

# Annual Report 2023



west london  
ALLIANCE CHURCH



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## REPORT OF THE LEAD PASTOR

### 1 Samuel 2:1-2 ESV

<sup>1</sup> And Hannah prayed and said,

“My heart exults in the Lord;  
my horn is exalted in the Lord.

My mouth derides my enemies,  
because I rejoice in your salvation.

<sup>2</sup> “There is none holy like the Lord:

for there is none besides you;  
there is no rock like our God.

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This past year—2023—gave us as a church many good reasons to exult in the Lord; there is none holy like the Lord, there is none beside him, there is no rock like our God! We have great cause to rejoice in God’s salvation. First and foremost, we rejoice in God’s salvation offered through his Son, Jesus Christ, whose life, death, and resurrection are where our salvation was accomplished. In many other ways, God has delivered us corporately and individually and so we say, “There is no rock like our God!” We at West London Alliance Church, as we consider the year now behind us, have great cause to exult in the Lord.

The year 2023 was a year of endings, beginnings, and continuing in the pulpit. The first 4 months of the year saw us conclude our series in the Book of Hebrews. That incredible journey culminated with a special service in which the entire book was read aloud. What a powerful experience that was! Barry Usher helped preach in those closing chapters of Hebrews, and Pastor Lyall and Corporis speaker Craig Troxel gave special messages in January and February respectively. In May, we began a new series of Old Testament narrative in the Book of 1 Samuel and our usual practice of preaching through the Psalms continued in the months of July, August, and September. Pastor Rhys Plant of our church plant Jacqueline Street Alliance Church preached in May and District Superintendent Ian Trigg preached in June. Dave DeSmit, Rick Walton, and Pastor Graham took turns preaching from Psalms, with Pastor Graham’s sermon being followed up by his Ordination Service which was memorable for all of us. In October, as is our custom, we preached topical sermons that focused on “Mission”. I was assisted by Ray Majoran and Rob “Mags” Magwood who preached the last two Sundays in October. In November we continued through 1 Samuel with help in the pulpit being provided by Barry Usher and Pastor Jon. We stayed in 1 Samuel with the exception of Christmas Eve morning in which I preached a Christmas sermon. In similar fashion to when Pastor Graham preached, Pastor Jon’s sermon was followed by his Ordination Ceremony. We are blessed at West London Alliance Church with many capable preachers and with a congregation who loves to hear God’s Word preached. We rejoice with triumphant joy at how God uses his Word in our midst.

Dave Dunmore, Steve Gaunt, Ray Majoran (Chair), Chris Postma, Tim Seabrook (Secretary), Ron Standish (Treasurer), Barry Usher, and Brian Worrad (Vice-Chair) all served faithfully on the Board of Elders and Rob Bell, Graham Buchanan, Daniel Kwong, Rand Luka, Lyall Mix, Dwain Murphy, and Rhys Plant served as Elders without being on the Board. All of these men served and shepherded well, particularly in their leading, teaching, and praying. I am grateful for their ministry. We can rejoice at West London Alliance Church in God’s provision of godly leadership for our church.

We also rejoice in God’s provision of a godly and productive staff. Kim Seabrook, Judith Gaunt, Nancy Blackwell, Karyn Koopman, Susan Phillipson, Megan Felker, Lyall Mix, Daniel Kwong, Graham Buchanan, Dave DeSmit, Jon Magwood, Rick Walton, Rhys Plant, and Nathan Dunmore all served faithfully in various capacities

in 2023. Rand Luka, though not technically on staff, has also served our congregation faithfully. All of these people are a gift to me personally and a gift to this congregation. Their service to our people is significant.

The Corporis Conference of 2023—a ministry wherein we partner with Jaqueline Street Alliance Church and Community Bible Church Ilderton—saw main speaker Craig Troxel, as well as the lead pastors of the churches involved, teach on the heart. The conference was entitled *With All Your Heart* and was a wonderful time of praise, preaching and fellowship.

The St. John family exulted in God's providential increasing of our family. I gratefully added 2 sons-in-law. My daughter Adele married Mac Stanley in May and my daughter Mara married Josh Boorsma in June. They, in addition to our son-in-law Brett who Ena married in 2021, have increased our family to 10. Judah and Arwen are still at home and Nicole continues to lovingly and seemingly tirelessly serve us all (me most of all) in order that we might accomplish all that God has called us to. She accomplishes all of that while continuing her full-time job as an OR nurse. My heart truly exults in the Lord when I consider the family he has given me.

Finally, God shows me regularly that there is none beside him as he works out his will in the congregation of West London Alliance Church. Our church endeavours to make known the greatness of God in the gospel of Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, and the grace of God working through the service of elders, staff, members, and congregants makes this endeavour increasingly realized. Pastoring this church—these people—is a privilege and I pray that each member, associate, adherent, and attender will all be able to look on 2023 and truly and tremendously rejoice in God's salvation.

In Him,

Jude St. John – Lead Pastor

## REPORT OF THE CHURCH PLANT PASTOR

By God's grace, 2023 was a wonderful year in the life of Jacqueline Street Alliance Church. It marked our first calendar year of life as a church, and the Lord was very kind. We rejoice in his goodness toward us.

Over the course of the year, I preached 40 of the Sunday mornings at Jaqueline Street, as well as a few Sunday mornings at other churches. We began the year in Genesis, and I preached Genesis 1-11 over the course of six weeks. Following Genesis, we began our series in the gospel of Mark. I preached Mark until September, when we took a brief, three-week break to do a series on the Church. Following that series, we resumed our study of the book of Mark, and remained in Mark until the end of the year. As much as I have enjoyed being the primary preacher at our church, I am grateful for all the other men that preached at Jacqueline Street this year. In addition to myself, Conor Culverhouse, David Dunmore, Barry Usher, Ryan Adams, Rob Bell, Jude St. John, Dave De Smit, Brett Worrada, and Josh Thorne also preached God's Word to us at JSAC. I am thankful to these brothers for their help in that task.

We understand, that as Christians, we are commanded by scripture to gather as the people of God, and we do that on Sunday mornings. We also understand that the Bible regulates what those gatherings look like. When a church gathers, it gathers to read the Bible, preach the Bible, sing the Bible, pray the Bible, and see the Bible. That last action, seeing the Bible, is most obviously done by observing the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper. It is our custom at Jacqueline Street to take the Lord's Supper on the last Sunday of every month, and we joyfully did that throughout 2023. We also, by God's grace, had our first baptism. On October 15<sup>th</sup> we rejoiced together as a family as we celebrated the new life that baptism represents, and we look forward to many more baptisms as more people come to faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. We also carried out four baby dedications this year. And, while these are not commanded in scripture, they offered a wonderful opportunity to rejoice at God's gift of life, and to pray for the growing families in our church.

In addition to our Sunday morning gatherings, we continued to have our Sunday evening prayer meetings in 2023. It is no exaggeration to say that these are probably my favorite thing that we do as a church. It is wonderful to gather as God's people for prayer each week. It is good for my soul, and I know that those who attend these prayer meetings feel the same way. Like last year, each evening, one of the men will give a devotional from a verse that I give to them. The verse will be from the opposite testament from which I preached in the morning and will correspond to my morning text. Over the course of 2023, Dave Dunmore, Conor Culverhouse, Ryan Adams, Roger Garnaitis, Brett Worrada, and Josh Thorne all did a number of these devotionals. In addition to the devotions, we also heard some testimonies during these evening services. It was a joy to hear how God has worked in the lives of a number of our members.

