

ANNUAL REPORT



2023

BETHEL PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF OTTAWA

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BOARD OF DEACONS – Bethel Pentecostal Church of Ottawa

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|---------------------|-------------|
| Rev. Peter McIntosh | Lead Pastor |
| Robert Scharfe | Chairperson |
| Chris Koebel | Secretary |
| Dave Thomson | Treasurer |
| Ngosa Chitomfwa | Member |
| Peter Cousineau | Member |
| Ryan Persaud | Member |
| Nana Amankwa | Member |

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – Bethel Pentecostal Church Property Corporation

| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Garth Gorsky | Chairperson |
| Pat Wu | Treasurer |
| Dean Corrigan | Director |
| Dave Dulmage Jr. | Director |
| Stuart MacPherson | Director |
| Rob Scharfe | Director |
| Andrew Shaw | Director |

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2023

1. DEVOTIONS
2. CALL TO ORDER
 - Appointment of Recording Secretary
 - Setting of Voting Bar
 - Appointment of Scrutineers
3. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING
4. ELECTIONS
 - Election of Treasurer
 - Election of Deacons
 - Motion to destroy the ballots
5. FINANCIAL AND TREASURER'S REPORT
6. PROPOSED BUDGET 2023 – 2024
7. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS
8. PROPERTY CORPORATION REPORT
9. ASHER CORPORATION REPORT
10. LEAD PASTOR'S REPORT
11. DEPARTMENTS – MINISTRY REPORTS
12. NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT



LEAD PASTOR

Pastor Peter McIntosh

“The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, for He has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, and that the time of the LORD’s favor has come.” “You are the salt of the earth...you are the light of the world.” Luke 4:18,19; Matthew 5:13,14

This has been the year of Impact and the Spirit of the Lord continues to impact us as we live as salt and light in this world! We’re so thankful for all the lives that are being transformed. People have been encouraged, loved and blessed through this great church. But it gets better...this is only the beginning. Jesus isn’t finished yet! It’s my prayer that, as God works in your life, you’ll keep walking in His anointing and that His light will continue to shine powerfully through you!

Lead Team

The Lord has built a great team here at Bethel. Here’s the Pastoral Team: Sandra McIntosh (Connections), Ezra Beeksma (Young Adults), Sarah Colantonio (Children), Mathios Felmina (Youth), Rob Olson (Discipleship), Sheril Shaw (Collective) and Pauline Williams (Pastoral Care/Retiree’s). In addition, Tyler Rotsaert and Steven Antoine lead tech and production. What an awesome team who serve you so well!

Administration Team

The Lord has also built an amazing administration team. Joan Hoskins serves as Business Administrator and Shannon Olson serves as our Office Administrator/Video Production. Matt Black serves as Custodian and Don Hoskins serves as night lockup. What another great team!

Volunteer Team

The real strength of Bethel is found in the hundreds of people who sacrificially serve and love and minister. A big thank you to every one!

We want to thank the Board and all of you for believing with us, as a presence driven church, for all that God has for us. Bethel is a great family and we’ve only begun to see the amazing things that the Lord is going to do in and through all of us. We’re believing for supernatural transformation in our lives, in this church and in our world!

Be blessed!

Rev. Peter and Sandra McIntosh
Lead Pastor



DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR Rob Olson

2022/23 has been a significant year of impact at Bethel. The church has experienced tremendous growth, and we are believing for a strong 2024. I am excited to be taking on a new role at Bethel as the Discipleship Pastor. Pastor Sandra will take charge of guest and family services, while I focus on cultivating a culture of discipleship in the church. The most significant areas of discipleship I have already been associated with are Community Small Groups and Men's Ministry.

Community Small Groups

Our groups have remained steady over the past year, with no significant growth or loss. Our focus will remain in the areas of evangelism (inviting others to the group) and in discipleship (walking with people). We are extremely excited about the future and believe that God is calling each of us to a deep, intimate relationship with Him. Community Small Groups is the place where this can happen in authentic relationship and deep learning about who Jesus is. We believe there will be an increase as we invite people and recognize the value of coming together in the smaller community setting.

