love of Christ.

## Our Top Competencies in no particular order

### 1. Incumbent as Preacher

The new priest will deliver engaging, relevant sermons that connect Jesus' message to everyday life. Their preaching will inspire us to live our faith through social justice and outreach, with a clear, compassionate style that challenges us to serve others.

### 2. Incumbent as Ministry Leader

We seek a visionary, inclusive leader who embraces diversity and fosters unity within the congregation. This person will lead with strategic direction, engage in planning for the future, and support volunteers, while maintaining open and respectful communication with all.

### 3. Incumbent as Pastor

The new priest will offer compassionate pastoral care, genuinely listening to and supporting parishioners through times of joy and hardship. Approachable and empathetic, they will create a sense of community, making everyone feel valued and heard.

### 4. Incumbent as Strategic Growth Manager

Our new priest will bring creativity and energy to help us grow and adapt, welcoming newcomers and engaging young families. He/she/they will inspire us to embrace change, develop new ministries, and respond to the evolving needs of our community.



# APPRECIATION

Thank you to all who contribute to our community: volunteers for your unwavering dedication, worship leaders for guiding our spiritual journeys, musicians for enriching our worship, outreach coordinators for your efforts in community support, administrative staff for your organization and behind-the-scenes work, and parishioners for your participation and fellowship.

Your collective efforts make our parish a vibrant and supportive place.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the congregation for their thoughtful input into the survey, which had an impressive return rate. We are also deeply grateful to the representatives of the various groups within the church who dedicated their time and insights on behalf of their communities, as well as to everyone who contributed during our post-service consultation meetings. Finally, we wish to acknowledge the unwavering commitment of the volunteers on the Parish Selection Committee, whose efforts were instrumental in completing this comprehensive profile.

**Thank you for your ongoing dedication and support.**



# CHURCH PROPERTY

St. George's is located at a high point on 4600 Dundas Street West in Toronto. The church is surrounded by green space, including the cemetery, which has been in use since the church was founded.

## INTERIOR

01

### Luxton Hall

Located below the church this serves as the main social area for the church. It includes a commercial kitchen with plans to upgrade the kitchen; fundraising is underway for this important project.

02

### Church Office

This is used for the Parish Administrator to work. It also features a very small kitchen and is used for small social gatherings

03

### Canada Hall

This is part of the Kingsway College School but can be used by St. George's on-the-hill upon request

04

### Other rooms

St Hilda's, Godly Play, nursery, music room & office available on lower levels

St George's has a large parking lot which is shared with Kingsway College School which is located next to St. George's. It is served by TTC bus routes, bus 40A, or Royal York bus 73B/73C. A street reconfiguration completed in 2024 has added bike lanes and a new signalled intersection that allow people to cross Dundas Street safely at the church. This has significantly improved bike and pedestrian accessibility.