We all know that preaching is not the only thing that occurs at a church on a Sunday, and so I want to thank Haley Culverhouse for her help in organizing our music ministry. She took care of the schedule and the teams and was a massive help to me in that regard. Also, thank you to all the musicians from WLA who gave Sundays to come and lead music for us, we really appreciate your service.

In addition to our music teams, each week we were led in prayer and had scripture read to us by different members of the congregation, and so I thank each of you who have helped in those areas. And it seems to me that this is also an appropriate time to thank Lynda Rolleman and Barb Garnaitis for their work in leading and coordinating our kids' ministry. Thank you for your work in this and thank you to all of our kids' ministry volunteers.

When we planted in 2022, we started with just our Sunday meetings, but by the end of the year had added adult Sunday school on Sunday mornings, and a Wednesday night Bible study. Those two additional meetings continued throughout 2023. In Sunday school, we did an overview of the New Testament, and a short series on loving one's neighbour, before starting a Systematic Theology study (thank you, Conor, Dave, and

Ryan, for your help teaching this class). In our Wednesday night Bible study, we spent the year looking at 1 Corinthians together.

Throughout 2023, we also continued to try and reach out into our community in a number of ways, out of a desire to see our neighbors reached with the gospel. With the help of WLA, and especially Nathan Dunmore, we put on our first summer camp in 2023. It was, to say the least, a learning experience. By God's grace, and with the work of a team of wonderful volunteers, camp went well, unchurched kids heard the gospel, and we trust that the Lord's word will do its work in its time. A special shout-out to Esther Thorne for her work in coordinating and running the camp. In addition to camp, our outreach committee of Ryan Adams, Larry Banman, and Esther Thorne began the work of establishing an English as a Second Language (ESL) ministry here at JSAC. The ESL program did not work out quite as well as we had hoped, but we learned a lot that we hope we can put to use in the future. Our building was also used by a ministry called Safe Families each week as the location for their weekly soup lunch. This lunch turned into a wonderful outreach opportunity, and many women heard the gospel at those meetings.

There have been a few other notable things that have happened in the life of JSAC this year. One of them was the establishment of our own Board. Even though we are still under the governing authority of WLA, the elders at WLA and our leadership team thought it would be best to recognize the men who were doing the work of elders at our church. These men were diligently shepherding God's people, and so we recognized them in the fall, and anticipate that they will form our founding Board when we are autonomous. We praise God for providing men who love him and his people, and are blessed to have Brett Worrada, Ryan Adams, Conor Culverhouse, Roger Garnaitis, and David Dunmore serving us as elders. Two other events of note that took place in 2023 were the rebuilding of our fence (thanks to Larry Banman for heading that up and for all the volunteers who helped) and my ordination within the Christian & Missionary Alliance.

To my family, thank you for bearing with me throughout the year. You bear the burden of ministry just as much as I do. You suffer through my late nights and early mornings. You are the ones who pay the price of late-night sermon rewrites and emergency phone calls. You see me when I am at my lowest, and you bear the brunt of my sin. Thank you for your love and perseverance. Natalie, Caedmon, Bronwyn, Marek, Freya, Ronan: I love you. I pray that the Lord will help you all to love him more each day.

To the members at WLA, thank you for your continued prayer for, and support of Jacqueline Street. We would not exist as a church if it were not for you. Thank you to all the staff who help with our kid's ministry, worship ministry, tech issues, and administrative tasks. Thank you to those who have come and led music for us so that our teams can have a break. Thank you to those who visit us to see how we are doing. Thank you for continuing to meet our financial needs. Most of all, thank you to all of you who pray for us. Church planting is hard. It is a lot of work. There are obstacles and opposition aplenty, and we need all the prayer that we can get. We are not able to do this work on our own. We need God's help in this work, and that means we need your prayers. So, thank you for praying, please do not stop.

Finally, to the men, women, and children who call JSAC home; thank you. It is a joy and a privilege to be your pastor. Thank you for allowing me to care for you, and thank you for caring for me. I love you, and I cannot wait to see what the Lord does in and through us.

Now to him who is able to do above and beyond all that we ask or think according to the power that works in us—to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. (Eph 3:20-21)

In Christ,

Rhys Plant

## REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

This past year was one of celebrations and trials, victories and defeats, advances and setbacks. But through it all I am thankful for how the Lord continues to be an ever-present help and presence in my life and the life of the church. I am reminded of the words of the Psalmist (and he writes these words often through the Psalms) in Psalm 107:1 **OH GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD FOR HE IS GOOD, FOR HIS STEADFAST LOVE ENDURES FOREVER.** I am happy to report on the ministries I oversee.

### **FOREVERGREEN** (Seniors Ministry)

As I look back on 2023, I would say this year was a year of stability in the Seniors' ministry. We were blessed to be able to have our ministries continue all through the year and I know many of the seniors were grateful for that. Here are a few highlights from the year.

COMMUNITY DROP IN – The Drop In continued its regular schedule each Tuesday morning from 9:30-11:30 a.m. The numbers have slowly increased, and we are almost back to where we were pre-Covid. The Fireside room is full of enthusiastic and appreciative seniors who enjoy euchre, scrabble, puzzles and other card games, but it is the fellowship and the camaraderie that are the key for these folks, and it continues to meet the social needs of so many seniors. I have heard time and time again how this group and ministry is the highlight of their week.

As well on Mondays and Tuesdays the V.O.N. holds an exercise class in the gym. And then every week they come on Tuesdays to hold a blood pressure clinic. These programs are well attended and received by our seniors both within the church and the community.

My thanks go to Everett & Pauline Zwiers who help in the kitchen and set up the room each week. As well, thanks to the many others who help to get the Fireside Room straightened up after we are done. I really appreciate it.

THURSDAYS – Almost every Thursday, something is planned for the seniors to attend. We meet in the Fireside Room and each week has a bit of a flavour of its own. Here is what those Thursdays look like on any given week:

- a more traditional church service with hymn singing, praise and prayer and a sermon. Some of the highlighted sermons were on Jacob, The Tabernacle, Easter to name a few.
- Hymn Sings
- Video Series – That the World May Know
- Special Guests. This year we were happy to have The London Pregnancy and Family Support Centre, Dr. Miriam Charter (retired Alliance International Worker) who spoke of her time behind the Iron Curtain in the 80's and 90's, Mike & Nikki Howell (Alliance International Workers to Senegal) and Steve & Pam Wise (missionaries with Teach Beyond).
- Bible Study – In September we moved our Bible Study from Tuesdays to Thursdays. We are still working our way through 1 John and are growing together in the grace and knowledge of the Lord.

MEALS – One of the great events they love are the meals. Although things have changed a lot over these past couple of years, we were still able to enjoy potlucks, BBQ's and The Mandarin. As well, we also enjoyed a wonderful Christmas Dinner and program on December 14. I am thankful to those who were able to assist with this meal that included: Megan Felker, Susan Phillipson, Rayma MacNeill, Gayle L'Heureux, Pauline Randall, Mary Stanley, Agnes McCaffery and a whole host of helpers who assisted in putting everything back into place. I am also grateful to Kristen Garrett and Paula VanBrenk for providing such excellent, special music.

I am also thankful to the Ng/Worrad Life Group who make meals and visit the seniors on an occasional basis.

BUS TRIPS – We enjoyed three trips this year which included: Toronto – One of Kind Craft Show (March), Mystery Trip – to the Butterfly Conservatory in Cambridge, The Windmill Market in Mount Pleasant and Shaw's Ice Cream in St. Thomas (July) and the Starbright Christmas Show at The Victoria Playhouse in Petrolia (December). We had such a great time on each of these trips.