Bethel Forged - Men's Ministry

Last year was great with men's breakfasts and a conference for worship and leadership development. We continue to meet together in two small group formats and have an active group on WhatsApp. Here we pray for one another and encourage each other with scripture. Bethel Forged is a ministry we are believing deep discipleship will happen over the next year. I am grateful for the excellent leadership team of Chris Odogbo, Laude Bigirimana and Andrew Manera, who consistently bring their gifts to serve the men of Bethel Forged straight from their love of Jesus Christ.

The Table

A new ministry that Pastor Sarah and I set up for those 27 - 49 years of age who are looking for a deeply personal experience of communion with God and community with one another. Kicking off in mid-October 2023 our first event was an absolute joy. We saw 90 attendees, a beautiful worship service, a time of communion and a welcoming spirit. There was an atmosphere of deep relationship with one another and with God. This event will continue monthly and is a place to "Come as you are, and leave enriched, inspired and connected." I'm so grateful to the wonderful and talented lead team of Angelina Gabrial, Terri Ng, Raphael Santos, Manny Permee and Pastor Sheril Shaw who show their deep love for Jesus and the people of Bethel.

There Must be More

One of the great joys has been the podcast There Must be More. Weekly episodes focus on how we can deal with the experience of being human through the lens of scripture. This means we talk about everything from anxiety to spiritual boredom to relationships. There is a never ending supply of issues that scripture speaks to. It is an honour to have this platform to shine that light on the struggles people are facing every day.

Ongoing Ministry

Of course, I have much of the same ministry responsibilities as I did in the past. Altar ministry continues to grow under the excellent leadership of Peter Cousineau. The missions committee has filled its budget with workers from around the world. We continue to serve Bethel with monthly missions spotlights, and the crowd favourite International Food Fare. I am also the pastoral representation on the Azores short-term missions team being led by Ryan and Sydney Persaud leaving in November 2023. From pre-marital counselling to one-on-one coffee meetings, the call to meet with, love and care for people is always a major part of the ministry to which God has called me.



CONNECTIONS PASTOR Sandra McIntosh

Online Connection

I've expanded the weekly links host team that engages with the online church. In addition to our church lobby video, we added an end video to the online service. We've also added an online church family form and encourage viewers to fill it out during the service.

Social Media/Website Connection

Bethel has five social media platforms that I manage plus the website and a YouTube channel. I regularly post events and pictures to these platforms to celebrate what God is doing at Bethel. A church's social media platforms are often the first glimpse people get of the church. This helps us connect not only to the church but to the world outside the church. Fifty percent of our guests find Bethel via google, the website or social media.

First-Time Guest Connection

Our first-time guest team has expanded to a team of 28 people who are responsible to record our guest's information on arrival at Bethel. We have a 4–6-week follow-up procedure where specific pastors reach out to the guest based on the guest's answers. We have over 100 guests every month at Bethel. God is bringing so many beautiful people from all over the world to Bethel, this truly makes us the richest of people. What a blessing! This year I will also be overseeing the entire "front of house" (lobby) and plan to expand the teams to help us be ready for two services in January.

Care Centre Ottawa Connection

Bethel supports CCO both financially and with space in our facility. I meet with Lisa Fabian regularly to discuss ways we can help support the Care Centre with specific donation drives that occur about three times a year. I also make cards inviting the Care Centre guests to our church.

Love Ottawa Weekend – City Connection

On June 10, 2023 we served ministries all across the city of Ottawa. We had space for 96 volunteers.

Ottawa City Mission – prepping food (2 teams)

Downtown Street ministry - donuts

Jericho Road – staining and gardening

Capital City Mission – BBQ for over 100 people

Care Centre – party in the park serving kids and Coffee and Donuts for a seniors housing

Ottawa Inner City Ministries- cleaning their facility

Asher Place – coffee and donuts for seniors

We plan to increase the impact in 2024.

NEW in 2023

This year we handed out 1000 door flyers to our immediate neighbourhood.

Welcome to Canada Connection

We continue to connect newcomers to Canada to jobs, housing, initial set up needs, the Care Centre and others from their community. Our Welcome to Canada page is on the website in 6 languages: English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic and Ukrainian.

People Connection

We connect personally with people in a variety of ways.

