



Greenwood United Church

*"God's creation
is our Inspiration"*

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

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GREENWOOD UNITED CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING

February 19, 2023, following Worship Service

Present: Ann Barrett, Ruth and Don Benson, Susie Bunting, Roger Clapperton, Dawn Cox, Joyce Fee, Raye Flatt, Joy Gaskin, Mary Gordon, Marion Griffin, Mary Hinan-Grose, Art and Carol Hopkinson, Lynn Jondreville, Donald Lamond, Shirley MacKenzie, Sandy Mills, Ken Minion, Paulette Nichols, Joanne O'Donoghue, Bill and Darla Peacock, David Reeve, Ian and Liz Sine, Rev. Allan Smith-Reeve, Hilda Suurd, Emil Varga, Esther Warren, Elaine Webster, Kathleen Whyte, Anne Wilson

Susie Bunting welcomed us to the Greenwood United Church Annual Meeting, acknowledging the Anishinaabe lands where we live. Rev. Allan Smith-Reeve opened the meeting with prayer.

The Agenda was printed on the white board to avoid paper waste. David Reeve moved acceptance of the Agenda as posted, and carried. Darla Peacock moved the acceptance of the Minutes of March 8, 2022, seconded by Anne Wilson, and carried.

Business Arising:

1. The Outreach Committee established at the 2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM) has been very active, and outreach funds for 2022 have been allocated and distributed.
2. At last year's AGM, it was approved to provide Zoom worship services until Dec. 31, 2022. Session has recommended to the Official Board that Zoom worship continue. The contract for Zoom comes up for renewal at the end of March, and will be discussed at the next Official Board Meeting. Mary Gordon reported that a number of people are participating in Zoom worship.

Correspondence: There was no correspondence to deal with at this time.

The reports as printed on pages 4 through 17 were presented and approved in one motion, with the exception of the Nomination Report on page 17 which was approved separately. The Financial Report and Budget for 2023 were also approved separately. Each report was presented, the Chair asked if there were any questions following each report, and if so, discussion followed. Thanks were expressed to Carol Hopkinson for her work providing pastoral care. On behalf of Session, Joanne O'Donoghue welcomed John Jull as a new committee member. Session will be presenting information about organizing a pastoral care team at an upcoming Official Board meeting. It has been recommended to the Stewards that the extra church pew be moved to the choir area for seating, and Ken Minion asked for assistance moving the pew.

On behalf of the M & P Committee, Ann Barrett emphasized the excellent transition in secretarial support from Joanne O'Donoghue to Sandy Mills. Allan Smith-Reeve invited people to the Bedford House Annual General Meeting, to be held March 24th. Joyce Fee reported that the first year for the Outreach Committee went very well, with everyone working together to make decisions regarding outreach. Thanks were extended to Raye Flatt and Mary Gordon who are leaving the committee. New members have been welcomed to the choir, and Marion Griffin invited people to attend the cantata which will be presented on Good Friday. Anne Wilson reported that the small bee hive appears very healthy, but she has not seen much activity around the larger hive. News from the Regional Cluster was shared by Kathleen Whyte. Condolences were extended to the Timpson family on the death of David Timpson, who was a long-standing member of the Regional Council. Dawn Cox shared that Kevin Fitzpatrick is to be ordained in May (May 5-6).

A motion was made by Roger Clapperton to accept all reports as presented, except the nomination and financial reports which were approved under separate motions. This was seconded by Ian Sine and carried.

On behalf of the Nomination committee, Anne Wilson thanked those leaving various committees and welcomed new committee members. There are still openings available on Session, Stewards, the Nominating Committee and Outreach. Anne moved acceptance of this report; seconded by Mary Hinan-Grose, and carried.

Ruth Benson presented the Financial Report for Greenwood and the Budget for 2023. It is investments which provide the ability for us to reach out to the community. Without these funds, Greenwood would not be able to do the outreach which we currently support. Last year interest received was just over \$22,000, compared to over \$300,000 in 2021. Susie Bunting encouraged people to review their financial support of the church, and to increase their givings if able to do so. Currently there are 31 families on PAR and there are weekly givings. Mary Hinan-Grose asked if periodically there could be financial updates, outlining congregational givings. Ruth moved acceptance of the Financial Report; seconded by Emil Varga. As a dedicated trustee for Greenwood United Church, Emil shared information about the financial investments (see attached document). The Region allows us to use 5% of our investments for expenses. Joyce Fee thanked him for this extensive report. The motion was carried.