THANK YOU - On a weekly basis, there are many people who work so hard behind the scenes with our group that without their help we would not be able to provide such an effective and essential ministry to our seniors.



From helping in the kitchen to playing the piano and to offering rides for our Seniors, it is all appreciated. Special thanks go to Rayma MacNeil, Pauline Zwiers, Corinne Klassen, Paula VanBrenk, Lois Usher, Betty White to name a few.

I would also like to give a huge thank you to Megan Felker. She helps in the kitchen with meals and the Drop In, she plays euchre when needed, she assists me on the bus trips and so many other areas of which I really appreciate her help. But her main focus and area where she is really ministering in, is her visitation to those in their home or in the hospital. She is so incredibly valuable to so many of our Seniors and the people of our congregation. Megan's official title with the church is Assistant to the Associate Pastor for Congregational Care and Visitation. She has gone above and beyond in providing her time, care, compassion and the love of Jesus to those she has visited or come alongside. It is wonderful to see how you have grown in this role over the last two years and it has been such a pleasure to have you work alongside of me.

## **FUNERALS**

2023 gave me the opportunity of assisting a few families in our church and within the community as they grieved the passing of a loved one. I had the privilege of being involved in these funerals listed below and am grateful to the families for including me.

April – Ruby McIlmoyle – Diane Black's mother

August – Faye Browning

September – Robert Leghorn

September – Calvin Field

November – Kaye Hackney

November – John Phinnemore

## **WEDDINGS/PRE-MARITAL COUNSELLING**

This year gave me the privilege of coming alongside two couples as they prepared for marriage: Aaron & Kendra Suderman and Adam & Kayleigh Gaunt. It was exciting to take you through this step as you prepared for marriage. And then in June, I officiated the wedding of Aaron & Kendra.

## **MISSIONS**

Missions continues to be brought to the forefront of our minds each Sunday as the Elders pray for the "Missionary of the Week." It has been exciting for me to see how this has become a regular part of the Sunday services and I have enjoyed putting the prayer requests together on a weekly basis. Those whom we have prayed for in 2023 included:

- Danny & Vera Kuranji – Serbia (Alliance International Workers)
- Mike & Nikki Howell – Senegal (Alliance International Workers)
- Matt & Connie Russell – Southeast Asia (Alliance International Workers)
- Marcel & Kelly Boers – Angola (with Mission Aviation Fellowship)
- Ian & Rebecca Frankish – North Africa (Alliance International Workers)
- Steve & Pam Wise – Central & West Asia (Teach Beyond, headquarters in England)
- Jacqueline Street Alliance Church – church plant, London

## **PROPERTY/MAINTENANCE**

Deacons of Property/Maintenance

I have had the privilege of working with a group of men who have assisted me in giving oversight and direction to the church building. They include Doug Blackwell, Dave Stranks and Seamus Wharry. The projects that were completed included:

- Stripping & Painting the Nursery ceiling
- New lighting in the Nursery
- Painting the hallways
- Landscaping the bush and brush surrounding the church lot. This included removing many of the dead or fallen trees, levelling the property and seeding it. We look forward to seeing grass next spring and being able to utilize this area more. A huge thank you to Brian Trapp who gave of his time to level the ground and get rid of a lot of stumps!!

As 2024 is upon us we have a continual list of projects that will keep our building and the property functioning well. We look forward to working on them as the year progresses.

### **THANK YOU**

I want to thank each of the staff and elders with whom I have had the privilege of working with in 2023.

I am thankful to the Lord for how He continues to watch over my family. 2023 was a year of mixed emotions. We celebrated the engagement of our son Evan to his fiancée, Stephany, but we also grieved over the passing of Julie's father, John Phinnemore. We so appreciated and were humbled by the countless ways so many of you reached out to us during John's passing.

I am also thankful for my wife Julie for the ongoing love and support she provides for me.

As I started out this report, I also end on this note: **OH, GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD FOR HE IS GOOD.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lyall Mix

## REPORT OF WLA WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

For decades now, women at WLA have had opportunities for Bible study, discipleship, prayer and accountability, breakfast events, retreats, and one-day conferences. By God's grace, there has been consistent volunteer leadership over these specific parts of ministry life. And, by God's grace, these leaders have been able to bring in new volunteers, raise up new leaders, and see a new generation of women get involved over time. In September of 2023, a conversation was had amongst some of these leaders about finding a name for women's ministry that all of the various women's volunteers could work under. That conversation led to WLA Women's Ministry now having the tagline of "Growing in Grace", taken from 2 Peter 3:18.

"But *grow in the grace* and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.  
To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen."

Whether through The Ladies Connection (TLC), one-on-one discipleship, small group discipleship, early morning prayer, breakfast events, or annual retreats, our desire is that the women of WLA grow in grace together, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Ladies, we see the Lord doing this work in you, and we REJOICE! To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity!

### **Women's Early Morning Prayer, Breakfast Events, Annual Retreat**

By God's grace, 2023 found the women of WLA gathering for fellowship and instruction at Early Morning Prayer on Tuesday mornings, at three Saturday morning Breakfast Events (formally called "Advances") and, for the first time since 2019, at an annual weekend retreat!

Every Tuesday morning of the school year, a group of intrepid women make their way to the WLA sanctuary at 6:15 a.m. to pray for our international workers, to discuss the sermon from the previous Sunday, and to pray for one another in small groups for both sermon application and the pressing needs of the week ahead. It is always encouraging to see the wide range of ages and stages of life represented at these meetings with women from young adult to young mom to middle-aged to retiree to Forevergreen present. Facilitation of these mornings is shared by Deb Wilkins, Cheryl McVittie, and Barbara Postma.

Our first breakfast of 2023 set our hearts and minds to the power and hope of the resurrection. In April, at the event called "Because...", Vera Kuranji taught on some of the implications of the resurrection in our everyday life, and we were encouraged to finish the sentence "Because he lives, I can..." as we reflected on the difference the resurrection makes in our particular circumstances.

Then, in June 2023, nearly 60 women spent the weekend at Five Oaks Education and Retreat Centre in Paris, Ontario where Liliana Lapierre taught us from Ezra 2 on the topic of "Threads". She traced the threads of God's faithfulness, grace, and steadfast love in the stories of three names listed in the Ezra 2 genealogy. We also rejoiced in the Lord through the testimonies given by Lis Logie, Lynda Rolleman, Cheryl McVittie, and Jan Murphy. We were so grateful to the Lord that we were able to 'retreat' together again.

After a summer and fall full of baby showers, bridal showers, and weddings, the women of WLA gathered for two more breakfast events. We carried the theme from the June retreat into these mornings and in October we looked more closely at God's Threads of Faithfulness as Liliana Lapierre taught us from the Biblical account of Elizabeth and as we heard testimonies from Christina Langstaff (now Vander Veen), Amanda Hesman, and Grace Bell. Finally, in December we examined Threads of Grace through Lili's teaching on the Biblical account of Mary, the mother of Jesus, and through testimonies from Enas Luka and Mindy Worrad.