- Produce weekly emails to connect with our church family.
- Co-ordinate testimony videos.
- Change up graphics two times a year
- Connect with those who write the church looking for a place to belong. I am regularly approached by people on Sunday looking to connect with a ministry. I forward their details to the specific pastors.
- Connect people to small group leaders

SHE Connection

- Our women's small groups have grown this year and we have over 60 women involved in our small groups. We have plans for January 2024 to make room for more.
- Strip Club Outreach: Our adult team is growing and we are working with the Young Adult team ministering monthly in Ottawa.
- Our annual ladies conference is coming in November and, as of writing, over 330 women have already registered. We invited other churches to join us this year. We believe for women of all ages to continue to rise up and impact Bethel and our city.



WORSHIP & CREATIVE ARTS PASTOR

Sheril Shaw

We are extremely grateful as we continue to navigate through "The Year of Great Faith." In this season, we've witnessed the fulfillment of two significant prayer requests, and our hearts are filled with excitement as we eagerly anticipate the remarkable work God will continue to accomplish within our ministry.

Our ministry objectives are unwavering with a focus on spiritual growth, worship freedom, divine guidance and a dedicated place for our congregants to serve. Each week we meet on Tuesdays alternating between W.O.W Tuesday, INNOVATE Nights and Fun Nights.

Our diverse community of intergenerational and intercultural worshippers remains united in purpose and spirit. As we collaborate and grow together, we're committed to advancing the cause of freedom in our expression of worship and service within all facets of our ministry.

The evolution of our department is ongoing, and we trust God for the individuals He is sending our way. Our theme, "The Year of Great Faith" prompts us to ponder what we are believing for. John 14:1 "Do not let your heart be troubled. Believe in God and trust in Him, believe also in Me."

We are blessed to have a team of members who willingly embrace God's guidance, adapt to change, and extend a warm welcome to newcomers. Our department is experiencing consistent growth, and we are actively exploring innovative methods to train and equip every individual. The leadership team continues to expand as God orchestrates His plan.

As we peer into the future, we diligently endeavor to adjust and anticipate potential changes while remaining committed to strengthening and building upon the blessings that God has so graciously bestowed upon us.

Thank you for your ongoing support and dedication to our ministry. Together, we move forward in faith and purpose.

Production/Tech Department

Technical Production Director – Steven Antoine

Vision Statement:

"Empowering worship through seamless technical excellence."

The Church's Technical Production Department envisions a future where every member of our congregation in person and online can worship freely and deeply without distraction. We recognize the significance of our role in creating an atmosphere that can aid in encouraging Praise and Worship. We have a vision plan that outlines our goals and strategies to streamline our operations and enhance the worship experience for our church members.

Our vision is clear: we aspire to be the driving force behind creating an inspiring atmosphere for our church members to worship freely and without distraction. By streamlining our technical operations, fostering team development, and actively engaging our congregation, we believe we can achieve this vision and support our community in deepening their worship of God. With the congregation's support and the dedication of our technical team we look forward to realizing this vision and enhancing the spiritual journey of all our members.

Please keep praying for us as a department as we look forward to serving and worshipping with you each week.



SENIORS/VISITATION PASTOR Pastor Pauline Williams

Pastoral Care

This year Pastoral Care has taken a slightly different turn. Many of our folks have gone to be with Jesus, a large amount have been in hospital, transferred to retirement or nursing homes and some are home-bound. The good news is, we have easy access to visits now. We are back doing services in the retirement homes and that has been a real blessing to those who attend. Worshipping and doing fellowship together is priceless.

LEGACY PLUS - Team Leader Stella Rouble

This group accommodates senior men and women from 70 and up. They meet once monthly on a Wednesday. Stella and her team are dedicated to caring for the practical and spiritual needs of our community. This group is committed to packing many shoe boxes every year for Samaritan's Purse.

ADULT CONNECTIONS 50-70 - Team Leader Juliette Smith

This group has a vision to be a voice to others who are like-minded in the church and community. We have a vision to see this age group grow and impact a community of people who do service for God. There is a wide variety of professional individuals in this group, and I can't wait to see where God leads us. This harvest is vast and untouched and can make a huge difference. My personal prayer is that God will send committed workers whose hearts will be wrapped around this harvest. Our team verse is:

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving." (Colossians 3:23-24)

I am thankful for the team of volunteers that I work with who have committed countless hours to see this ministry move ahead.

Scripture tells us that we are being changed from one degree of glory to another, as we reflect Jesus. It is my heart's cry to reflect His wholeness and holiness. 1 Corinthians 15:58 gives us a clear view of why we are so vigilant about this ministry.