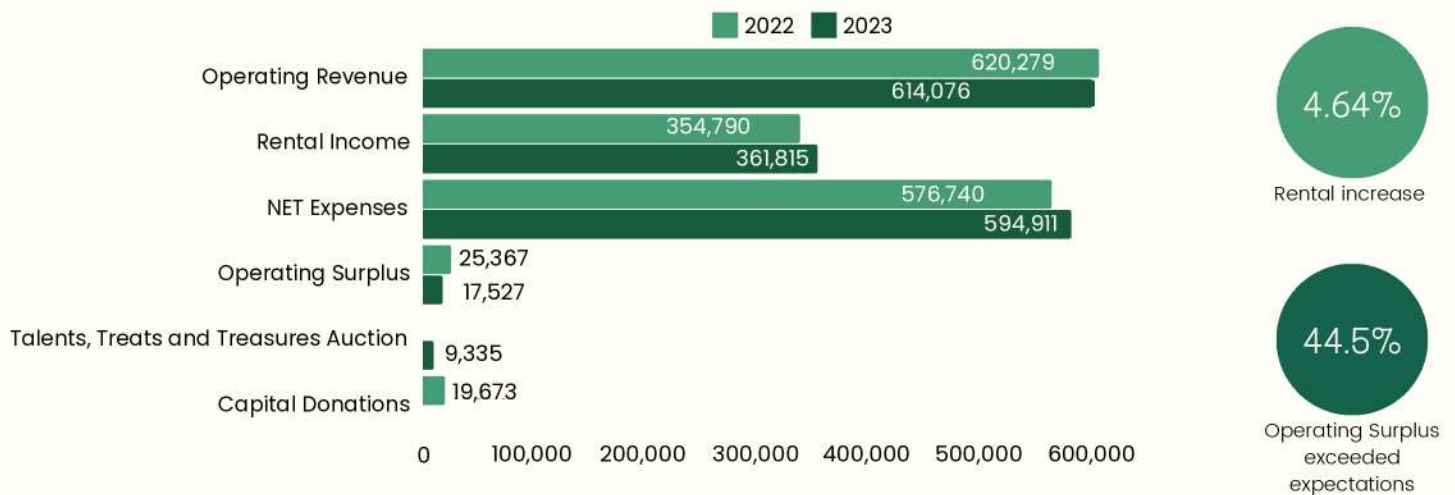


The four-bedroom rectory, located near the church, is available, further strengthening the connection between the church and its clergy



# FINANCIALS

## Detailed financials for St. George’s on-the-hill church



St. George’s has a stable financial foundation based on regular rental income from KCS as well as shared expenses with KCS. There are no outstanding debts against the property. Additionally, St George’s has a capital fund to account for continual upkeep of the property. Donations have moderately recovered from the pandemic.



**Financial Stability with Recovered Donations and Steady Income**

Despite not having targeted fundraising for Outreach, we successfully distributed \$15,129 in financial assistance, along with donated goods such as food, prayer shawls, socks, mittens, hats, and toiletries.

Thanks to the recovery in equity markets, we saw unrealized gains of \$38,203 in 2023, a significant improvement compared to unrealized losses of \$124,740 in 2022.

Our investments continue to show strength, with accumulated net unrealized gains of \$182,185 on total investments valued at \$1,465,279, even after drawing from these funds to support the redevelopment of the South Garden.

Additionally, investment income increased slightly to \$59,242, and we have successfully reintroduced a GIC ladder strategy to enhance returns.

### Financial Highlights



### Projects Completed in 2023

Exterior painting of frames and new stone sills as needed	\$29,914
Completion of Vestry Cabinet	\$ 7,879
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$37,793</b>

Redesign of South Garden \$ 24,070

### Under consideration

- Replacing sidewalk and paving along north side of church\*
- Luxton servery and new washrooms
- Remapping of cemetery to identify additional plots

\*Completed in 2024



# ST. GEORGE'S ON-THE-HILL ANGLICAN CHURCH

## Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2023

	Operating Fund	Restricted and Endowment Fund	Capital Fund	2023 Total	2022 Total
	<b>Dec.31, 2023</b>	<b>Dec.31, 2023</b>	<b>Dec.31, 2023</b>	<b>Dec.31, 2023</b>	<b>Dec.31, 2022</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>					
Cash	\$ 182,125	\$ 67,445	\$ 113,275	<b>\$ 362,845</b>	\$ 225,486
Investments (Note 4)	-	1,372,674	115,524	<b>1,488,198</b>	1,462,644
Accounts receivable	12,085	10,179	2,231	<b>24,495</b>	29,752
Harmonized sales tax refundable	21,643	5,789	2,783	<b>30,215</b>	36,010
Property, plant, and equipment (Net of accumulated amortization) (Note 5)	-	-	788,958	<b>788,958</b>	860,099
	<b>\$ 215,853</b>	<b>\$ 1,456,087</b>	<b>\$ 1,022,771</b>	<b>\$ 2,694,711</b>	<b>\$ 2,613,991</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>					
Accounts payable	\$ 50,007	\$ 11,246	-	<b>\$ 61,253</b>	\$ 38,573
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>					
Unrestricted fund	165,846	-	-	<b>165,846</b>	140,856
Invested in property and equipment	-	-	788,958	<b>788,958</b>	860,099
Internally restricted funds	-	897,472	233,813	<b>1,131,285</b>	1,022,550
Externally restricted fund	-	527,411	-	<b>527,411</b>	531,336
Endowment fund	-	19,958	-	<b>19,958</b>	20,577
	<b>165,846</b>	<b>1,444,841</b>	<b>1,022,771</b>	<b>2,633,458</b>	<b>2,575,418</b>
	<b>\$ 215,853</b>	<b>\$ 1,456,087</b>	<b>\$ 1,022,771</b>	<b>\$ 2,694,711</b>	<b>\$ 2,613,991</b>