While the breakfast events are organized by a committee of Deb Wilkins, Nancy Whynot, Shelley Ripley-Bulckaert, Liliana Lapierre, and Barbara Postma, and while the retreat is organized by a committee of Liliana Lapierre, Joanna Vanderlaan, Lauren VanderPloeg and Barbara Postma, it would be impossible to execute any of these events without the multitude of volunteers who consistently show up to love the Growing in Grace

Women. To name some of those volunteers, we thank: Susan Phillipson and her help with coffee; Katie Brown and her stunning work in creating art pieces that transform our meeting spaces; Maddy De Smit and Mary Jamieson and who run projection; Dave De Smit and Milan Mihalj who take a Friday night and Saturday morning to make sure the sound works well for our breakfasts (and who do not mind being the only man in the room!); Mary Anne Capstick who paints beautiful bookmarks for us to remember the theme of our events; Joanna Vanderlaan, Chris Ng, Karyn Koopman, Lauren VanderPloeg, Kathleen Magwood, Catherine Bond-Mills, Christina Vander Veen, and Nicole St John who have led the music for us; the senior high students who clear out the Core and set up all the chairs for the breakfast events; countless women who bake, set up, tear down, greet, facilitate small group discussion, jump for door prizes, read scripture, say grace, make beds (!!), pray, and give testimonies; and the countless men who take time on a Saturday morning to move couches and reset the Core for Sunday morning. A great big thank you also to Kim Seabrook and Nancy Blackwell who help with our administrative needs in the office on top of their very full plates.

It is a constant JOY to see the WLA women gather to worship the Lord, to study his Word, to grow in grace, to encourage one another, to rejoice with those who rejoice and to weep with those who weep, to comfort others with the comfort the Lord has given them, to give generously from their lack, to disciple each other, to laugh with one another, to speak truth over one another, and to reflect the image of Christ within our walls and also to the watching world. What a rich treasure you sisters are! Praise the Lord!

With great thanks to our glorious Lord,

Barbara Postma

(on behalf of Deb Wilkins, Nancy Whynot, Shelley Ripley-Bulckaert, Joanna Vanderlaan, Liliana Lapierre, and Lauren VanderPloeg)

## REPORT OF THE LADIES CONNECTION (TLC)

The Ladies Connection (TLC) is a group of women who meet weekly from September until May for Bible Study, fellowship, encouragement, and prayer. Ladies have the option of joining our Monday evening group which runs from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., or our Wednesday morning group which meets from 9.30 - 11:30 a.m.

Monday evening is popular among working moms, students, and those who are otherwise unavailable on Wednesday morning. During 2023, attendance on Monday evenings numbered 20-30, and was ably led by Julie Mix, and assisted by Cheryl Hargraves and Jeanette Nywening.

Wednesday mornings began with a time for fellowship and snacks allowing all of the ladies to connect and feel welcome. The rest of the morning consisted of a time of worship, the sharing of a personal testimony, or a video. It is during small group time that homework is discussed, and ladies pray and share personally in an intimate setting. Approx 30-40 women attended on Wednesday mornings during 2023.

Our year began with finishing up a study entitled "God of Freedom" by Jen Wilkin. This study in Exodus was well received by the group and challenged us as we traveled with God's people through the wilderness and were able to apply their struggles to our own lives. This was followed by "Encountering God" by Kelly Minter, which encouraged us to cultivate habits of faith, through practicing spiritual disciplines. Our September study was the book "Abide", a study of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd John, authored by Jen Wilkin, which continued into January 2024.

As our session ended in May, we faced a major change when Cheryl Hargraves and Julie Mix had to resign from the Wednesday morning group due to work-related restrictions. We miss them greatly and are deeply grateful for their many years of service to TLC. We are thankful that Julie continued as coordinator of the Monday group with Cheryl as a group leader.

We reconvened in September with an expanded committee, (Louise Somerville, Helen Heinrichs, Lorraine Turkstra, Pat McClelland, Colleen DeJager, Julie Mix, and Iris Zawada.) We appreciate the dedication of these ladies as they adjust to their new roles.

Childcare was offered during the first part of the year under the excellent leadership of Sarah Carandang. Sarah continued to be an "on-call" sitter from September through December, but no children registered during that time.

Our Christmas and Spring Brunches were a highlight for the TLC group, providing a time when we could invite potential new participants, fellowship together as a larger group, and celebrate the Lord's goodness to us.

Many thanks go to our faithful group leaders, who serve diligently week by week: Lis Logie, Elsebeth Rush, Karen Suderman, Iris Zawada, Lorraine Turkstra, Sonya van der Velde, Colleen DeJager, Lois Wood, Julie Mix, Cheryl Hargraves, and Jeanette Nywening.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise Somerville  
Chair of TLC

## **REPORT OF THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE**

We were pleased to be able to re-open the church library in February of 2023. This start-up meant reconnecting with many previous library users as well as introducing the service to many new people. Our goal has been to connect our church family with biblical resources that will supplement and deepen their growing faith and knowledge of our Lord.

During the 2023 year the library was open weekly, between Sunday morning services, and was staffed by our faithful volunteers: Kendra Birtch, Rebecca Brown, Jesleana Jacob, Brynn Koopman, Agnes McCaffery, Patricia McClelland, Evelyn Postma, Ingrid Standish, Elizabeth Teasell and Giovanna Zuanazzi. Thank you for your kind investment of time and service.

Within our library walls you'll find an array of fiction and non-fiction books, Bible studies and DVDs, for a variety of ages. If you have not visited the library before, we encourage you to stop by between services, chat with a volunteer and check out the material available to you. We are thankful that these resources are being used by our church family and we welcome any suggestions you have.

We praise God for his blessing on the library ministry over the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Hesman

## **REPORT OF THE ARABIC FELLOWSHIP**

We were blessed at the Arabic Fellowship to have had another year to serve the Lord and His people. Over the last year we were consistent with weekly Sunday worship, fellowship and the teaching of God's word, as well as attending the English service every first Sunday of the month for communion.

Last year, I did the preaching every other Sunday, and we had preachers from the English congregation once a month to help. We had the opportunity to finish the book of Hebrews and start the book of Nehemiah after doing a short topical series about the Christian family.

A couple of brothers and sisters helped in leading worship every Sunday.

We are holding our Bible study in the form of a Life Group every other Saturday evening.

Please pray for us that the Lord may open doors to connect with other Arabic speaking residents of London to share the Gospel.

Respectfully submitted,

Rand Luka

## 中文團契年報

「1 你們要讚美耶和華！我的心哪，你要讚美耶和華！3 你們不要倚靠君王，不要倚靠世人，他一點不能幫助。」詩 146:1,3

感謝神向中文團契的祝福及幫助。回顧2023年若沒有神的幫助我們真不知怎樣事奉才能讓神得榮耀，讓人得到好處。感謝神引領及使用各教會同工協助中文事工的發展，長老們一直為中文團契代禱，藉著神的恩典與憐憫，讓我們軟弱的肢體能站起來，患病的肢體得健康。

今年上半年仍以希伯來書為講台信息，四月底完成了希伯來書後，我們用撒母耳記上的信息敬拜神並學習，但在七月至九月期間以詩篇75至87篇為講台信息，神為我們預備不同的講員分享信息及教導，藉此機會也向各位講員致謝：本堂的牧師及長老有Pastor Lyall, Pastor Graham, Pastor George (from Guelph宣道會), Elder Ron, Elder Brian等等，各弟兄姊妹得到更多的教導和屬靈的祝福。雖然我們完全恢復實體崇拜，但因一些長者不便來到禮拜堂參加敬拜神，所以我們採用線上直播的方式，好讓因身體原故不便到教堂聚會的人也可以與我們同心以心靈誠實一起敬拜神。感謝神有些未信者及住在較遠地方的肢體透過直播參加敬拜神。

