

2023 Annual Report

Sharing Hope

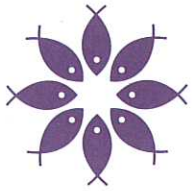


The
Presbyterian
Church
in Canada



ST. ANDREW'S
PRESBYTERIAN

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Brampton, Ontario L6V 1G3
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www.standrewsbrampton.ca



Presbyterians
Sharing

Supporting Mission and Ministry Together

through The Presbyterian Church in Canada



"St. Matthew's is very grateful for the PCC's support, which allows us to continue our ministry as we strive to help others and, as a result, grow spiritually. We are a small congregation with a big heart."

—Lynne Allan,
St. Matthew's Presbyterian Church,
Grand Falls-Windsor, Nfld.



"Because of Presbyterians Sharing, newcomers to Canada are now hearing about the teachings of Christ, many who had never heard them before. Our ministry has helped many newcomers settle down and start a new life."

—Pastor Rani Ibrahim, Newcomers Mission, Peterborough, Ont.



"The grant from Presbyterians Sharing makes it possible to support our community with food, a place of safety and culturally appropriate programs. It allows us to remain in contact with local indigenous elders, who actively support the fellowship centre, and operate our community transition housing program."

—Yvonne Bearbull, Anamiewigummig Fellowship Centre, Kenora, Ont.



"The grant funds were used to support the costs of ordained ministry after many years of contract leadership. This allowed for greater financial and leadership stability as we started the implementation phase of our New Beginnings program and look for new partnerships and ways to engage the community."

—Sharon Buchanan,
St. James Presbyterian Church, North Yarmouth, Ont.

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*The St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Audited Financial Statements and Auditor's Report
have been printed separately.*

Minister's Report

Then the Lord appeared to Solomon in the night and said to him: 'I have heard your prayer, and have chosen this place for myself as a house of sacrifice.' (2 Chronicles 7:12)

Dear members and friends of St. Andrew's, I offer the following verse by an unknown author:

*God bless this home and those who love it;
Fair be the skies which bend above it.
May never anger's thoughtless word
Within these sheltering walls be heard.
May all who rest beside this fire
And then depart, glad thoughts inspire;
And make them feel who close the door,
Friendship has graced their home once more.*

*God bless this house and those who keep it;
In the sweet oils of gladness steep it.
Endow these walls with lasting wealth
The light of love, the glow of health,
The palm of peace, the charm of mirth,
Good friends to sit around the hearth;
And with each nightfall perfect rest
Here let them live their happiest.*

As we read this verse and relate it to our homes, it certainly reflects the atmosphere and spirit we want for our homes, our families and those who would join us. And now I would ask you to reread the verse and apply it to our church home here at St. Andrew's ... the house of God.

Again, we would want the atmosphere and spirit of this verse to reflect the atmosphere and spirit of our church home, for ourselves and our guests who join us.

In the above scripture verse from the Book of Chronicles, we see that it was given to King Solomon to build the house of God – The Temple – for God's people, their faith home where they were to praise and worship God and make their sacrifices.

In the above poem, we read the line "God bless this house and those who keep it" – or, as it is expressed in the Scripture, "a house of sacrifice". At this, our annual congregational meeting, we come to give thanks to those of the congregation "who keep it" and indeed the many who make a sacrifice to make this our faith home as we come together in worship, fellowship, prayer and study: the house of God for all to enter.

We come together to receive the reports of the various committees and groups and to review the activities within the life of St. Andrew's, and the ways in which we reach out locally and beyond to share the good news of our faith and help those who are in need, in service to our Lord.

I thank the fellow staff with whom I work, and those of the congregation who help me in ministry as we go forward in this chapter of the congregation's life.

As in any family, I am glad to be a part of the St. Andrew's family in our faith home where we work together to bring out the best in one another and extend this to all who would join us here in the house of our God.

Together in His Service,



Reverend Wayne J. Baswick
Interim Moderator,
Stated Supply

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

2024 Annual General Meeting

April 21, 2024

Proposed Agenda

1. Opening Prayer
2. Appointment of Recording Secretary
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Adoption of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on April 19, 2023 and the meeting held on September 24, 2023
 - Any business arising from these Minutes
5. Reports of Session, Committees and Groups as circulated; Questions for Committee chairs
 - Motion to accept these Reports
6. Search Committee Update
7. Report of the Board of Trustees
 - Nomination of Trustees: *Stan Loree, Gord Warren, Debbie Warwick, Henry Peyer*
8. Report from the Treasurer
 - Review Performance of 2023 Budget
9. Auditor's Report
 - Motion to accept the audited Financial Statements as printed
10. Appointment of Auditor: *RLB Chartered Professional Accountants*, and Appointment of Treasurer: *Anna-Marie Dewar*
11. New Business
12. Votes of Thanks
13. Closing Prayer
14. Congregational Meetings:
 - Budget Meeting – November 17, 2024
 - Annual General Meeting – April 27, 2025 (*Note: Palm Sunday – April 13, 2025; Easter Sunday – April 20, 2025*)

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
2023 Emergent Annual General Meeting
September 24, 2023

Minutes

The meeting was held for S. Loree, Chair of the Property Committee, to explain that the eavestroughs on the west side of the Sanctuary and the north side of the Great Hall were falling off the building and must be replaced immediately.

The building is a historical site, and the replacement must be the same as the original eavestroughs. The committee received three estimates to do the work and, after reviewing them, decided to use the middle quotation, which was approximately \$130,000.00.

It was necessary to withdraw the money from the Capital Facilities Fund, which needed the congregation's approval.

Motion by S. Loree, seconded by P. Shepherd, requests that the congregation approve transferring \$100,000.00 from the Capital Facilities Fund to cover the residual cost of the planned repairs to the church eavestroughs. **CARRIED**

Jean Bradshaw
Recording Secretary

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

2023 Annual Budget Meeting

November 19, 2023

Minutes

The Rev. W. J. Baswick opened the meeting in prayer.