Ruth moved acceptance of the 2023 Budget, amended to include \$1000 for the music program. This revised the final budget line to \$139,529. Roger Clapperton seconded this motion, and it was carried.

New Business:

1. Prior to this meeting, a document about the sponsorship of Muhanned Elyusuf, his wife Sirin and son Beraa was distributed by email. Lynn Jondreville addressed this document, and presented two motions to Greenwood, as participants in this sponsorship, along with Mark Street, Northminster and Westdale United Churches (see attached document).

The following two motions were made:

“That Greenwood congregation expresses support for the sponsorship application for Muhanned El Yusuf, his wife Sirin and their Beraa, as a combined effort with the congregations of Mark Street United, Northminster United, and Westdale United through a letter of support from the Official Board, and a commitment of financial support as follows: \$2000 for 2023, and a minimum annual commitment of \$2000 for the next three years depending on investment income.” Lynn Jondreville moved acceptance of this motion, seconded by Mary Gordon. Ruth Benson pointed out that the preliminary \$2000 has already been allocated. The motion was carried.

“That the Official Board recognizes the signing authority of Lynn Jondreville, chair of the Refugee Committee, for the sponsorship contract.” This motion was moved by Joyce Fee, seconded by Carol Hopkinson and carried.

Dawn Cox expressed thanks to all the people who take on leadership roles at Greenwood. Paulette Nichols extended thanks to Rev. Allan Smith-Reeve and Rev. Bill Peacock for their spiritual leadership.

Emil Varga moved to adjourn at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Paulette Nichols
Recording Secretary

REVEREND SMITH-REEVE REPORT 2023

I tell people regularly about this great little church I have the privilege of serving.

In these troubled times of eco-anxieties and cultural divides that polarize and isolate families, neighbours, and nations, I see just how important it is to have a place of peace to ground us in what truly matters.

In this Annual Report, I read about all the great work that keeps Greenwood ticking along. We are blessed with many hands, hearts, and minds willing - and able - to take on all the tasks that keep us going strong.

And between the lines of these reports, I know that there are many, many, small kindnesses that serve as the fuel behind the tasks. And this is where each and every one of us plays a role.

Your small acts of kindness on Sunday mornings, and through each week - are what makes us shine. They are the threads that weave us into a living tapestry. An ever-evolving, endlessly-changing expression of our heart's desires. As each generation comes and goes, what never changes, is the power of those kindnesses to make a difference.

Never truly accounted for. Not able to be added up in words or numbers. Acts of kindness are the hidden sum, the secret, of what we are about.

When we sing together. When we raise our voices in songs of praise and thanksgiving. When we sing of our stories, and our sorrows, and our hearts desires for god's love to be lived out. When our voices combine in the sanctuary, our hearts are mended; woven together in the mystery of love's healing and inspiring powers.

Inspiring each of you to do what you do - day by day. As followers of the Jesus way. We participate in the Revolution of Kindnesses that our Maker in-spires in hearts and organizations across the four corners of this blue-green home of ours.

Thanks be to the god that loves through each of us. Thanks be to the god who gathers us to care for one another and inspire us to be more together - than we ever could be alone.

Yours in the Spirit that works wonders, *Allan*

OFFICIAL BOARD CHAIR REPORT 2023

It was so gratifying to be able to return to almost normal, after COVID restrictions (but sadly not COVID itself) went away. Your Official Board, and most committees, were able to meet again in person, and all services were in person, although we have continued to offer ZOOM services as an option. We have had a busy year, some of it playing catch up. The Nominating Committee were glad to have some folks extend their terms of office by a year in order to do so.

Highlights for 2023 included guests from our five outreach agencies, plus our Bedford House friends, participating in one service each in order that we might learn more about them. A new group was also formed this year to reach out to all Greenwood members in friendship and respect: the "Weavers". Stewards, in addition to looking after our property concerns, organized a fundraiser, the first in several years. Their yard sale in early June was also a "fun-raiser": a great way to meet neighbours and to work together.