I consider myself blessed with this opportunity and privilege to minister to the Lord and for the Lord with the most amazing staff members with Pastor Peter McIntosh as our leader who consistently gives direction, stability, and support. May we always be faithful to the call.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES PASTOR Sarah Colantonio

What a wonderful year we have had! I have been the Children's Pastor here at Bethel for two years now and have seen such amazing growth in our kids, families, and leaders. It is an honour to get to have a front row seat as children step into knowledge, understanding and relationship with Jesus and one another! We have seen so many new families walk through our doors, and I can't wait to see where God takes us this next coming year! I want to say a big heartfelt thank you to Pastor Peter and Pastor Sandra - I am very thankful to sit under your leadership. It is an honour to work alongside you and be a part of this incredible staff and team. To my amazing volunteers and leaders - Bethel Kids cannot happen without you. This is not a one-woman show - you are the heart that keeps the kid's ministry beating! Kids are not just the future of the church, but the now!

Sunday Ministries

Sunday mornings have seen tremendous growth, not just in numbers but in Bible literacy and relationships! On average we have over 150 kids each week and over 60 leaders who give of their time. This past year in our Sunday classrooms we have seen 32 kids from Grades 1-5 give their hearts to the Lord for the very first time! YAY! Children are taught each Sunday by our incredible Bethel Kids leadership through interactive Bible-based lessons that kids can carry into their world. Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers for spending your time with our kids and raising them up to be the world changers that God calls them to be!

Nursery

Each Sunday, our nursery is full of babies. It has been so much fun to watch our nursery ministry grow as we welcome new families! From the outside, the nursery can often go unseen, but I want to say a BIG thank you to all the nursery volunteers who are constantly cuddling, rocking, wiping tears and loving our tiniest members of Bethel - I see you and am so appreciative!

Bethel Kids Midweek

We re-launched our kids mid-week for the first time since Covid-19. The pandemic had an ongoing impact on the number of kids who returned mid-week, so we decided to pause our mid-week program this Fall. We're going to relaunch in January, and I am so excited to see how God is going to grow our midweek program this coming year! Thank you so much to our amazing midweek team leaders!

March Break Kids Camp

We had the honour of hosting our second March Break Camp this year and it was a blast! Kids learned that, even when life gets wild, God is good and is always with us! We got to welcome community kids into our church for the week and show them the love of Jesus! 7 kids gave their hearts to the Lord for the very first time!

Jingle Jam Christmas Event

We hosted our second annual Christmas party for the whole family! We got to share the story of Christmas in a hands-on way, had special Christmas performances, prizes and games with over 250 of our Bethel families!

Summer Kids Camp

This summer we hosted a week-long camp for our church and community (my favourite time of the year!) Our theme was "Stellar: Shining the Light of Jesus." With over 160 kids attending and 35 volunteers - kids got to experience Jesus in powerful ways including: creative arts, worship, games, hands-on Bible teaching, small groups, water sports and more. 57 kids accepted Jesus into their lives for the very first time! I want to say thank you to my summer intern - Izzy. Without all your hard work and planning, camp would not have run as smooth as it did. And of course, to all the leaders who spent their entire days and week with our amazing, loud, messy and funny kids - THANK YOU! The impact you make on the kids will stay with them all their lives. It matters deeply.

I truly believe that there is no junior Holy Spirit for our Bethel Kids and that children are going to be world changers! It is an honour to be part of their lives, to see them grow confident in who God has called them to be and to see them build relationship with other kids and leaders. I can't wait to see how God is going to move this coming year!



YOUNG ADULTS PASTOR Ezra Beeksma

Over the last year of working with our Young Adults of Ottawa it has been beautiful to see the diversity of gifting, calling and anointing on our young adults. We have had a steady growth in our volunteer teams, attendance, and spiritual growth. We have consistently had new young adults continue to attend and get involved here at Bethel. We have also seen growth in community while people continue to step up into their giftings.

This year we have focused on taking it slow as a leadership team. We have been prioritizing rest and relationship. We are currently in a season of planning and preparation for the new season into which we believe God is leading MVMNT Young adults. The introduction of The Table gives MVMNT a more intentional group to work with moving into 2024. We look forward to the deeper focus on our university students in the city. Please be praying with us as God leads us into a new season.