Motion by H. Collins, seconded by C. Young, to appoint J. Bradshaw as recording secretary. CARRIED

Adoption of the Agenda: Motion by J. Bradshaw, seconded by E. Boyd, to adopt the agenda as presented. CARRIED

Motion by J. Bradshaw, seconded by S. Jackson, to approve the Minutes of the Congregational Meeting held on April 23, 2023. CARRIED

The Committee Chairs were all present to answer the congregation's questions about their committee's work.

The Treasurer then presented the 176th budget for 2024.

The Treasurer read the St. Andrew's Vision Statement:

*The vision statement of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Brampton, Ontario, is to make a positive impact for God by helping people understand the enriching messages of eternal hope given to us by **Jesus Christ** through His words and deeds. We welcome everyone just as you are and are eager to get to know you better.*

The Treasurer then thanked everyone for our support and our continued support.

Mission Committee: The committee's budget is \$25,300, including \$21,000 in expenses for the S-EAOM members, based on members giving an annual offering of \$30,000. If this does not happen, their costs will be reduced. The other mission expenses are for Faith in ACT!ON, Project Cozy, and Christmas outreach.

Worship Committee: The budget for 2024 is similar to the prior year's budget. We will continue to have online worship services. The choir and band want to continue to grow. The committee will also continue with the newsletter.

Christian Education: The education budget 2024 is \$4,450, with an increase of \$200 for the library. Everything else remains the same.

Property Committee: The budget is \$120,000. for 2024. Some of the expenses are general maintenance, which is \$49,000; major maintenance is \$24,000 – fireproof insulation for the boiler room and replacing the lights in the Great Hall; utilities, taxes, and insurance \$42,000. The balance goes to manse maintenance and licenses for payroll, software, and copier lease. The budgeted expenses are 30% of the total budget.

Stewardship Committee: The budget for 2024 is \$219,000. Salaries and benefits expenses are 80% of the total budget.

The pension fund assessment and Presbyterian Assessment are based on income from two years before. The other costs and fundraisers remain the same as in 2023.

The total 2024 budgeted revenue is \$348,000, including the \$30,000 goal we set for the S-EAOM. The total expenses budgeted show a deficit of \$45,200 in 2024.

The stock market declined, and our investments are equally down, so we are not getting income from that source. Each committee is challenged to spend when it is necessary. We can do it if we work hard.

Motion by A-M Dewar, seconded by H. Peyer, for the congregation to approve the budget presented by the Treasurer. **CARRIED**

Thank you to the committees as they prepared their budgets.

Thank you to our Treasurer, who worked hard to put these budgets together and balance everything.

Thank you to all the members who stayed in church to participate in this process.

**Elders Serving on Session
of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
as of December 31, 2023**

The Rev. Wayne J. Baswick, Interim Moderator/Stated Supply
The Rev. Rosemary Doran, Minister Emeritus
The Rev. Babar Allahditta, Associate Minister

J. Young	2018-2025	S. Babar	2021-2026	S. Loree	2023-2028
J. Bradshaw	2018-2025	H. Peyer	2021-2026	J. Collins	2023-2028
A. Dewar	2019-2025	K. Hutchinson	2021-2026		
S. Jackson	2019-2025	R. Kirkpatrick	2021-2026		
C. Young	2023-2025	R. Cammidge	2023-2026		

**Supporting Elders
as of March 31, 2024**

A.J. Hunt	1967	V. Warren	1998
W. Gemmill	1972	R. Wightman	1998
J.F. MacDonald	1972	T. Campbell	2004
I.C. Jess	1981	R. Orrom	2004
S. Kellam	1981	R. Duncan	2004
H. Eitner	1986	M. Jackson	2014
M. MacDonald	1986	M. Tedder	2016
F. Holmes	1987	G. Warren	2016
B. Cornish	1989	M. Nicol	2018
J. Urquhart	1989	P. Loree	2021
M. Hunt	1989	D. Scott-Dunne	2014
D. Volpe	1992	J. Stratton	2021
D. Young	1992	P. Willoughby	2018
M. Harvey	1996	E. Emanuel	2014
F. Alexander	1996	K. Shepherd	2014
K. Jackson	1996	E. Boyd	2016
S. Jess	1998	R. M ^c Mechan	2014
L. Malek	1998	D. Warwick	2006
A. Mear	1998	R. Scanlan	2014

St. Andrew's Leadership in 2023

Interim Moderator
Rev. Wayne J. Baswick

Clerk of Session
Jean Bradshaw

Treasurer
Anna-Marie Dewar

Minister Emeritus
Rev. Rosemary Doran

Deputy Clerk of Session

Envelope Secretaries
Kim Shepherd
Valerie Martin

Minister in Association
Rev. Babar Allahditta

Session Treasurer
Pam Loree

Trustees
Stan Loree
Henry Peyer
Gord Warren
Debbie Warwick

Presbytery Representative
Rosalind Cammidge

Office Administrator
Valerie Barrett

Music Director
Shelagh Tyreman

2023 Committee Chairs

Worship & Fellowship

Congregational Care

Food Bank

Mission

Property

Stewardship

Christian Education

Karen Hutchinson

Felicity Alexander

Gord Warren

Robyn Kirkpatrick

Stan Loree

Helen Collins

Jean Bradshaw



Committee Members as of February 1, 2024

All pastoral staff are *ex officio* members of all committees with no vote.