On a more sober note, expenditures have exceeded our revenues by a large margin. Staff salary increases for 2023, mandated by head office, have challenged our money stream and will continue to do so for 2024 and beyond. As well maintenance costs and some vandalism have been increasingly expensive. Fortunately we have our investment funds to cushion us but this cannot continue indefinitely. A new team of "Dreamers" is examining the role of stewardship at Greenwood and considering how to address this issue. You will hear more about this through 2024.

Finally, thank you to all for your support (and stellar attendance at Board meetings) in this my first year as Chair. It has been a learning experience for me, and I look forward to serving you for another year.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Bunting

GREENWOOD BOARD OF TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Status of investments

Our investments continue to do well in spite of the effects of the pandemic and the current economic climate, averaging 8.78% annually. These Trustee Funds are the legacy of the saints who served our three founding congregations: St. Matthews, Fairview, and Donwood.

We continue to use our investments to cover our Congregation's operating deficit. It cost over \$110,000 to operate the church in 2023, but we collected just over \$63,000 in revenue, requiring us to use investment income of nearly \$47,000 to cover our operating costs. These costs do not include Greenwood's various outreach expenses.

Outreach costs were roughly \$53,000 for 2023. This includes our community ministry with Bedford House, and our five community partnership grants.

These expenses (deficit of \$47,000 + Partnerships of \$53,000) total over \$100,000. A special gift towards our Partnerships of \$5,000 reduced this to \$95,000. An excerpt from our investment statements:

Share Value	January 1, 2023	\$1,233,282
Number of Shares	January 1, 2023	98,609
Share Value	Dec. 31, 2023	\$1,193,063
Number of Shares	Dec. 31, 2023	95,297

While we withdrew over \$95,000 from these funds in 2023, the actual investment decrease is only about \$40,000 as the share value has increased.

Based on the Treasurer's financial statements to year end, the Trustees prepared the following chart to show the balance of funds spent on our congregation – and our community.

What we spend on ourselves & on our Partners in Ministry			
Trustee Investments January 1st 2023		\$1,233,282	value of shares
Congregation's Operations	2023 Totals	Trustee Funds	NOTES:
Total Gifts & Income	63,262		
Total Congregation's Expenses	110,420		Less 1/2 Bedford Staff
Operating Deficit	47,158	47,158	Trustee Funds
Partner Investments			
Bedford Community Ministry*	42,916		(Plus Foundation
One City / Community Dev	2,000		grants of
Nijkiwendidaa Indigenous Partner	2,000		\$52,965)
Camp Kawartha / Eco-partner	2,000		
Brock Mission / Charity Partner	2,000		
Refugee / Int'l Partnership	2,000	(5,000)	Individual donation
Total Partner Ministries	52,916	52,916	Trustee Funds
Trustee Funds Total draws 2023		95,074	
Trustee Investments December 31st 2023		\$1,193,063	value of shares

Looking to the future

At the November 16th Official Board meeting, the Trustees were given a vote of confidence with an approved motion (with concerns) to enter the year 2024, with the current deficit projections; to continue their investment strategy; and to entrust the Trustees to lead a Future Planning process, now called the Dream Team.

The purpose of this initiative is to determine how to responsibly use the assets, financial and otherwise, of Greenwood United Church to sustain our ministry into the future, as our congregation ages and attendance is projected to drop.

Trustees hosted a Legacy Listening webinar and discussion session on November 1, 2023, followed by a potluck meal. With 12 congregation members in attendance, the discussion was animated and forward focused, starting with a draft discussion paper from the Trustees, and anchored by a 90-minute "Introduction to Stewardship" video, from the United Church of Canada.

While breaking bread around a table, the group brainstormed and imagined how to find the energy to engage in a Planning process to discern the path forward as our members age, our costs increase, and our revenues shrink. It was agreed that we need to:

- Establish a leadership team to lead a Future Planning process. (create guidelines, timelines, and outcomes)
- Ensure effective consultation so that all members have a voice
- Use the outcomes to help determine initiative (if any), planned giving (if any), and investment fund allocation.
- Consult with the Region regarding our current financial status.