Thank you to each of my leadership team (the dream team); Ben, Jada, Dotun, Nony, Kristina, Ore and Tosin. Previous to this year; Navita and Mathios. You each are a blessing, and it has been an honour to see God move in and through you.

REFLECTING BACK ON 2022-23

- **YA Communities** - This past year our communities have expanded and have now aged out of our Young Adult's age (18-26), therefore we have created campus (uOttawa, Carleton, Algonquin) communities plus a grad community. This new format will be a solid base to build a deeper community among our Young Adults.
- **Outreach** - This year we started a new outreach opportunity with Capital City Mission. Once a month our students put on an event for the homeless/low-income community. This has been a great opportunity to build leadership skills in our people. Our strip club ministry continues to run with the adult team.
- **Campus Outreach** - We are on Carleton's campus and had a table at their Welcome/Expo Week. Through this event, we have been able to communicate and help new students find a church home.
- **Celebrations** - Our MVMNT YA celebration has been a place for deeper community, friendship and a safe place to search deeper in faith. Meeting once a month has been an opportunity for many people to get involved and expand their giftings. Our attendance had been a solid 80 people a month.

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2024

We desire to move into a place where MVMNT YA becomes a self-sustained ministry, expanding and led by our young adults. A place for raw and real relationship with Jesus, led by the Holy Spirit, and a place of real community. Please be praying into our universities, our students and where it is that God is leading us.



STUDENT MINISTRIES PASTOR Mathios Felmina

As the Student Pastor at Bethel, I've had an incredible 9-month journey witnessing growth in our students and leaders as they deepen their understanding of and embrace the grace of Jesus Christ. The addition of new students and leaders has been exciting, and I eagerly anticipate what God has in store for us in the coming year.

I want to express my heartfelt appreciation to Pastors Peter and Sandra for their guidance and leadership. Learning from them is an honour. I'm also grateful for our dedicated staff and team; working alongside them has been enriching. Our Bethel Students ministry is a collective effort, and our incredible leaders are the driving force behind its success. Your hard work, commitment and passion are truly appreciated. I look forward to continued growth and success in the year ahead.

Sanctuary Jr. High

Turning to Sanctuary Jr. High, the past 9 months have been exceptional for our Sunday morning ministry. We had our ups and down. Our students have grown in their relationships with each other and their reliance on God. They've shown a willingness to engage with challenging questions and seek answers. The expansion of our Jr. High leadership team has been significant. We kindly request your ongoing prayers for these young lives as we aim to help them establish a deep connection with Jesus.

This year our Jr. High and Youth had the privilege of attending a Pursue Youth Conference right here in Bethel. We also experienced substantial growth during our summer camp trip to OVPC. The renovation of our youth room creates a space where our students feel seen and cared for and it brings joy to announce that 27 junior highs have accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Sanctuary Parents for their unwavering support.

Sanctuary Youth

Sanctuary Youth sent off this year's graduates with pride, confident that they will carry the love for Christ they showed during their time at Sanctuary and make a positive impact in our community and the wider world.

Last year, we reached a significant spiritual milestone, with over 20 junior high and Youth members getting baptized during our Sunday morning service. Moreover, 15 students embraced Jesus and recommitted themselves to Him, signifying profound spiritual growth within our youth group.

We successfully renovated our youth room, which will have a lasting positive effect on our team. We're excited about the year ahead, with over 40 youths joining us every Friday, and we're experiencing consistent growth month by month.

We're dedicated to seeking the presence of the Holy Spirit in our daily lives and have seen amazing results, like two of our students recently experiencing Spirit baptism.

We ask for your prayers for our leadership team as we continue to create a welcoming space for young individuals to connect with their Sanctuary FAMILY.

We believe in the limitless power of God's transformation and are excited for a deep spiritual awakening that will help advance the Kingdom of God without hindrance. Keep on believing with us and keep on praying for us. As we say in Sanctuary, "God is good all the time, and all the time God is good!" God has been good to us and we know He will continue to be good.