關於建立弟兄姊妹靈性方面：繼續有國，粵語的查經班。今年從哥林多上，下書信學習，在十一月份弟兄姊妹一同參加大多市（三天）培靈會線上直播。我們也透過電影晚會（War Room）鼓勵大家以禱告經歷神的恩典與幫助，我們也被提醒「6 他對我說：「這是耶和華指示所羅巴伯的。萬軍之耶和華說：『不是倚靠勢力，不是倚靠才能，乃是倚靠我的靈方能成事。』」（撒迦利亞書 4:6）的教導，故此，各弟兄姊妹願意以禱告靠主幫助，也在週末新增禱告會。

在外展傳福音方面：今年也有有兩次戶外活動，其中一個是巴士旅行到Point Pelee公園，當天超過六十人參加而未信者約接近半數。另外一次就是在Gibbons Park舉行野餐也超過八十八人參加。其他有農曆新年午餐。暑期小城福音活動，燒烤，咖啡福音性聚會及查經，中秋火鍋活動，各項活動皆有數十人（大部分是未信者），學生們的Praising Night福音晚會及個人佈道等等。另外一個慶祝聖誕晚會及晚餐接近二百人參加，透過這些活動今年有十七人信主，願一切榮耀歸主，因為完全是神感動人信主，讚美上帝，另外，今年有六位弟兄姊妹受浸歸主名下，但另外一件令人傷感的事是何弟兄離世，但仍感謝神接他的靈魂歸主身旁。

感謝神，祂恩典實在豐富，願榮耀歸神。再次謝謝各教牧同工及長老不斷為中文團契禱告及支持，也謝謝Pastor Jude一直都在幫助及指引各事工的發展。也謝謝各肢體的忠心侍奉及奉獻力量 and 金錢給神。願神大大祝福教會，中文事工及各弟兄姊妹。

Respectfully Submitted,  
Daniel Kwong



## REPORT OF THE CHINESE FELLOWSHIP

### Psalm 146:1,3

<sup>1</sup>Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord, my soul. <sup>3</sup> Do not put your trust in princes, in human beings, who cannot save.

I thank God for His blessing in helping the Chinese fellowship. Looking back on 2023, without God's help, we really would not have known how to serve so that God could be glorified and people could benefit. Thank you to God for leading and using church staff to assist in the development of the Chinese ministry. The elders have been praying for the Chinese fellowship. Through God's grace and mercy, our weak members can stand up and our sick members can become healthy.

In the first half of last year, we still used Hebrews as our pulpit message. After completing Hebrews at the end of April, we worshiped God and studied with the message in 1 Samuel, but from July to September, we used Psalms 75 to 87 as our main message. For the podium message, God prepared different speakers for us to share information and teachings. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all the speakers: the pastors and elders of our church include Pastor Lyall, Pastor Graham, Pastor George (from Guelph Mission), Elder Ron, Elder Brian, etc. Each brother and sister received more teachings and spiritual blessings. Although we have fully resumed physical worship, and because it is inconvenient for some elders to come to the chapel to worship God, we have adopted an online live broadcast method so that those who are unable to attend church gatherings due to physical reasons can also join us in sincerity in spirit and worship God. Thank God that some non-believers and members who live far away participated in worshipping God through our live broadcast.

Regarding building up the spirituality of brothers and sisters: We continued to have Bible study classes in Mandarin and Cantonese. In the Fall, we studied from 1 and 2 Corinthians. In November, brothers and sisters participated in the online live broadcast of the Toronto (three-day) spiritual training meeting. We also encouraged everyone to experience God's grace and help through prayer through the movie night (War Room). We were also reminded that <sup>6</sup>“So he said to me, “This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,’ says the LORD Almighty.” (Zechariah 4:6). Therefore, brothers and sisters are willing to rely on the Lord's help in prayer, and also add new prayers at the end of the weekly meeting.

In terms of outreach evangelism: There were also two outdoor activities this year, one of which was a bus trip to Point Pelee National Park. More than 60 people participated that day, and nearly half were unbelievers. Another picnic was held at Gibbons Park and more than 88 people attended. Other events included Chinese New Year lunch, summer town gospel activities, barbecues, coffee gospel gatherings, Bible studies, and Mid-Autumn hot pot activities. Dozens of people (mostly unbelievers) attended each activity as well as a students' Praising Night gospel party and personal sermons, etc. We also hosted another Christmas party and dinner which was attended by nearly 200 people. Through these activities, 17 people have believed in the Lord this year. May all glory be given to the Lord, because it is entirely God who moves people to believe in the Lord and praise God. In addition, this year six brothers and sisters were baptized in the name of the Lord. A sad thing in our Fellowship was the death of Brother He, but his wife still thanked God for taking his soul to the Lord's side.

Thank God, His grace is so rich. May the glory be to God. Thank you again to all the pastoral staff and elders for their continuous prayers and support for the Chinese Fellowship, and thank you to Pastor Jude for always helping and guiding the development of various ministries. Thank you also to all members for their loyal service and dedication of energy and money to God. May God greatly bless the church, the Chinese ministry, and all the brothers and sisters.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel Kwong

## **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP ARTS**

In Psalm 89 the writer declares: "I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever; with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations." The Worship Arts community exists to aid our congregation to do just that – to sing of the faithfulness of the LORD in our corporate gatherings and beyond. 2023 was another year of proving God's faithfulness in providing the opportunity, the means, and the reasons to sing his praise.

A highlight of the year was our Fall Worship Arts Kick-off Event held in September. Pastor Jude, Barry Usher, and I spoke on various topics related to worship at our church and it was a great way to start the ministry year together.

Our worship leader team for 2023 consisted of Barbara Postma, Catherine Bond-Mills, Barry Usher, Bryan Kowal, and Andre Vanderlaan. This team once again faithfully led our congregation in musical worship through the year, carefully crafting song sets that fit the tenor and truth behind the passages that were preached on. The worship leader team was also able to meet at various points throughout the year to discuss how we might better serve the congregation.

Gratitude needs to be extended to the numerous other talented musicians who contributed their skills to the edifying of the congregation on Sunday mornings. The variety and quality of musicians and musicianship is remarkable at West London Alliance Church and their vocal and instrumental skills brought glory to God. Once again, it was a privilege to serve with them.

Sunday mornings and special events could not be held without the expertise of our audio/visual team that works so faithfully behind the scenes. Rick Curley, Lucas Jamieson, Derek McLachlin, Caleb Lam, Ken Gates, Isaiah Bergsma, and Tim Magwood all capably filled the projection role that is vital for our congregation to follow along in the singing. Special mention needs to be made of Lucas & Mary Jamieson and Ray Majoran who selected the background images of all our Sunday morning slides each week with real artistic touch. Our sound engineering team consisted of Charles Nicol, Warren Wright, Milan Mihalj, David Zuanazzi, Bryan Kowal, and Ted Martin. Again, this is a role that often goes without proper recognition, but they were instrumental in making Sunday mornings auditorily pleasing. Lastly, a very special thank-you to Barry Usher and Chad Louwerse who organized our Easter Service, and Barry Usher who arranged strings for our Christmas Eve services this year, including an original song. These world-class musicians led the choir and string ensemble with real enthusiasm and competency.

The musicians from WLA have also used their gifts to minister to those outside of our congregation over the past year and served at Jacqueline Street Alliance Church and Parkwood Hospital.

In December of 2023, around 30 men from WLA gathered at the church to construct and install numerous sound baffles in the Sanctuary that will be very helpful in controlling the sound reflections in the Sanctuary, allowing for more clarity and consistency in the sound during our services.

Our Sunday morning services have also included a variety of congregants serving in various roles. While announcements are notoriously tedious to deliver, many WLA members have stepped up to deliver them. In addition to this, we have numerous members read the appropriate scripture passage preceding the sermon. The inclusion of these elements has added a wonderful aspect to the service.