The Trustees hosted a congregational potluck lunch in November after worship. With two dozen members participating, we gathered the enthusiastic responses to small-group discussions based on the following questions:

- What do you love about Greenwood United Church?
- What good things do you see emerging here?
- What does the next generation appreciate about Greenwood – and what Don't they want on Sunday mornings?
- What do you appreciate about our new process of growing partnerships with community organizations?
- What do you appreciate about our Bedford House ministry?
- How do we deepen our kinship with the earth at a time when earth's life systems are under threat?

The report entitled “**Our Stewardship of Greenwood's Future**” concluded that we are “thriving” and with this energy are in a positive position to face the challenges ahead.

The Leadership Team (now called the Dream Team) is composed of Reverend Allan Smith-Reeve, Anne Wilson, Joy Gaskin, Lynn Jondreville, Mary Gordon, and Ann Barrett. Regular potlucks are planned for 2024 to map out the congregation's dreams and plans for the future.

The congregation is asked to vote to add Anne Wilson as a new Trustee, and to remove Paulette Nichols from the Board of Trustees, at her request.

Respectfully submitted by
Mary Gordon and Reverend Allan Smith-Reeve, Co-chairs.

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL REPORT 2023

The M&P Committee provides an oversight and support role for church staff (minister, music director, administrator and custodian) and oversees the relationship of staff to members of the congregation. We reviewed working conditions and remuneration for the staff and made appropriate recommendations as needed.

Joanne O'Donoghue was our Administrative Support person at the end of 2022. Sandy Mills took over the position at the beginning of 2023 and left at the end of July for personal and job-related reasons. We appreciate the hard work and personal touches they each brought to their work. During the remainder of the summer other staff and members of the congregation stepped up to keep things running smoothly. This gave the M&P Committee time to develop a new Job Description to update the work associated with this position in our technical, post-Covid world. We were fortunate that Barb Ramsay was interested in the job. She comes with years of experience as a church secretary and has been doing a great job since starting with us at the end of September.

Working with members of Session we developed a Pastoral Care Team Leader short-term position to identify needs and recommend how to move forward. Kathleen Whyte filled this role; she then submitted a report and Session followed up. We also identified the need to have a protocol for worship leaders, new to Greenwood, who are doing a pulpit replacement. Session provided leadership on this document.

Rev. Allan, Rev. Bill, Marion Griffin, Barb Ramsay and Ken Minion are a great team. Each one of them stepped up to help each other out when illness and personal issues affected any member of the team. M & P organized worship leaders for Sundays when Rev Allan was off. Thanks as well to members of the congregation who were there to lend a hand when needed.

Our work is done "quietly and confidentially". Members of the congregation can approach members of the committee with ideas or concerns to enhance the life and work of Greenwood.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Barrett , Chair, on behalf of Carol Hopkinson, Elaine Webster

SESSION REPORT 2023

Many suggestions, motions and changes were put in place in 2023. Here is a summary of Session's impact at Greenwood. Topics have been listed alphabetically and by no way are indicative of their importance.

Basket of Abundance: Since COVID, the offertory plate was no longer passed around for the collection. After many comments on how it was missed, we came up with the idea of a Basket of Abundance that would contain other elements beside financial contributions. Mary Kay gave a basket that is kept in the back of the sanctuary. It is brought to the front of the church during service where the items are shown and blessed.

Christmas and New Year's Eve services: Because of Christmas falling on a Monday, it was decided to have a service on Christmas Eve, December 24th at 4 pm. It replaced the morning service and the Christmas service, as well as the New Year service. A small group led by Mary Kay met at the church on Christmas morning for fellowship. They met again on New Year's Day and Zoom was made available, thanks to Ken who also attended. The response was encouraging and we need to keep this in mind for the 2024 Holidays.

Communion: Session voted last year to offer communion once a month, on the second Sunday. It was well received, so we will continue to do so. At our request, Communion team of Paulette and Carol have written up a procedure for preparing and cleaning up Communion, so that other volunteers can help.

Greeters: At the request of the Public Health Dept. since COVID, Greenwood has to keep a record of attendance for all services. A form was created to keep track. To make sure people sign in, a greeter is assigned, coordinated by Anne Wilson.

Lent Study: At the suggestion of Reverend Allan, a Lent Study group was created in 2023 with Kathy McLay as its moderator; this year, Sue Gleeson is taking on the role.