GLOBAL MISSIONS

Pastor Rob Olson, Committee Chair

Missions is a significant part of what God is doing in and through us at Bethel. We are a church that takes very seriously the call to go into all the world and share the gospel (Mk. 16:15,16). This is reflected in our extensive budget that is focused both internationally and nationally. It is also reflected in the relationships we have built with the missionaries we support. We pray for them and they pray for us. We have also had the opportunity to plan short term trips like the one to Azores.

We have had many changes and additions on the international level. We begin by saying farewell and thank you to Deborah Sirjoosingh who has served so well in Kenya for many years. We have been grateful to partner with her work and watch as God has blessed the people to whom she has ministered. We have many global workers we continue to support in the PAOC: Jorge Melo (Church Planting in Azores, Portugal), Dean Milley (Feeding Program at church plant in Pucusana, Peru), Matt & Amber Price (Leadership Development/ChildCARE Plus in Thailand), the Schulz family (Supporting local church discipleship in Vietnam), the Redwoods (Pastoral Care in India) and the Kellys (RAN) have partnered and consistently work with the PAOC to make a difference in their various locations. We have added two new Global workers: Amar and Samira Ram (Skills training in Guyana) and Mark and Kim Steinfield (Assistant Regional Director to Eurasia located in Spain). Along with the global workers we have been able to support Agnus Appiah (School and Home for children in Sogakope, Ghana), Stan and Sandra Anonby (Bible translation through Wycliffe) and we continue to respond to the situation in war torn Ukraine in our support for Pawel & Valentine Jarosz who have a community centre, church, youth centre and feeding program.

In Canada, we have continued to support the excellent work of Capital City Mission (Ottawa), Jericho Road (Ottawa), First Place Options (Ottawa), Shawn Naylor (Quebec) and Care Center (Ottawa). We have also begun to set aside funds for a future church plant which God will use to spread the gospel in our own back yard.

This November celebrated the International Food Fare once again! Food from 20 countries, mariachi and joy returned in this celebration of the diversity of our church. Thank you to all who helped out for this amazing event.



BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

Joan Hoskins

I am honoured to have the responsibility of the day-to-day management of Bethel's finances.

We continue to be a growing and vibrant church and we see miracles through those who tithe and donate to this wonderful community.

Under the leadership of Pastor Peter, Dave Thomson and the Board, we continued to manage the funds to enhance our effectiveness as a church, recognizing that we must be good stewards of what the Lord has entrusted to us.

None of this would have been possible without the time and expertise of so many who volunteer! Special mention to Dave Gabie, Rob Scharfe, Reg Smallwood, and Matt Black who have given their time and expertise to upgrading various areas in the church. Thanks also to the offering counters, night lock up, on-call and tech teams who serve so faithfully.

Shannon Olson, Office Administrator/Video Production and Matthew Black, Building/Maintenance Director are a pleasure to work with. You both encourage me in my walk with the Lord and bring a wealth of knowledge to the team.

Thank you, once again, for the opportunity to serve Bethel in this capacity!

BETHEL PENTECOSTAL CHURCH PROPERTY CORPORATION

Garth Gorsky, Chair

Bethel Pentecostal Church Property Corporation (BPCPC) was created as a separate corporation from the Church Corporation. Its mandate is to manage and own the major assets of the church. Renovations, repairs, upgrades and replacement costs can be costly. BPCPC has a long-term plan covering major capital expenditures over the foreseeable future. While the current assets of the corporation are significant, so too are the projected costs. For this reason, the long-term plan must allow for the holding of adequate savings to meet these needs. The bank balance at the end of this fiscal year was just over \$611,000.

During the 2023 fiscal year a lift (or elevator) was completed. This makes the second floor of our facility available to everyone.

BPCPC continues to work with the Care Centre Board and the Church Board to modify the facilities for the use of the Care Centre as they serve our community. Construction will be focus on the first half of the 2023/24 fiscal year. Funding for this project will be a joint effort of BPCPC, the Church, the Care Centre and private donations from supporters of the Care Centre.

Thank you to each of the Directors who have worked hard and attended several meetings to make all these projects happen.

ASHER PLACE – ASHER CHRISTIAN SENIORS INC.

Stuart MacPherson, President

Back in the early 1980's a group of members from this church had the idea of building an apartment dedicated to senior's living. This vision was approved by the Ottawa Bethel congregation in 1985 and construction began shortly after. With support of the Ontario Government and the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, Asher Christian Seniors Inc. was formed as a non-profit corporation that would provide quality housing opportunities for seniors with rents geared to those with low and moderate incomes. As a non-profit corporation, Asher operates solely on rents received from the tenants and from grants received from the City of Ottawa.