Christian Education

Jean Bradshaw (*Chair*)
Doreen Scott-Dunne
Meaghan Bhim

Congregational Care

Felicity Alexander (*Chair*)
Susan Jess
Sandra Jackson
Rosemary Doran

Food Bank

Gord Warren (*Chair*)
Tom Campbell
Belle Campbell
Grace Brewster-Yates
Bruce Cornish
Ian Jess
Herb Eitner
John Collins

Mission

Robyn Kirkpatrick (*Chair*)
Colin Young
June Young
Jessica Rhind

Property

Stan Loree (*Chair*)
Bill Dewar
Barry Ford
Mark Bhim

Stewardship

Kim Shepherd (*Chair*)
Henry Peyer
Anna-Marie Dewar (*Treasurer*)
Grace Gowland

Worship & Fellowship

Karen Hutchinson (*Chair*)
Michelle Tedder
Samina Babar
Shelagh Tyreman (*Music Director*)
Ian Jess (*Choir Representative*)
John Bakkeren (*Welcome Team*)
Peter Shepherd

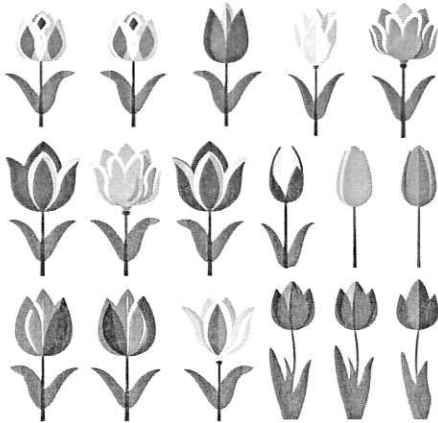
Roll Clerk

Kim Shepherd

*Many of our committees need
additional members –
can you help?*

Session

*Let us not become weary of doing good, for at the proper time,
we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. (Galatians 6:9)*



The Standing Orders require the Session to have fifteen active elders. Due to COVID and elders whose term service ended and some resignations from session members due to personal reasons, the Session has not worked with a full complement of fifteen elders for the last three years. With fewer elders, it has placed extra responsibilities and stretched the active session members regarding their committee work, pastoral care of their districts, and Session matters dealt with at session meetings.

At the February meeting, Rev. Geoff Ross announced that he had taken a pulpit call at Erindale Presbyterian Church. He was resigning from St. Andrew's effective April 30, 2023, and his last sermon would be on Easter Sunday, April 9. Rev. Ross had served

St. Andrews for ten years, during which time he introduced many changes to the congregation. The congregation held a farewell luncheon and presented gifts to him and his family.

Presbytery then appointed the Rev. Wayne J. Baswick as Interim Moderator/Stated Supply on a three-quarter basis, effective May 1, 2023.

The Session in November appointed eleven members to the Search Committee to start the search for a new minister. These members were commissioned on December 10 and got to work immediately. The work for finding a new minister is very detailed - numerous forms to complete for submission to the Presbytery and the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

The various committees were busy throughout the year, doing fundraisers, running the Faith in ACT!ON campaign, and starting youth confirmation classes led by Ray Scanlan and Doreen Scott-Dunne. The youth continue to meet on Sunday mornings. The property committee worked especially hard to maintain the building. The Foodbank has seen a significant rise in clients. Please read the details in the committee reports.

Jean Bradshaw
Clerk of Session

St. Andrew's Session Fund Financial Summary

for the year ended December 31, 2023
(with comparative numbers for the prior year)

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Receipts		
Donations from Elders	725.00	1,555.00
Loose Offering	32.02	300.00
Donations made for gift to Rev. Ross on his departure	718.00	906.00 200.00
Total Receipts	\$1,475.02	\$2,961.00
Disbursements		
Benevolent Distribution	\$(1,250.00)	\$(2,000.00)
Bank Charge	\$ (9.84)	\$ -
Gift given to Rev. Ross	\$ (718.00)	\$ -
Total Expenses	\$(1,977.84)	\$(2,000.00)
Surplus (deficit) for the year	\$ (502.82)	\$ 961.00
Opening bank balance	<u>\$3,178.18</u>	<u>\$2,217.18</u>
Ending bank balance	<u>\$2,675.36</u>	<u>\$3,178.18</u>

2023 Statistical Report of the Session

Communicant Membership as of December 31, 2022 **464**

Added during 2023 by:

Profession of Faith 12

Removed during 2023 by:

Deaths 11

Transfer Out 4

Removal from Roll by Session 0

Communicant Membership as of December 31, 2023 **461**

New Members

Adha Amos	Aneeqa Amos
Gul Amos	Amos Masih
Azaniah Jalal Babar	Shael Babar
Jesse Bashir	Lucas Bhim
Bryen Hallim	Robyn Jarjour
Daim Maqbool	Sundrella Siraj

Baptisms

Jane Frances Bush	Theodore Emerson Law Collins
James Whitsitt DeSouza	Jesimile Jesse
Alice Jung	Kate Tristan Jung
Noel Joshua Jung	Reilly Knox Jung

In Memoriam

(Members and Adherents deceased during 2023)

George Burrows	Mary Cation
Glenna German	Marg Hunter
Cecil Kester	Cora McAteer
John Nicholson	Sarah Ann Orrom
Graham Shepherd	Fred Swackhammer
James Taylor	

Memorial Gifts 2003-2023

2003	Estate of Tom Kadey	5,000
2003	Estate of Beatrice Fenwick	132,500
2004	Estate of Verna R. Marshall	64,944
2004	Estate of Dorothy M. McInerney	505
2005	Estate of Dorothy M. McInerney	5,000
2006	Estate of Claude McLaughlin	50,000
2007	Estate of Hector Douglas McGee	3,000
2007	Estate of Beatrice Fenwick	112,235
2007	In memory of Blake Stansfield	1,500
2007	Estate of Elizabeth McHardy	2,000
2009	Estate of Joan Sargeant and Gladys Martin in memory of Thomas William and Annis Martin	161,742
2010	Family of Elspeth Stansfield	1,000
2010	Estate of Jack Malcolm	5,000
2010	Estate of Norma Small	5,000
2012	Estate of Meribeth Lamont	25,000
2013	Estate of Clara Vanderperk	34,275
2013	Estate of Reginald Allman	162,500
2014	Estate of Bruce Carruthers	148,873
2015	Estate of Reginald Allman	100,000
2016	Estate of Reginald Allman	106,000
2017	Estate of Reginald Allman	165,000
2018	Estate of Reginald Allman	12,500
2020	Estate of Mary McLean	30,000
2020	Estate of Reginald Allman	5,679
2021	Estate of Helen Gardiner	25,000
2022	Estate of Helen Graham	1,000

In addition to these cash donations, the Armstrong family donated the stained glass window in the Minister's Vestry.