Pastoral Care: Since March, Session members have been working to establish Pastoral Care at Greenwood. Because our Minister Allan Smith-Reeve is only part-time, he is responsible for doing Pastoral Care only in case of emergency. On their own initiative, some members of the Congregation have been staying in touch with members in need. Please see "Weavers" report (page 16).

Living Faith Story: Revisions were made to our Living Faith Story in April, May and June. The final version is now on the U.C.C. HUB (<https://churchhub.ca/>).

Potlucks: Session held two potlucks in the fall and plans to have many more in 2024 as long as COVID does not raise its ugly head. Other church groups are being invited to host aslo (Stewards, Choir, etc).

Protocol of worship was discussed by Session members who then forwarded their comments and suggestions to M&P Committee as well as to Barb Ramsay, Administrative Assistant.

Greenwood Membership: Session redefined the criteria for church membership at Greenwood with the MOTION: "Members are those who belong rather than based on a statement of Belief. Members are all who participate in worship, and contribute either time, money or both". Friends of Greenwood are welcome to join in the journey but do not necessarily have a vote on the policy of our congregation. Four members who were no longer active were removed from the membership roll after failed efforts to reach them.

New Members: Sandra and Don Richardson, as well as Farzane Taghipour officially became Greenwood members in October. Barb Ramsay, our Administrative Assistant, and Alta Wilburn also joined Greenwood's congregation. In January 2023 longtime adherents Susan Bunting and Donald Lamond officially joined the church.

Roll Clerk: Session supervises the position of Roll Clerk who must keep all records of baptisms, marriages and funerals, as well as membership. Mary Hinan-Grose had been a long time Roll Clerk (thanks Mary!) and asked to be replaced. Ann Barrett stepped forward to relieve Mary Kay who was filling in temporarily until a permanent replacement could be found. There have been discussions on making the information available electronically. Allan has created an Excel Spreadsheet for that purpose.

Summer Services: In the summer of 2022, services were held outside (weather permitting). Last summer, the decision was made to hold them downstairs starting July 2nd after some members informed us of mobility issues when going outside. Delivering the service on Zoom from the basement was a challenge and, as a result, some services were held upstairs as summer was not so hot. On July 30th, a celebration took place downstairs marking Emil Varga's 85th birthday. It was well attended and all had good time. No service was held on August 27th.

Worship Leader scheduling: At the suggestion of the M&P Committee, the search for a worship leader to fill in when Allan is not scheduled should be a Session responsibility. The following Motion was proposed: **a)** To ask the Nominating Committee to create a special role for a Worship Schedule Coordinator who will find speakers when Allan is away; the position is to be added to the Session’s membership (similar to the Roll Clerk). **b)** To amend future Handbooks to reflect this change in Session’s responsibilities.

Yard Sale: Following our minister’s idea, Session held a yard sale on June 17th with Stewards leading the way. Between the Stewards (especially Ken Minion), Session members, Sandy Mills (Administrative Assistant at the time) and many other helpers, the event was a success.

Zoom: Offering our weekly service on Zoom is here to stay.

With Love and Light,

Joanne O’Donoghue
Chair, Session

STATISTICS 2023

January 1, 2023	Full members (from 2022 Stats)	71
	Additional members received in 2022	<u>5</u>
	Amended full members 2022	76
	Members received by transfer	
	or profession of faith in 2023	7
	Members removed by death	0
	Members removed by Session	4
		<hr/>
December 31, 2023	Full members	79

No baptisms, weddings or funerals were conducted in 2023

STEWARDS REPORT 2023

Another year has rolled by, and we have been busy . In late January or early February new windows were installed upstairs. We also had spring cleanup with some painting and yard maintenance with rain barrels being installed both front and back of church. Last spring we had a flood in the basement because of a sewage pump breakdown; Shamrock pumped the septic and replaced the pump. The basement carpets had to be cleaned following the flood.

We held a successful garage sale in June including a bbq and a lemonade stand. Emil set up a display of his artwork, and overall we enjoyed a fun day, raising over \$1400. We also got to meet a few Donwood neighbours.

This past fall we had a basement window smashed and a few items disappeared. The window was finally replaced. We are considering some options for better security. Regular maintenance of furnace (filters replaced) and water system (purging water softener and checking pressure tank) were done.