Asher is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors who are elected from Asher's membership list, all of whom must already be a member of Ottawa Bethel Church. The board is ultimately responsible for:

- the governance of the organization, creating a corporate vision and framework within which the Property Manager works.
- managing the corporation using sound business practices and policies as defined by Legislation and Agreements with the Service Manager of the City of Ottawa.
- maintaining the building in a state of good repair and fit for occupancy.
- operating in a financially responsible manner.

The members of the Board for the current year are Doreen Harrod, Dave Dulmage Sr., Andrew Manera, Catherine Barrett, Chris Gilchrist, Doug Torrence, and Stuart MacPherson. Peter Cousineau serves as the Liaison with the Bethel Church Board and Pastor Peter is an ex-officio member of the Board. Susan Wolthuizen serves as the Property Manager.

Both the Board of Directors and the Property Manager work together having a shared common interest in the well-being of Asher Place. The Board has ultimate responsibility for the Corporation and the Property Manager does the nitty-gritty work of implementing policies.

Slightly over a year ago, we lost a valued member of the Asher family. Nick Greco was part of the original team that developed the vision for Asher and worked to create this marvelous residence. Over the years, Nick served as Administrator and Property Manager and served many years on the Board of Directors, including as Treasurer. It has been a year since we lost Nick, and we miss him still. To recognize the large impact that Nick had on Asher, the Board of Directors arranged to plant a tree in Nick's memory which is located on the south-east lawn of the building.

Every non-profit corporation must have members. Membership at Asher helps with the continued success of providing affordable, clean and safe living conditions for seniors by:

- electing a Board of Directors to govern the affairs of Asher
- approving of by-laws
- approving of financial statements
- attending one meeting each year

all of which together will support the quality of living Asher originally envisioned.

The non-profit corporation that runs Asher Place is always seeking new members who share in the belief that provision of quality, affordable housing to seniors in a Christian environment is a ministry which supports the Vision of Bethel and embraces the Core Values of our Church.

Members of Asher must first need to be a voting member of this church, Ottawa Bethel Pentecostal Church. This helps ensure Bethel's vision and core values are carried through to Asher. To become a member, all one must do is contact Sue Wolthuizen or any member of the Board, and we will welcome you to the Membership.

Providing quality, affordable housing to seniors in a Christian environment is a ministry supporting the Vision of Bethel and embracing the Core Values of this Church. We are very proud of the over 35 years that we have been providing this ministry, and we look forward to many more years of continuing Christian service to the community.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Dave Thomson

2023 came with its share of severe weather, but it was the first year since 2019 that we had in person Sunday service for all 52 weeks of the year. It feels so good to be back in Church again and to have a calendar full of events. As we head into our next fiscal year it is exciting to see so many new ministries, projects and people!

Receipts and Expenditures

We saw a modest increase in revenue in 2023 versus 2022. Although our total expenses exceeded our revenue by \$25,686 it should be noted that part of our expenses in 2023 included transfers to the Property Corporation for ongoing building improvements. In 2023 we were able to transfer a total of \$165,000 to the Property Corporation.

Financial Position

Through God's faithful provision, Bethel remains in a sound financial position. We saw an increase in total Giving in 2023, were able to shift substantial funds to the Property Corporation and continue to operate completely debt free.

In Summary

The end of 2023 concludes my fifth year as Treasurer. During those 5 years we have witnessed growth despite a pandemic and heightened uncertainty. Clearly, Bethel is not only a Church that prays and celebrates, but also a Church that gives. Your faithful giving, obedience and stewardship continue to be a blessing to me, our Church family and our community. My Treasurer's Report would not be complete, or even possible, without a deep expression of thanks to Joan Hoskins. Joan continues to manage our finances and operations with a spirit of service, grace and compassion. We celebrated Joan's 20 year tenure with Bethel this year and I am praying for 25 more!

Once again, thank you all for your faithful giving. We have much to look forward to! In the pages that follow you will find the 2023 Auditor's Report and the 2024 Proposed Budget.

Please feel free to email me directly at dthomson@bethel.ca if you require any clarification or detail about any of these matters.