2023 Memorials

Monies were received in memory of the following members:

George Burrows
Bob Alexander
Graham Shepherd
Cecil Kester
Jim Taylor
John Boyd
Sarah Ann Orrom

Board of Trustees

ROYAL BANK ACCOUNT – MEMORIAL FUND

Enduring Gifts Fund at December 31, 2023

Royal Bank Bank Account, December 31, 2023	\$ 9,447.61
	<u>\$ 9,447.61</u>

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements

Receipts

Interest from bank deposits	\$ 48.08
Transfers from FLAME endowments	\$ 7,563.03
Closing bank balance December 31, 2022	\$ 9,417.53
	<u>\$17,028.64</u>

Disbursements

Bank service charges	\$ 18.00
Transfer to PCC Investment Fund	\$ 7,563.03
Closing bank balance December 31, 2022	\$ 9,447.61
	<u>\$17,028.64</u>

A Call to Corporate Prayer

For the past two years as we look at COVID-19 in the rearview mirror, we have been praying for an end to the two-year war in Ukraine after the Russian invasion causing massive death and destruction of many villages, towns and cities. This war is also responsible for destroying the country's infrastructure and killing many of the civilian population to the extent that many people are now without food, water, hydro, heat and shelter – the basic necessities of life. Then, several months ago, Israel was attacked by Hamas, resulting in the horror story that arose around the Gaza Strip. This is our corporate prayer to ask God to intervene in situations that we cannot resolve on our own.

This follows our prayers for Syria and other Middle Eastern countries that have been ravaged by wars, creating millions of refugees worldwide, living for years in temporary makeshift refugee camps, their cities and homes destroyed.

As we move into spring, it is impossible not to pray for the human suffering in the Gaza Strip, where thousands of civilians and children are starving to death, their homes destroyed and nowhere to go. And most recently the civil war in Haiti, where the gangs have literally taken over the country. It is difficult to even comprehend the human suffering there.

When we look at the ruins of the city of Ephesus with our GRACE Group 2000 years after the apostle Paul ministered for two years in this once vibrant city, we might reflect, “Can we do more to avoid more similar scenes in our lifetime?”

The answer seems to be right in front of us in the hope of the Gospel and our response to call on our Lord and Saviour to intervene in these situations and guide us in how to respond in this global village in which we live. We remember the words of Jesus to come to Him in prayer and ask for anything.

You are invited to pray virtually with others, from your home on the third Friday of each month at 3:00 p.m.

Ray Scanlan

Cradle Roll

In 2023 there were eight people baptized at St. Andrew's, including four infant and four adult baptisms.

I send birthday cards to babies baptized at St. Andrew's, in recognition of their first, second and third birthdays. I have mailed eight cards to babies baptized at St. Andrew's over the past three years.

I am pleased to be able to provide this outreach service as part of my Stewardship and Congregational Care commitments at St. Andrew's.

Felicity Alexander
Secretary



Christian Education Committee

Working to Strengthen and Grow

On behalf of the teachers, the children/youth and their families, we say 'Thank You' to Jean Bradshaw, who retired in September 2023 as Sunday School Superintendent and teacher. Jean, your time and dedication to the work of the Sunday School will be missed and are big shoes to follow.

The Sunday School gained more teachers, and I wish to thank them for sharing their time, their vision and their gifts to the children and youth of our church: Jessica Rhind and Meaghan Bhim who teach our Dwell curriculum for grades JK-3; Robyn Kirkpatrick (teaming with Kim Shepherd) who teach our Connect curriculum for grades 4-8; Doreen Scott-Dunne and Ray Scanlan who are leading our youth on their faith journey, including confirmation using the Alpha Youth curriculum.

All our Sunday School materials are available digitally. This has reduced the cost of ordering and receiving hardcopies, as all curriculum now comes from the United States and is at times difficult to order and ship.

We were unable to offer Vacation Bible School (VBS) in 2023, but our leaders hope to host a VBS in summer 2024!

Unfortunately, we were also unable to hold adult Bible studies in 2023, but we have good news! Stay tuned and watch bulletin announcements and our website, as there are studies in the works!

We continue to have two GRACE groups that meet in person to share in prayer, Bible study and fellowship. Thank you to Molly Harvey, Felicity Alexander, Doreen Scott-Dunne, Ray Scanlan and Sue Haw for your time and dedication to your GRACE groups. If you are interested in participating by leading a small group, please speak to Doreen Scott-Dunne.

We invite members to sign on to Right Now Media, which offers hundreds of Bible studies for adults, youth and children. Please contact Pam Loree and/or Kim Shepherd (Sunday School Superintendent) to sign up. It has at-home studies for all, and the best part is it's free!

Kim Shepherd
Sunday School Superintendent



Congregational Care Committee



“Church is not an organization you join; it is a family where you belong, a home where you are loved and a hospital where you find healing.” (Nicky Gumbel, Alpha Ministries)

“**We care**” is the motto of the Congregational Care team. How do “we care?” Let us count the ways!

We assist the minister with pastoral care by visiting those in chronic care or in crisis, and we help the Elders with congregational care. For 11 years we worked side by side with the Rev. Geoff Ross, but we bid him farewell in March 2023. Since then, we have been very fortunate to have the Rev. Wayne Baswick as our Interim Moderator and Stated Supply. Thank you, Wayne.

We originally broadcast our worship services live on Facebook and now they are available on YouTube. These broadcasts reach many of our shuts-ins and those who have moved away or who are at home. We are most grateful to Peter Shepherd and the technology team that make this possible and demonstrate that we care. However, it is wonderful to be able to have in-person worship services once again.

We deliver copies of the newsletter to senior members of the congregation who are no longer physically able to attend church services, and do not have internet access. We also deliver their offering envelopes and tax receipts.

We celebrate significant birthdays and anniversaries through articles and photographs in *Inside St. Andrew's*, the church newsletter.

We send cards to members who are sick or have lost a loved one. As mentioned above, where we have the information on file, we provide cards of celebration to those with special birthdays or wedding anniversaries. In 2023, we sent a total of 47 cards.

We comfort the bereaved. The 2023 Blue Christmas service was held in the Parlour.