In December a film crew rented both upstairs and downstairs to stage a wedding scene. It was a long 14-hour day, but I enjoyed watching and I was even included in the filming. The movie should be out this summer, we will keep you posted. The church netted \$500 for that day.

Thanks to all for your help and support this year, special thanks to Brian Nichols and Roger for setting up the beautiful Christmas tree and the decorations. Roger also deserves thanks for shovelling and salting our walkways. Next spring we will do an outdoor cleanup, plus indoor decluttering shelves and storage on both levels, and be looking into security measures to avoid more vandalism.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Minion

on behalf of Stewards Committee: Roger Clapperton, Ann Austin Cardwell, Lynn Jondreville, Emil Varga and treasurer Ruth Benson.

BEDFORD HOUSE COMMUNITY MINISTRY REPORT 2023

It has been a busy year for Greenwood's Joint Venture Partner since 2016.

What happened to the Bridges Peterborough Project?

The pandemic pulled the rug out from under us. After five years of slow and steady growth the funding criteria that had kept us going changed. Our team of Conversation Changers made a valiant effort and accomplished many small miracles of community-making. Katherin, Miriam, Laura, Ralph, Todd, Matt and Rebecca all put their time, imaginations and hearts into the work. Just take a look at our 2022 Annual Report! In May, our major source of funding was cut. Other avenues dried up – or didn't quite fit. Sadly, the Board had to lay-off the team. The effort returned to where it all started – Lynn and Allan's kitchen table – supported by United Church of Canada and Greenwood funding.

Hive collapse means beginning again - or quit!

About the same time as Bridges Ptbo emerged, Lynn and Allan became beekeepers. Beekeeping – like community-making – is challenging, fascinating, with always more to learn, and lots of sweet benefits! Lynn had built up her apiary from 2 to over 20 hives. But she has experienced “hive collapse” over the winter months. The reasons, theories, and diagnoses are many – trying to explain this crisis affecting beehives across the world. The hives collapsed under multiple pressures. And now it was time for the beekeepers to start again using the know-how, existing hives and support they had.

Bridging Artists:

The team started early in 2023 meeting every Monday evening at Greenwood. In June, fifteen graduates celebrated finishing the “Getting Ahead” study. In Phase Two, a Circle of 12 diverse folks met weekly for Food, Fun, Storytelling and Learning together. Some of them led a worship service at Greenwood to share what the program meant to them. Funds from the individual donations of the Catalyst Fund, from Rotary Clubs and from ECORC grant support this amazing process.

Bridging Poverty & Privilege Online Training with ChurchX (the e-learning platform for United Church of Canada). Following up on the two six-week courses Lynn and Allan ran in 2021/22, they are creating a self-study program that captures the lessons learned about how to create safe, inclusive spaces for community relationships. Mission & Service funds this.

So the project goes on. We are grateful for the interest and support of our congregation. There is renewed energy and hopeful possibilities ahead as we grow the hives, so to speak.

Your Greenwood representatives, *Ruth Benson and Ann Barrett*

OUTREACH COMMITTEE 2023

We said goodbye and thank you to Raye Flatt and Mary Gordon at beginning of 2023 and we welcomed Melissa Webster. Cheques were presented to our agencies and Committee members worked to connect the agencies and our congregation in various ways such as hands-on, making sandwiches, crocheting afghans, and donating food for breakfasts. Through Sunday service presentations by agency members, we learned of the marvelous work that is being done in our community.

Lynn Jondreville formed a committee for our refugee sponsorship with Northminster, Mark Street and Westdale United Churches joining Greenwood. These churches, through their Outreach programs, will be raising needed funds. Through discussion our Board agreed to fund our Outreach program for four years at which point it will be reviewed as to funding and commitment of our congregation. This gives both stability to the agencies for funding and time to development partnerships with our congregation. One Roof agency ended their program of providing food for the homeless at end of the year. We have chosen as the replacement Brock Mission and Cameron House in our 'Charity' category

Comments from our agencies included the following:

One City: (Charity) Good contingent of volunteers from Greenwood involved in very meaningful work – living out our faith

One Roof (Community) is grateful to Greenwood for the monetary donation which helped provide a daily meal to those who are food insecure as well as an opportunity for a safe gathering place for those who would otherwise be alone.