# Statement of Revenues and Expenditures

Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Operating Fund	Restricted and Endowment Fund	Capital Fund	2023	2022
<b>REVENUES</b>					
Donations	\$ 246,276	\$ 2,829	\$ 76,450	\$ 325,555	\$ 285,762
Facilities rental and use	361,815	-	-	361,815	345,790
Memorial and bequests	8,255	350	-	8,605	2,705
Fundraising events	510	-	9,335	9,845	1,345
Other revenue	3,423	75,257	-	78,680	48,342
Investment income measured at fair value	-	54,439	4,804	59,243	58,299
	620,279	132,875	90,589	843,743	742,243
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
Facilities cost	662,299	-	-	662,299	600,747
Parish Ministry	291,355	30,939	534	322,828	289,159
Administration	104,680	79,947	4,282	188,909	172,062
Beyond the Parish	98,729	14,260	-	112,989	119,916
Amortization	-	-	98,657	98,657	95,262
Insurance	47,170	-	-	47,170	44,975
Rectory	17,550	-	-	17,550	16,056
Shared expenses recovered from tenants	(626,871)	-	-	(626,871)	(576,602)
	594,912	125,146	103,473	823,531	761,575
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES FROM OPERATIONS</b>	25,367	7,729	(12,884)	20,212	(19,332)
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>					
Realized gains (losses) on sale of investments	-	-	-	-	12,594
Unrealized gains (losses) on sale of investments	-	38,700	(496)	38,204	(123,337)
	-	38,700	(496)	38,204	(110,743)
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES</b>	\$ 25,367	\$ 46,429	\$ (13,380)	\$ 58,416	\$ (130,075)



# Statement of Changes in Fund Balances

Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Operating Fund Dec. 31, 2023	Restricted and Endowment Fund Dec. 31, 2023	Capital Fund Dec. 31, 2023	2023 Total Dec 31, 2023	2022 Total Dec. 31, 2022
<b>FUND BALANCES – BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	\$ 140,481	\$ 1,398,408	\$ 1,036,149	\$ 2,575,038	\$ 2,705,113
Excess of revenues over expenditures	25,367	46,429	(13,380)	58,416	(130,075)
Interfund transfers	-	-	-	-	-
<b>FUND BALANCES – END OF YEAR</b>	\$ 165,848	\$ 1,444,837	\$ 1,022,769	\$ 2,633,454	\$ 2,575,038



# Statement of Cash Flows

## Year Ended December 31, 2023

	2023	2022
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	<b>\$58,416</b>	\$(130,075)
<b>Items not affecting cash:</b>		
Amortization of property and equipment (Note 5)	<b>98,657</b>	95,262
Unrealized gains (losses) on investments held	<b>(38,203)</b>	123,337
	<b>118,870</b>	88,524
<b>Changes in non-cash working capital:</b>		
Accounts receivable	<b>5,257</b>	(9,450)
Harmonized sales tax refundable	<b>5,795</b>	(6,583)
Accounts payable	<b>22,304</b>	(19,991)
	<b>33,356</b>	(36,024)
Cash flow from operating activities	<b>152,226</b>	52,500
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Purchase of property and equipment	<b>(27,516)</b>	(129,496)
Disposal (acquisition) of investments - net	<b>12,649</b>	(234,255)
Cash flow used by investing activities	<b>(14,867)</b>	(363,751)
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH FLOW</b>	<b>137,359</b>	(311,251)
Cash - beginning of year	<b>225,486</b>	536,732
<b>CASH - END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$362,845</b>	\$225,481
<b>CASH CONSISTS OF CASH</b>	<b>\$362,845</b>	\$225,486

St. George's on-the-hill [Operating Fund 2024 Budget](https://stgeorgesonthehill.ca/) is available at <https://stgeorgesonthehill.ca/>



# St. George's on-the-hill

Anglican Church of Canada

## Parish Profile



### Contact

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