We pray. See the Prayer Circle Report.

We visit when we can. COVID-19 restrictions limited our activities at seniors' residences and nursing homes for much of the year.

We telephone church members, and at Christmas we delivered 25 Christmas cards (hand-painted and donated by Molly Harvey, and signed by the Rev. Wayne Baswick) to our seniors. Each card included a personal message that was much appreciated by the recipients.

Congregational Care Team:

Felicity Alexander
Rev. Rosemary Doran
Sandra Jackson
Susan Jess

Envelope Secretaries

The responsibilities of the Envelope Secretaries include assigning and distributing offering envelopes, processing weekly offerings, administrating PAR (once monthly pre-authorized remittance from your bank account) and issuing tax receipts.

We would like to thank everyone for your faithful and continued financial support during 2023. With more people feeling comfortable returning to in-person services, we cannot forget those of our congregation who are worshipping with us online. Whichever way people worshipped, our many ministries and upkeep of the church were ongoing.

We also thank you for generously supporting the designated St. Andrew's projects during our Easter, Anniversary and Christmas letter campaigns. Many of you used offering envelopes, e-transfer and PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance); you may also donate through our website, www.standrewsbrampton.ca, by clicking the 'Donate' button. For this method, Canada Helps processes your donations, forwards them to St. Andrew's, and issues a tax receipt directly to you.

Please see either of the Envelope Secretaries if you wish to go on PAR, or if you would like to make any changes to your current PAR givings, have any questions or just want to say Hello. We can be reached at envsecretary@standrewsbrampton.ca.

Kim Shepherd & Valerie Martin
Envelope Secretaries



Food Bank Committee

The Food Bank in 2023 served 70% more clients than in 2022, the most significant increase at the Food Bank in our 33 years of operation. We keep count of all the individuals that come through our doors every Wednesday. Behind most of our clients are additional family members that benefit from this food, so we are actually feeding more than these reported numbers. Total clients served in 2023 was 5,569 compared to 3,160 in 2022. This increase put a real strain on our resources, so to help make our money go further, we eliminated some items and started rotational buying.

We order all our food items weekly from the Foodland Vodden store. The store manager is very generous, giving us discounted pricing and sometimes a donated pallet of food. Our Food Bank is a registered recipient of the charity Second Harvest food recovery program. The Foodland Manager and his wife visited our location in October 2023 to see how the clients proceed through the premises; they were so impressed with what they saw that the manager now redirects all his Second Harvest food items directly to us.

We are blessed with many community service clubs and local churches that run food drives on our behalf or support us financially. For the first time ever during the 2023 Christmas period, many new organizations gave very generous monetary donations. This was due to church members belonging to these organizations, and our Food Bank volunteers spreading the word. Our partners at Regeneration hosted the Brampton 'Gift of Giving Back' campaign on November 20 – 22, 2023. We supplied a team of volunteers every night of this event, to which 51 Brampton Hockey Teams donated 39,331 pounds of food. We get to share in some of these items that we pick up every Wednesday morning at the Regeneration warehouse. The paper grocery bags you see for purchase at some of the Brampton Food Basics, FreshCo and Metro locations are donated to us. A team of volunteers picks them up and drops them off weekly. We also wish to thank our longtime supporter, Bruce 'The Cookie Man' Cornish, who donates the proceeds of his sales to the Food Bank. Special shout out to Brampton Brick and their sister company The Kerbel Group who purchased just under 1,300 tins of cookies from Bruce.

With your support and our 33 volunteers, we are fulfilling our mission to help feed the hungry in Brampton!

Food Bank Committee:

Gord Warren
Grace Brewster-Yates
Ian Jess
Tom Campbell

Bruce Cornish
Herb Eitner
John Collins
Belle Campbell



GRACE Groups

GRACE stands for:

- G** — Glorify God
- R** — Relationships
- A** — Acts of Service
- C** — Caring Community
- E** — Education

There are two GRACE groups functioning at the moment, but there is room for many more.

One group is led by Felicity Alexander and Molly Harvey in the L6T/L6P area of Brampton and meets via Zoom on the third Thursday of the month in the evening. This group celebrated the end of summer 2023 with a potluck in the garden at the Harveys' before they moved and then had a pre-Christmas cider and snack party at Mike and Molly's new home. They continue to build relationships within the group.

The second group, in the L6X/L6Y area of Brampton, is led by Ray Scanlan, Doreen Scott-Dunne and Sue Haw. We meet in person at the home of Ray and Doreen at 1:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month and enjoy food, fun and warm fellowship. Usually we watch a short video from Right Now Media, study related scripture, have a lively discussion, and share items for prayer. We have had two special luncheons, one by the poolside at Ray and Doreen's in June, and an amazing Christmas celebration lunch at the home of Sue Haw and Kwasi Adjepong-Duodu. Special birthdays have also been celebrated including Marilyn and Jim Hunt's. We will continue to celebrate together, remembering to be thankful for answered prayer as we continue along on our faith journey.

If you are interested in becoming involved in coordinating a GRACE group in your area, please contact Ray or Doreen at (416) 274-5901. We will be delighted to help and support you in any way, and look forward to hearing from you. If you don't call us, we may even call you!!!

Doreen Scott-Dunne
Coordinator



Mission Committee

The Mission Committee appreciates the generosity and support of the congregation and friends of St Andrew's, as your donations make a big difference to our neighbours in Brampton.

The surplus of the winter 2022-2023 Project Cozy donations of hats, mitts, scarves and socks were given to Ukrainian refugees that were finding temporary shelter in an unused hotel operated by the Elizabeth Fry Society in Mississauga. We want to thank the knitters at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Bramalea who generously donated over 50 knitted hats, mitts and scarves to the project.

We want to thank the congregation for their continued support of the Faith in ACT!ON campaign. In spring 2023, under the leadership of Paul Willoughby, we cleaned up the church gardens and planted flowers. We thank Paul for his dedication in watering and tending to the gardens all summer long. Members of St. Andrew's also provided towels and blankets which we donated to the Brampton Animal Shelter.