Our team that facilitates the on-line streaming ministry of WLA consisted again of Matthew Usher, Leandro Carvalho Pinto, Tim Magwood, Isaiah Bergsma, Leah St. Clair, Luke Kowal, Caleb Stanley, and Brett & Ena MacDonald. They have been indispensable in our ability to minister remotely to our church family, as well as providing the opportunity for us to archive our services and sermons to better serve our community.

In addition to our Sunday morning services we continued to meet as a congregation on some Sunday evenings as well. These have consisted of Member's Meetings and Congregational Prayer Nights and have been a wonderful time together with a specific emphasis on teaching the congregation about church membership and other polity, as well as praying for one another. The Sunday School curriculum focused on an overview of Wisdom Literature through the spring series and an overview of the Four Views of the Millennium during the fall,

which also included lunch together as a church family. Thank you to Rob Bell, Aaron Haig, and Nathan Dunmore for being part of the teaching team for those series.

The information technology needs of WLA have grown over the years. While the Director of Worship Arts oversees the IT needs of WLA, it was the numerous volunteers who have stepped forward that have helped to ensure that the network at WLA runs smoothly. A very special thank-you to Kevin Hamm who has contributed in real meaningful ways, ensuring that our IT needs are taken care of.

I would also like to express my profound appreciation for my wife, Madeleine. The blessing of her ongoing love, care and support has been a real source of strength and encouragement through the challenges of life and ministry.

2023 was yet another year of experiencing God's faithfulness in our midst. We look ahead to 2024 with real anticipation, joy, and excitement as to what God will do in and through our church in our city and beyond!

Respectfully submitted,

Dave De Smit

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF STUDENT MINISTRIES

*"Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.' Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see'" (John 1:45-46).*

My name is Jon Magwood, and I serve as the Director of Student Ministries. I work together with Nathan Dunmore, who serves here as a ministry apprentice, and a couple of volunteer teams. We work together to make known the greatness of God among the students at West London Alliance Church, from their Junior High years through their early college and career season. Ephesians 4:11-16 describes the role Jesus wants ministry leaders to play in His church, and we have built our ministry vision based on it:

helping our students grow from boys and girls into men and women who are ready to serve (4:12), know God (4:13), can tell right from wrong (4:14), and know their place in the body of Christ (4:15-16).

This past year was characterized by growing momentum, seen clearly in our last month of ministry when we saw students surrendering their lives to Jesus, getting baptized or declaring their intention to get baptized in 2024. A celebration of Jesus' birth saw over 70 people in attendance for our Senior High Christmas banquet, an event decorated and hosted by our own students. Seeing our students' budding faith in Jesus and ownership in this ministry makes us excited to see what God has in store for our community of students in the coming year. We have seen God moving in our student community, and we want you to know how, so as Philip says to his friend Nathanael in the passage above: "Come and see."

Student Ministries operates in three primary spheres: 1. Junior High, 2. Senior High, and 3. Young Adults.

**1. In Junior High (Grades 6-8)**, our team included Molly St. John (welcome aboard!), Ellie Caskanette, April Postma, Sarah Handler, Maddie Rutledge, Tess Teeple, Maddy De Smit, Christina Langstaff, Curtis Rimkey, Caleb Postma, Noah St. John, Chris Blackwell, and Micah Marquis.

We have also enjoyed having various parents continue to participate in our Sunday morning ministry called "Shift," where they have shared what God has been teaching them from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Not only do students enjoy seeing their dads, but this is one way students build relationships with believers who are older than them and see that the Word of God has a place in the lives of the men around them and their families.

Our Tuesday night program's rhythm included free time in the gym, an opening game, a lesson from the Bible (most recently about Elijah from 1 Kings and the book of James), small group discussion, and an open-ended time to hang out together. On the first Tuesday of the month, we enjoyed musical worship nights, when students played their instruments and shared favourite verses to help lead their peers in worshipping God together. Thank you to Maddy De Smit, April Postma, Jordan Teeple, Chris Blackwell, and Caleb Postma for facilitating this special service opportunity.

Three annual events punctuated our calendar. The first was a new one-day, district-wide gathering of Junior High students called Six:Eight (based on Micah 6:8). Curtis Rimkey and I braved this new springtime retreat with five of our Junior High students, learning about what God wants from people and connecting us to youth from other church families and their leaders (who we would meet again in the fall...).

The second annual event was our summer-closing climax: Wired 2024, a five-day overnight retreat at Ryerson Camp. We had forty-eight students in attendance. Our program team and leaders developed and executed a riveting storyline that captivated our students and split our sides with laughter (including plot twists, a little improvisation, and a dramatic sword fight). Most of all, we thank God for answering our prayers about our time looking at Jesus' parables. We asked God to "Open [our students'] eyes, that [they] may behold wondrous things out of your law" (Psalm 119:18), and our leaders reported some of the best, most sincere engagement that they remember from their students. Thank you to all who joined us in praying for this important spiritual formation! In addition to our all-star Junior High volunteers, thank you Jordan Stanley for serving as a cabin leader, and Stephanie Vandershaaf and Kate Standish, who together with a group of ladies from high school made our kitchen roll like a machine! Thank you also, Esther Thorne, Allie Mills, Noah St. John, Luke Kowal, Isabella

Batchasingh, and my right-hand man Nathan Dunmore for working hard on and offstage to make this camp a success.

Our third annual event is Bedlam, our district's retreat to Muskoka Woods at the end of October. Thank you, Aaron and Sara Haig, for helping all twenty-one of us get there (in two full vans and a car)! Two things stuck out to me from the weekend: first, the genuine engagement of students in thinking about musical worship. Our experience with other church groups from our district in a different environment led to a powerful conversation about what musical worship is meant to be and how we can participate best! The second was the ministry legacy we can be thankful for. It was not lost on me that Christopher Blackwell and I had been to Bedlam before (about 16 years prior); then as students, now as leaders. I am thankful to God for the way He has used this retreat and many, many ministry volunteers then and now to stir up the faith of Junior High students.

**2. In Senior High (Grades 9-12)**, we had Maddy DeSmit, Christina Langstaff, Tess Teeple, Jordan Teeple, and Judah St. John (who saw their kids through Junior High) together with Ryan Johnston, Doug Blackwell, Barry Usher, Adele Stanley, Kaleigh Gaunt, Jaz Hesman, Abby McPherson, Jewel Magwood, Emily Stranks, Jillian Rutledge, Amy Magwood (my dear wife), Mac Stanley, Tim Magwood, Nathan Dunmore, Adam Gaunt, and Nathan Hesman.

At the beginning of the year, we spent our Wednesday evenings looking at different topics and how God speaks about them in Scripture. We were glad for the opportunity that our students had to use an anonymous question line, and for the conversations that resulted beyond Wednesday nights. Our music coaches Ryan, Doug, and Barry have continued to shepherd our student musicians through rehearsals, public readings, and leading their peers in musical worship. Some of those students came together to lead musical worship on a Sunday morning in December, demonstrating their growing capacity to serve their church family.

Each of our leaders also organized small group nights every several weeks, to spend focused time and attention on their particular students and needs. Some of our families have opened their homes to host these nights. Thank you to the Kowals, Lukas, Majorans, Postmas, Rutledges, Stanleys, Wharrys, Jewel, Kaleigh, and Emily, together with your housemates, Hesmans, Teeples, and Shoemakers.