Niijkiwendidaa Anishnaabekwewag Services Circle (Indigenous): With the money donated from Greenwood, our staff purchased a number of gift certificates for clients for food and toys which helped provide Christmas Cheer.

Refugee Sponsorship (Global): The representatives from our four congregations are working on building relationships with the El Yusuf family here in Peterborough. Our Sunday School members helped to raise money for our family in Syria.

Camp Kawartha (Environment) Thank you Greenwood Church. You are fostering a culture of sustainability and stewardship in the Greater Peterborough area and beyond.

Submitted by Outreach Committee members:

Lynn Jondreville, Melissa Webster, Anne Wilson and chair Joyce Fee

Special thanks to Mary Gordon

GREENWOOD WEAVER REPORT 2023 (Pastoral Care Team)

Early in 2023, the Official Board employed Kathleen Whyte on a short-term contract to initiate a Pastoral Care team. Kathleen's training drew a small group together responding to this new ministry initiative. The team includes Lynn J, Joanne O, Joyce Fee, Mary G and Esther W with support from Rev. Allan.

The group decided to call themselves "Weavers" in honour of the Tapestry and its story of our congregation's many hands and hearts working together. With Joy's leadership, we assigned all members on our roll to a Weaver for a quarterly "visit" whether by phone or in person. Visits are simply check-ins and updates about recent news.

Confidentiality is very important to us. Weavers will ask permission before sharing any information gleaned during visits. Members seeking deeper pastoral conversations will be referred to Reverends Allan and Bill.

Weavers gather for training and support regularly. I always get uplifted by our meetings and the group caring energy.

Submitted by *Rev. Allan and Joy Gaskin*

MUSIC REPORT

Despite the fact that incidents of COVID have waned over the past year, that did not mean that numerous illnesses and family matters did not affect the members of the choir. As a result we were unable to present a Christmas cantata, although we did offer an Easter cantata in 2023. It was well-received by members of our church community and others who often look forward to our efforts.

The choir continues to present old and new music for the enjoyment of the church members. We meet every Friday afternoon (a change of day to accommodate everyone).

Many thanks to all of our choir members who give so freely of their time and wonderful talent.

Respectfully submitted,
Marion Griffin, Music Director

SANCTUARY GARDEN REPORT, 2023

We so miss our expert leader, Pat, but did our best to carry on with our gardens. On Clean-up day in the Spring, we tidied up the beds and Sandy Mills was the weeding queen on the driveway bed. Teams of two worked by week doing watering and some basic work. We appreciate the heavier tasks done by Brian Nichols, Roger Clapperton and Emil Varga. Ken made sure we had water in the barrels, setting them out to fill just in time.

Almost every visit to the gardens causes a meeting with a neighbour taking a stroll, walking a dog or two, or children riding their bicycles. Our garden is appreciated.

A few additions were planted this year: Joyce Fee had a Saskatoon Serviceberry tree planted in memory of her son, Dan – Adrian Daniel Fee. Lynn Jondreville planted 6 small cherry trees by the driveway, which seemed to thrive beautifully. The pergola presented very nicely with the plants Pat had placed around - her daffodils always start the season in such a lovely show in the field.

Thank you to the folk who did any task last summer. Those on the teams are Joanne O'Donoghue, Emil Varga, Ann Barrett, Mary Kay, Brian Nichols, Lynn Jondreville, Ruth Benson, and Roger Clapperton.

We will try to keep moving forward. A suggestion last year was some Art Features - any contributions or suggestions welcome. Mary Kay's painted rocks are such a treat to discover and the Sunday School children have received a Bird Feeder which they will be invited to make some decisions for.

We look forward to what the garden offers this year, and hope that you do as well. We hope to keep Pat Lounsbury in the background as our Special Consultant if possible.

On behalf of the garden committee, come share and enjoy. *Ruth Benson*

BEEKEEPER REPORT 2023

Our bees were off to a great start with both hives surviving the Winter, while many other beekeepers lost so many of their hives. We treated our hives for mites in the Spring and later in the Fall to try to keep them strong and, as mites can collapse and kill a hive quickly. The Swarm (West) hive remained strong throughout the Summer while the East hive didn't look as healthy. Ahmad Abdi, our bee mentor suggested possibly replacing the queen next Spring. We will evaluate the hive at that time.