The Mission Committee offered financial support to the St. Andrew's South-East Asian Outreach Ministry (S-EAOM) to pay partial expenses for their 2023 Convention for Healing and Prayer.

In the fall, we hosted a winter clothing drive to ensure that our new attendees from Kenya had warm clothing to get them through their first Canadian winter. It was well received, and we were able to share warm clothing and jackets for all who came during the donation distribution day. We thank members of St. Andrew's for your generous support of this project.

We are looking forward to increasing our activities in 2024 and thank you for your continued support.

Robyn Kirkpatrick
Chair



Prayer Circle



St. Andrew's Prayer Circle Group offers prayers for those who are experiencing illness, loss, or are going through difficult times. Prayer requests are received via the ministers, Church Office, emails, one-on-one personal conversations, phone calls, or emails to prayers@standrewsbrampton.ca.

The person, family member or friend we are praying for must be aware that the Prayer Circle Group is praying for them. Permission must be granted by the person we are praying for before their information is shared within the Prayer Circle Group ONLY, we respect everyone's privacy. All prayer requests are kept confidential unless the requester has asked the minister to announce it from the church pulpit, or family members request that obituary details be posted on St. Andrew's Facebook page.

From January 1 to December 31, 2023 the Prayer Circle Group received 72 prayer requests that resulted in 317 updates from the initial prayer requests.

All prayer requests are tracked on a Word document shared electronically within the Prayer Circle Group members only and issued monthly. This document is used to help remember all those who requested prayers. We also pray for grieving families, our clergy, Session members, church committees, GRACE groups, students at all education levels, the South-East Asian Outreach Ministry, Canadian military members, and for the end of prejudice based on colour or sexual orientation, and for truth + reconciliation of Indigenous Canadians. We pray for everyone involved in the wars in Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, and all the refugees displaced by these conflicts. All those affected by COVID-19, church members with long term health conditions, and those confined at home or in care facilities are also included in our prayers.

The administrator of this group is Sandra Jackson. Her vacation backup is Debbie Warwick, and the Rev. Rosemary Doran is the ministerial representative in the Prayer Circle Group.

Anyone who would like to become a member of the Prayer Circle Group should send their name and email address to prayer@standrewsbrampton.ca.

God bless,

Sandra Jackson
Administrator

Property Committee

2023 was another busy year for the Property Committee. Keeping an old building in shape takes teamwork and dedication – something we have no shortage of. It was needed “in spades” as our church returned to full post-pandemic activity. The following is a partial listing of what was accomplished in 2023:

Major Projects:

Fire Panel: Under the leadership of former chair Richard M^cMechan, we replaced our twenty-year-old fire monitoring panel with a state-of-the-art unit.

Front (Church Street) Steps: Barry Ford and Mark Bhim were the leads on this project, replacing twenty-year-old stone steps with an upgraded design including a concrete substructure, new stone steps and rejuvenated railings.

Eaves (North and West Elevations): A late winter snowstorm revealed the dire condition of our eaves when a section ended up on the ground. A local engineer and contractor were hired to replace the rotted wooden eaves with new ones, including new metal caps which should greatly prolong their life. Unfortunately, the East and South sides will need similar work within the next 3 to 5 years.

Ovens: The kitchen ovens were replaced mid-year, with selection and funding provided by the morning congregation, the S-EAOM congregation and our Seventh Day Adventist friends.

Other:

Church Security: We continued our monitoring contract with a security firm but ended our agreement for onsite visits by a security company. There were some upgrades to our camera system with more to come in 2024.

Boiler: Additional switches were installed to reduce the demand on the boilers and alleviate the excessive heat in the Great Hall (and reduce heating costs). Typical ongoing repairs were made, although more will be required in 2024, typical of an aging heating system.

Miscellaneous: The organ had some minor repairs, normal for a hundred-year-old instrument. Minor improvements were done to the choir room as it returned to active weekly use. Maintenance contracts were renewed with a lawn care/snow removal company and a cleaning company for weekly work at the church. The scope of work for cleaning was increased due to the increased activity in the building. A pest control company was hired to deal with an ant infestation. New rental agreements were renewed with ongoing renters. As of early 2024, we have three groups renting space in the church on a regular basis: Seventh Day Adventists, DISMAS and an AA group. We were also the site in 2023 for a film shoot and a music video by a Toronto artist. We attempted the repair of our coffee machines, but more work is needed. For now, we can handle our needs with a donated smaller coffee machine.

Thanks go to the members of the Property Committee: Bill Dewar, Barry Ford, Mark Bhim and Robert Wightman, who offer their time, talents and efforts to keep things running well.

And finally, a special thanks to past chairs Peter Shepherd and Richard M^cMechan who actively assisted us whenever they were called upon.

Stan Loree
Chair

SALSA Group

On April 15, 2023, five of the ladies from SALSA attended a fundraising dinner in Stratford for **Change Her World**, an organization that believes in creating hope and opportunity for vulnerable girls and women.

We were able to bring with us to this event a number of bins filled with undergarments for the children in this organization's care. Our congregation's contributions were gratefully received by the Change Her World committee.

In addition to a delicious dinner, the evening's program included entertainment and information shared on their continuing work. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

Susan Jess

SALSA Group Financial Summary

for the year ended December 31, 2023
(with comparative numbers for the prior year)

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Receipts		
Deposits	6.96	
Bank Interest	0.12	0.12
Total Receipts	<u>\$7.08</u>	<u>\$0.12</u>
Disbursements		
Total Expenses	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Surplus (deficit) for the year	\$7.08	\$0.12
Opening bank balance	<u>\$393.02</u>	<u>\$392.90</u>
Ending bank balance	<u><u>\$400.10</u></u>	<u><u>\$393.02</u></u>

St. Andrew's-Pringle Women's Missionary Society

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you." (Jeremiah 29:11-12)



The Women's Missionary Society (WMS) Purpose Statement: The Women's Missionary Society is a community of Christians whose purpose, in response to the love of God in Jesus Christ, is to encourage one another and all the people of the church to be involved in local and world mission through prayer, study, service and fellowship.

The 2023 World Day of Prayer was held in person at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church. The program was written by the women of Taiwan.