Though I am excited about this small group bonding and growth, I am glad to see our community grow as one larger, closer-knit group. We want to see students building friendships with each other outside of their assigned small groups and taking ownership of their ministry. While there was more subtle momentum underway, our team saw this most clearly at the end-of-year Christmas banquet. Under the guidance of some dedicated volunteers, our students took charge of the decoration, program, and hosting of the event. Besides that, the vast majority of attendees joined in the activities of the night with enthusiasm, giving the event a cohesive, shared joy. We are delighted to see God pull our community together!

There are a couple of annual events that we look forward to each year in Senior High. The first was Deeper Life Summit, which was the first return of this district retreat to an overnight model since COVID-19. Three students and I packed into a small sedan to test out this reboot event. I was glad for the opportunity our students had to consider their identity biblically, to hear from other biblically-minded voices about following Jesus, and to build great memories (including the fun games, thoughtful conversations, and playlist sharing that we enjoyed on the drives to and from Owen Sound). It laid exciting groundwork for us to bring another (already-excited) group this coming spring!

Once the summer began, we enjoyed random, fun-filled events like sandwich-building capture-the-flag, spray-painting an enormous tarp to decorate the gym, and visiting homes for pool parties. These framed our annual canoe trip to Temagami, which we spent canoeing, portaging, camping, and studying Jesus' Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7). Thank you, Jon Blackwell, Jewel Magwood (welcome to the family), and Amy Magwood (and Aunt Leslie who watched Charlotte) for helping lead this group of adventurers with focused time in God's creation and His Word.

**3. The Young Adults Ministry (ages 18-25ish...)** started the year as a social Bible study group over lunch. We have since launched a pattern of large group sessions (over lunch) with teaching from special guests (often members of our elders' board) and biweekly small group meetings (with lunch) looking at Colossians. We ate a

lot of lunch together and enjoyed sharing time in God's word together. Thank you, Kevin and Chris Ng, Tony Johnston, and Nathan Dunmore for facilitating this important community ministry. Young Adult leaders, I am excited to see you take more and more ownership over this ministry, particularly in service, quality time, and communicating what is going on to others! To Ron Standish and the elders who have volunteered to share in the new year, thank you for sharing how God's word speaks to this important stage of life with clarity and specificity. I am excited to see how this community grows in depth and breadth through all of your heart-felt investment!

As we step towards a fresh year, we are excitedly looking forward to sessions on biblical relationships, evangelism, and workplace relationships. In addition to our regular social and service events, our young adults are pioneering a community enrichment retreat in the summer, which embodies the enthusiasm and creativity of their desire to grow together. Thank you, God, for blessing and fueling our young adults!

**This year in review** embodies my observation of God's work through His spontaneous blessing and some of our consistent efforts. I want our ministry to be found faithful in "long obedience in the same direction" as Eugene Peterson calls it. God sustained us through a season of close-knit small groups, and we trust Him for His blessing as we look to see our community grow in faith towards God and love towards each other.

We celebrate the decisions of Oliver Nikkel, Ben Louwarse, and Lewis MacIntosh to obey Jesus' command to be baptized, demonstrating the inward reality of their faith in outward action. Congratulations, my dear brothers! "As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him" (Colossians 2:6-7)!

Thank you, parents, for your support of me, our ministry team, and our students through your prayers, donations, cars, homes, and more. We exist to support you in God's command for you to "bring [your children] up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4). Thank you again to the many teammates who serve in Student Ministries. To those listed above who are being called onwards from these ministries, namely Ellie Caskanette, Noah St. John, Madelyn Rutledge, Jillian Rutledge, and Maddy De Smit, thank you for serving, and remember that the Lord sees the love for Him that you have displayed in your service (Hebrews 6:10).

Nathan, I thank God for the particular ministry partnership we have enjoyed since the fall of 2022. Your first-hand experience as both a student and leader in the ministry sharpens your ministry to our students. You have brought clarity and momentum to our infrastructure so that our families are informed and can be involved in our program. Your teaching capacity and prayerfulness continue to grow, and your questions have enriched our vision and team cohesion. Thank you for working hard and taking responsibility as a trustworthy wingman, Nathan.

Thank you, fellow staff members, whose direct support of Student Ministries is unofficial but appreciated by me. This includes conversations about ministry philosophy, room negotiations, budget item questions, crisis triage, commentary sharing, printer troubleshooting, pulpit-swapping, day-to-day Christian fellowship, and more. Thank you for sharing this work of ministry with brotherly love.

Amy, you know better than anyone the tremendous joys and challenges that this ministry year has held, both on and off the field. Thank you for praying with and for me, listening to my joys and struggles, sharing in discipleship (official and unofficial), participating when it fits (leading a small group to graduation, coming to Temagami this past summer, and hosting students at our house), sharing a car and a calendar, and working together to cultivate discipleship in our own family. I love you, Amy. For all this and more, thank you for being my teammate.

Ultimately, this is our Father's ministry. It is a privilege to serve in this way, together with a Christ-following wife, reliable co-pilot, dedicated team, and invested church family. May God bless the work He has begun in and through us, so that we may see our students grow into men and women who know Him, can tell right from wrong, are ready to serve, and know their place in His body.

Respectfully submitted in Jesus' name,

Jonathan Magwood

*"[Christ] we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me."*

*Colossians 1:28-29*

# REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY LIFE

## ESL

I am super thankful for the leadership of Kathleen Magwood and her team, who continue with such a valuable ministry. The heart of the volunteers to love the participants and share Jesus with them makes this community such a blessing to many. Please continue to pray for this ministry. They are always looking for great volunteers. If helping with ESL is of interest to you, please contact Kathleen at [esl@wlachurch.org](mailto:esl@wlachurch.org).

## Community Garden

West London has a Community Garden with the aim to build relationships with our neighbours and to share Jesus through the love of gardening. This is also an excellent benefit to families needing help with food support in this climate where food prices are so high.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who served under the leadership of Karyn Koopman. Gardeners did a great job tending to their gardens, as well as working together to care for and harvest a bunch of food that went to the food cupboard. Building relationships while working together gives great opportunities to share the message of the Gospel.

If you are interested in getting your hands dirty and building relationships with our neighbours, this is a great ministry to get involved in. Thank you to Karyn and her team for all their hard work this season. If you would like to jump in, please contact [karyn@wlachurch.org](mailto:karyn@wlachurch.org).

## Hospitality Team

We want to be very intentional about welcoming newcomers and making our church a friendly environment. Thank you to all the ushers, connection desk, and coffee volunteers who made that happen. It was great to get back to a full house this year and have coffee and fellowship after services.

Included in the Connection Pathway are the lovely men and women that put on our Connection lunches three times a year.

Thank you to all of you for welcoming people to church.

If you would like to help in these ministries, please contact [grahamb@wlachurch.org](mailto:grahamb@wlachurch.org).

## M68 Men's Ministry

This was a great year with the men. We gathered together for a one-day Men's Conference, with Chris Postma leading us in teaching for the day; the men were sharpened by some great breakouts and some solid meals.

We had our Men's Retreat return in the fall, which was a great weekend with the men of the church. Brian Worrada and Graham spoke from Ephesians. It was a great weekend together in fellowship and we enjoyed our time at Forest Cliff Camp.

We had a Men's Lunch and a couple of Chill & Grills throughout the year. It has been a full schedule and a great joy to see the men together.

Brian Worrada runs a group of men on Monday nights. Twice a month they gather and look at the Word of God, often discussing how sermons or life events impact their day-to-day walk. It is an iron-sharpening-iron environment that different generations of men are enjoying. I love hearing about the authentic conversations and Bible encouragement that comes from this group.