We harvested about 12 frames of honey in the Fall and we were able to provide everyone in our congregation with a small bottle of honey. I brought a bottle to the Alyosif family; we are sponsoring their son's family through our Outreach program and they were very appreciative to receive it. We fed the bees sugar water weekly to help the hives build their Winter stores, hoping that they feed well through the Winter until Spring. Please keep our bees in your prayers, as they endure this cold weather.

We always welcome anyone who is interested in learning more about bees to join us next bee season during a hive check or for the entire season! Bees are fascinating and we learn so much from them.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Beekeeper Team which includes Ruth Benson and Brian Nichols.

Anne Wilson

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT, 2023

Our thanks and appreciation are extended to those who have completed their committee commitments: Ann Barrett on Ministry and Personnel, Mary Gordon on Nominations, Melissa Addison-Webster on Outreach, and Paulette Nichols on the Board of Trustees.

Several members of Session and Stewards have agreed to stay on for the coming year. We understand the need to limit volunteer commitments to three years on these two important committees, to refresh one's church experience with new challenges, and to ensure continuing representation from a broad sample of our congregation. However, we have a smaller base for recruitment, and some degree of difficulty in finding folks to fill our many volunteer positions. So we are grateful to:

Joanne O'Donoghue, Darla Peacock, Emil Varga, Roger Clapperton, and Ruth Benson for continuing on for an extra year. We are still short on new members for both Session and Stewards.

Also, thank you to all who answer the call and who continue to serve Greenwood and the greater church family so faithfully. We are very blessed at Greenwood for so many passionate people who contribute in many ways. You will see from the following Slate of Nominations for 2024, that most of those on the Appointments list have agreed to continue their work.

If there are vacancies on this slate, nominations will be taken from the floor at the Annual General Meeting. At that time, the Committee will seek congregational approval of the proposed slate.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Lannen, Mary Gordon and Susan Bunting

1: Fixed term committees

Committee	1 year remaining	2 years remaining	3 years remaining
Session (6-8)	Darla Peacock Joanne O'Donoghue Joy Gaskin	John Jull Bill Peacock (non-voting)	Paulette Nichols Joyce Fee
Stewards (6-8)	R. Clapperton Ruth Benson Emil Varga Lynn Jondreville	Ann Austin-Cardwell	Ken Minion (non-voting)
M&P (3)	Carol Hopkinson	Elaine Webster	Mary Kay
Nomination (3)	Shirley Lannen	Susan Bunting	

2: No fixed terms

Trustees (min 3 + minister)	Emil Varga Roger Clapperton Ian Sine Mary Gordon Allan Smith-Reeve Ruth Benson Anne Wilson	Outreach (5 members)	Joyce Fee Anne Wilson Lynn Jondreville
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3: Appointments

Title	Current	Nominated
Volunteer Associate Ministers	Bill Peacock	Bill Peacock Ann Austin-Cardwell
Official Board Chair	Susan Bunting	Susan Bunting
Congregational Secretary	Paulette Nichols	Paulette Nichols
Treasurer	Ruth Benson	Ruth Benson
Region 11 representative		Ann Austin-Cardwell
Bedford House Board (2)	Ruth Benson, Ann Barrett	Ruth and Ann
Worship Scheduler *new		Darla (tentative)
Scripture Coordinator	Susan Bunting	Susan Bunting
Announcements		Muriel Nicholls
Usher/greeter Coordinator	Anne Wilson	Anne Wilson
Spiritual Healer	Joanne O'Donoghue	Joanne O'Donoghue
Sunday School	Sue Gleeson, Anne Wilson	Sue Gleeson
Communion preparation	Carol Hopkinson, Paulette Nichols	Carol and Paulette
Historic Roll	Mary Kay	Ann Barrett
Newsletter Editor	Joyce Fee	Joyce Fee
Gift card fundraising	Joyce Fee	Joyce Fee
Library	Sue Gleeson, Ann Austin-Cardwell	Sue Gleeson
Facebook administrators	Rev. Allan, Anne Wilson	Allan, Anne
Website	Susan Bunting	Susan Bunting
ADP (payroll)	Emil Varga	Emil Varga
Auditor	N.J. Gould Accounting & Tax	TBA
Broadview subscriptions	Brian Nichols	Brian Nichols