The WMS continues to meet online via Microsoft Teams. We gather together the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. from September through to June.

Although we were unable to hold our annual potluck dinners or Christmas Bake Sale, we have met as women of faith for study and fellowship. We continue to pivot, learning new ways to share, study, hear hymns, etc. The Executive is truly thankful for members who are contributing by mail to the working of the WMS.

If you would like to attend the meeting, please contact Kim Shepherd. We'd love to see you, men too! Please be safe, stay well, and we pray that we will be able to gather together again in 2024.

I would like to close this year's report with the Mitzpah Benediction: *"May the Lord watch between me and thee, while we are absent one from another."*

In faith,

Kim Shepherd
President

St. Andrew's-Pringle Women's Missionary Society Financial Statement 2023

Bank Balance January 1, 2023		<u>\$2,901.00</u>
Receipts 2023		
General Funds for WMS National Office	220.00	\$220.00
Disbursements 2023		
WMS National Office 2023	220.00	<u>\$ 220.00</u>
Bank Balance as at December 31, 2023		<u>\$2,901.00</u>

Jean Bradshaw
Treasurer, WMS

Stewardship Committee

Our stewardship calls us to explore ways of love and justice in respecting God's creation and in seeking its responsible use for the common good. (Living Faith, 2.4.2)

The Committee would like to start off by thanking Helen Collins and Rosalind Cammidge for their time and dedication to the committee over the past six years. Helen served as Chair of the committee and Rosalind as recording secretary. You will both be missed.

We are also fortunate to have a great Office Administrator, Valerie Barrett, who resumed her regular in-office hours in early 2023. A reminder that all material for the Sunday bulletins must be received at the Church Office by end of day Wednesday as the bulletins are posted Thursday morning.

In 2023 the committee held its annual Hanging Basket and MacGregors Meat & Seafood fundraisers. Thank you to everyone who supported these two fundraisers and a special thank you to Helen Collins for overseeing the Hanging Baskets, and to Gord and Valerie Warren for overseeing the MacGregors Meat & Seafood. We also had our first Christmas chocolate fundraiser. Thank you, Colleen Peyer, for investigating and then overseeing the Purdy's chocolate campaign. All three campaigns were successful.

We also wish to thank everyone for donations received for our 2023 Easter Offering which was designated to improving our online presence with remaining funds to our general fund. Our 2023 Anniversary Offering went towards the repairs of the eaves of the church building, and the 2023 Christmas Offering was designated to ongoing property/building projects and the Food Bank.

A huge thank you to the members, adherents and visitors to St. Andrew's for your continued support and generosity through weekly givings that keep St. Andrew's running. As we have returned to our 'new normal', the monthly expenses still come in. We continue to offer various ways to donate: Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR); e-transfer to treasurer@standrewsbrampton.ca; mail a cheque to the church to the attention of the Envelope Secretaries; or donate through Benevity or Canada Helps.

Our Flame Endowment Fund, launched in 2016, continues to offer the option to leave a memorial gift in a creative way. For more information on any of these giving options, please speak to any Stewardship Committee member.

It's important that everything we do with our time and talent reflects our walk with Christ. We can also reflect on how we give time and talent back to God – just as we do with money.

Stewardship Committee:

Kim Shepherd
Anna-Marie Dewar
Henry Peyer
Grace Gowland



Worship & Fellowship Committee



With the COVID pandemic largely behind us and the departure of Reverend Ross in the spring, 2023 was another year of transition for St. Andrew's. The Worship Committee worked to facilitate a smooth transition to the leadership of Reverend Wayne Baswick, who was appointed Interim Moderator.

Great strides have been made with respect to the technical offerings at St. Andrews, thanks to the talents of Peter Shepherd, who manages and delivers all things tech-related. We stream our services live on YouTube, a convenience particularly appreciated when worshippers are unable to attend in person. Even for regular attendees, the recorded sessions offer flexibility, whether for a Sunday missed due to illness or travel. To find our services, simply navigate to YouTube.com and search for "St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Brampton" to access our channel. (There are many St. Andrew's, so make sure you specify "Brampton".) By subscribing, you'll streamline access to our weekly broadcasts.

We are continuously striving to enhance the in-person experience through improved sound and TV operations. Experimenting with microphone setups and adjustments, we aim to improve audio clarity. Additionally, PowerPoint presentations have been created for announcements and service details, incorporating feedback such as adding hymn lyrics. Your input is invaluable, and we welcome anyone interested in learning about or assisting with these tasks, as their support ensures seamless operations, particularly for our online viewers and those relying on our TV screens.

We were happy to be able to resume consecrating our infants, with Baptisms held in February and on Mother's Day. Easter was well celebrated with Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday services. Special thanks to those individuals who helped with the Good Friday and Easter Sunday crosses and particularly the preparation and provision of flowers for the always beautiful "living" Easter Sunday cross. Pentecost Sunday in May and our 176th Anniversary in October were both especially memorable services, where morning and afternoon congregations joined together in worship.

Lead by our immensely talented Music Director, Shelagh Tyreman, 2023 was a very musically eventful year at St. Andrew's. Initially the choir resumed in-person practice in the Great Hall. We were thrilled that the Property Committee made several upgrades to the Choir Room over the summer, so we were able to be back upstairs in our Choir Room on Sunday mornings when practices began again in September. Improvements for airflow included adding a door hook so the door could be kept open during practice, and replacing two of the windows so they could be opened (they were all painted shut over 30 years ago). As we only had one electrical outlet, two more outlets were added to enable us to plug in a fan, a hepa filter and a space heater, as otherwise we would have had to run extension cords across the room under everyone's feet, which would have been a huge trip hazard. We are also working on having the radiators functional again, as they have also been out of order for many years. A huge thank you to the Property Committee from all of us in the Music Program - we are loving being in our Choir Room again!

The Leap of Faith band also began rehearsals in September back in the Sanctuary and have joined us for several services now, including our wonderful traditional Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols service. We were also blessed to have the young people of St. Andrew's join us in video format during the Lessons

and Carols Christmas Eve service (as well as Palm Sunday), so a huge thank you to the young people and their parents. We love hearing your voices!

Other music highlights included having violinist Anton Yeretsky join us in the spring, when he thrilled us with his accompaniment to the choir anthem “Declare Your Maker’s Praise” and wowed us with his virtuosic skills with his Beethoven “Fantasia” prelude and Bach “Minuet” postlude.

For Remembrance Day, we were also very lucky once again to be joined by trumpeter Lino Varano. He adds so much to our service each year. Thank you, Lino!

It has been a musically busy year! You are always welcome to join us!

The important aspect of Fellowship wound up to almost full speed this year thanks to the leadership of Michelle Tedder and the creation of a Special Events Team (Michelle Tedder, Pam Loree and Jessica Rhind). Events included a pancake lunch in February, a chili lunch in March, family games night in June, Rally Sunday BBQ in September, Anniversary Sunday potluck lunch and a family movie night in December.

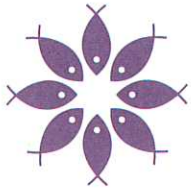
With the last Sunday in Advent and Christmas Eve falling on December 24, we celebrated Advent at our 10:30 a.m. service and Christmas Eve at both our 4:00 p.m. Family Service and our traditional Lessons, Carols and Candlelight Service at 7:30 p.m.

Thanks also to the very dedicated John Bakkeren, our Welcoming and Ushering Team Lead. We are always in need of volunteers to greet, usher and take up collection on Sunday mornings. If you have a friendly smile, you are qualified, and we would welcome your participation.

As you can see, 2023 was a very fulfilling year for our St. Andrew’s family.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to all members of the Worship & Fellowship Committee, and especially to Reverend Baswick for his wise counsel and leadership.

Karen Hutchinson
Chair

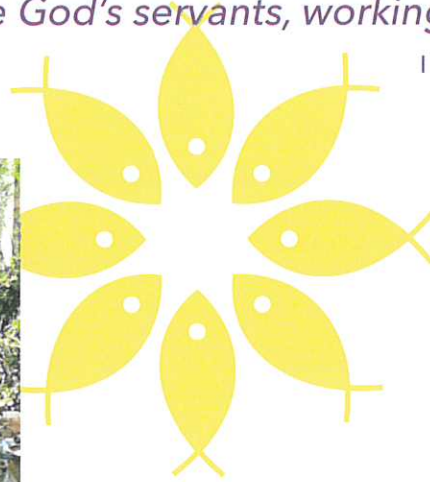


Presbyterians
Sharing

Your gifts make a difference!

For we are God's servants, working together

I Corinthians 3:9a



"We thank the PCC for helping us pay salaries during these difficult and challenging times. We thank you for your constant support and prayers and look forward to working with you and sharing our experience."

—Shimy Mathew, Nurses League of Christian Medical Association of India

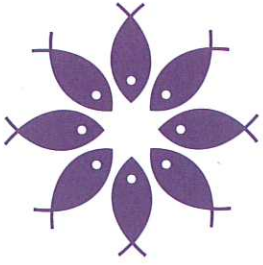
"According to the traditional elders of my people, we should serve the less fortunate of this world. We call it caring and sharing. It is one of our sacred teachings. Jesus also says that the greatest of all people will be the servants of all. Thanks to Presbyterians Sharing our congregation can do this amazing work for the Lord."

*—The Rev. Stewart Folster,
Mistawasis Memorial Presbyterian Church,
Mistawasis First Nation, Sask.*



"The participants promise to bring glory to God by helping inmates see God's calling in their lives. We are very thankful to you for the funds and your prayers towards this mission. Our continued partnership is a success story."

*—The Rev. Hastings Phale,
Training Pastors for Prison Ministry, Malawi*



Presbyterians Sharing

Sharing Hope, Together

*For surely I know the plans I have for you,
says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not harm,
to give you a future with hope. Jeremiah 29:11*

A little over five hundred years before the birth of Jesus, when the people of God were in exile in Babylon, an alien and hostile land, Jeremiah told them that God had plans for their welfare: a future of hope.

These days, it often feels like we are living through hostile times. The news is full of warnings of recession. Lying and deceit have become acceptable traits in politics. Companies put profits before people. Costs are rising faster than wages. Creation groans after years of exploitation and neglect. War and conflict kill and displace people.



Fear is a natural reaction to uncertainty. In the face of overwhelming challenges, it is easy to feel hopeless and alone. It can be easier to allow fear to envelop us and do nothing at all, rather than believe that we can make any kind of difference. Yet, the words of Jeremiah are there for us as much as they were for the people of Israel. In times of crisis, we are called to be hopeful. We are not alone. This is why we come together in our churches. This is why our churches come together in our denomination.

Gifts to **Presbyterians Sharing** help congregations navigate these challenging times. Together, we equip leaders by supporting theological colleges and hosting conferences and webinars. Coaches, mentors, national and regional staff and volunteers help congregations courageously follow where the Holy Spirit is leading them. Grants help launch new faith communities and renew established ones. Together we respond to injustice and support international partners sharing God's love around the world. Together, we are talking about difficult issues and learning to care for creation and one another better.

Meeting in person for the first time in four years, the 2023 Assembly offered opportunities for Presbyterians from across Canada to be together in times of worship and reflection. With the installation of the Rev. Mary Fontaine, the PCC's first Indigenous Moderator, and by hearing the reports of the National Indigenous Ministries Committee, we again saw the harm the church has caused Indigenous people, and we committed to working together on a renewed apology. Stories of hope, courage and commitment were shared. Decisions were made to advocate for human rights, work against racism and continue building a church where all are welcome.

Together we look forward to where God is leading us—as individuals, congregations and as a denomination. Together, we are sharing hope. We couldn't do this without your support. **Thank you for your gifts to your congregation and to Presbyterians Sharing.**

As we put our gifts into God's hands, God is doing remarkable things.

Karen Plater
Stewardship & Planned Giving

Ian Ross-McDonald
General Secretary, Life & Mission Agency



The Presbyterian Church in Canada
presbyterian.ca | sharing@presbyterian.ca