I am thankful to the team of men who serve alongside me (Brian, Ray, Andrew, Ron, and Seamus), for their commitment to building into the men of the church.

## Life Groups

Life Groups is a 'small group' ministry at West London Alliance. We firmly believe that getting into small communities where you are in circles rather than rows allows for deeper spiritual growth. We have groups scattered across the city and fantastic leaders that faithfully lead their groups in connecting, growing, and going together in mission.

I am always encouraged when I hear about our Life Group communities loving and caring for one another.

The Life Group leaders love their sheep tremendously. If you are in a group and have not loved up your leaders, please do not let their work go unnoticed.

Thank you to all the leaders and those who participated in the groups. We are looking to add more groups next year. If you are interested in being involved, please contact [grahamb@wlachurch.org](mailto:grahamb@wlachurch.org).

## WLA Kids Camp (Relaunched)

A couple of years ago we launched a new summer camp week for the kids in the church. The goal was to hire kids from the church and develop their leadership and ministry experience. We have had a great group of

counsellors the past two years, and the camp has already grown exponentially. I am thankful to the directors for all their leadership. We have been blessed with the leadership of Nathan Dunmore, who has taken the helm in his apprenticeship season. The upcoming year's week of camp is July 22<sup>nd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>.

One additional highlight was that they took camp to JSAC for a week and had a great time leading and running camp in a different location. There were some significant differences, but the staff took the challenge and made it a great week. Thank you to all the staff.

May God continue to bless the efforts of sharing the Gospel through our camps this next year!

#### **Thursday Morning Playgroup (Bringing it Back)**

A relaunched program that started this past year was Playgroup. Karyn Koopman started inviting parents with babies and preschool children on Thursday mornings to come and build community with their kids. They have Bible stories, time to play in the gym and nursery, and good conversation over coffee or tea. Thank you to Karyn for leading and for all the parents who have already started to be a part of the community.

The Playgroup runs on Thursdays from 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Contact Karyn at [karyn@wlachurch.org](mailto:karyn@wlachurch.org) for any questions.

#### **Soccer Academy (New!)**

This was a new venture this past summer where families joined together to teach soccer to their kids and invite their friends to join with their families; they had a great time! They shared devotional times together, learning about God and how to play sports together, too. They had about 60 kids involved that met at the church on Saturday mornings. Thank you to Lauren VanderPloeg for her suggestion and leadership, and to the other parents who supported through coaching and supporting the vision. Looking forward to next summer!

#### **Northwest London Connect: Monday Nights**

In partnership with West Park and Gateway churches, as well as the Northwest London Resource Center, we invite people from the northwest region of London with the goal of building relationships and community by learning, growing, sharing, and serving one another. Most of the participants do not attend church. We share the Gospel through teaching with devotional time and prayer. We walk through life and advocate for people, with the hope that they will grow in their life. Currently we have a number of families from Columbia, so we are helping with ESL and teaching about life in Canada, while intentionally teaching about Jesus and the truth of His message.

Please pray for this ministry as it takes work to join with other churches, but we are better unified than divided.

I am thankful that the Northwest London Resource Center has joined us this year as a partner and is very supportive of our priority that the spiritual emphasis is shared. I am also thankful for trust and depth of relationship from years of serving together.

#### **Christmas Initiatives**

##### **Over \$18,000 was donated this year!**

- This Christmas, the church family was able to bless families and organizations in the city. I am super thankful for those of you who participated this year. Along with West Park and Gateway churches, we helped sponsor 42 families with toys for their children.
- We participated in raising items for:
  - o The homeless community
  - o Moms and children
  - o Seniors in our community
  - o Those who are struggling with food supply (through the Northwest Resource Centre)

Excitingly, this year we raised money for a global partnership. We raised over \$13,000 towards helping church planting and pastor development in the Arabian Peninsula in a region that is hostile to the work of the Gospel.

Let us be thankful for the opportunity to donate financially but let us keep praying for the work of the gospel to multiply.

#### **Community Impact Team: Thursday Nights**

We are in a society with great need, and the homeless population has increased dramatically.

Every week, a group of people come together downtown with the desire to pray and share the gospel with those in need. We meet together outside of Ark Aid. We spend time talking, listening, and praying with individuals and groups. We look for opportunities to share the Gospel. We serve hot chocolate in the colder months and water & freezies in the warm months.



We see those with significant physical, relational, and mental health needs and we hope to bring them hope in the reconciling love of God through how we serve and speak to them weekly. We work hard to bring dignity into their relationship with us. We trust God's Spirit in leading conversation and for gospel opportunity.

Twice a month we also make and serve meals at the Ark Aid program, which feeds up to two hundred people each day.

I am so thankful for the team of people who have stepped into this ministry; it takes time to pray and engage week after week, and our consistency is key to developing those regular relationships. I love seeing the team show up and sit with, cry with, pray with, and share faith with those in need. I think the team would all agree that we have been blessed by showing up and trusting God to do the work.

If you have questions or would like to get involved, please contact [grahamb@wlachurch.org](mailto:grahamb@wlachurch.org).

### **Thank You**

Thank you to the staff and board for your leadership and partnership in the Gospel.

As I celebrated 20 years this year, I am constantly reminded that I am blessed to be working at this church with such a committed group of men and women.

I am thankful to Susan and Karyn for all their help and leadership to make things run well.

Most importantly, thank you to my wife, Anne, and to Jacob and Ashley- love you guys; God blessed me through having you in my corner throughout this year and more.

Respectfully Submitted,

Graham Buchanan

## REPORT OF ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) PROGRAMS

It is a joy to reach out into our community through the English as a Second Language (ESL) Outreach Ministry. Throughout 2023, we had the privilege of welcoming around 30 women to the church most Friday mornings throughout the year. The exception to that was during the summer months, when we invited women and their families to join us for occasional casual gatherings around London.

Our general format on Friday mornings continues to be spending time in small groups for English conversation practice, but it was also fun to introduce our newcomer friends to some of the activities in our culture and community. The opportunity to plant vegetables in WLA's Community Garden, a visit to the Masonville Farmers' Market, occasional games days (often with kids on PD days!), and a Christmas craft, were fun exceptions to our regular pattern of small group conversation.

We were encouraged by a growing interest in Bible reading and discussion about God and faith. We continue to read and discuss passages that give an overview of the Bible using a discovery Bible study method that seeks to uncover what each passage teaches us about who God is, who we are, and what difference this truth will make in our life. We continue to pray that God will draw each unbeliever to Himself and that He will build the faith of those who have begun to trust in Him.

We praise God for His gracious blessings over the past year, including:

1. Growing friendship with so many newcomer friends in our community!
2. Our ministry team members throughout 2023:  
Agnes McCaffery, Cheryl McVittie, Deb Wilkins, Gloria Hayes, Jean Fodor, Karyn Koopman, Kathleen Magwood, Katrina Nixon, Kristen Garrett, Liz Russell, Lois Usher, Mary Wright, Maura Zuanazzi, Nancy Curley, Ruth Williams.
3. The opportunity to read and talk about God's word. We have given out many accessible-English Bibles to Bible study participants and in the fall season we enjoyed having what may have been the largest number of women to date take part in ESL Bible study.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Magwood

## **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF SUNDAY MORNING CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES**

As I begin my twelfth year as Director of Sunday Morning Children's Ministries, I reflect on God's faithfulness over the years, and it overwhelms me. I am thankful to be serving our church family in this way, it truly is a privilege.

Before I begin, I just want to extend a heartfelt "THANK YOU" to all the volunteers who make this ministry possible. They are faithful and committed to serving our WLA families by loving the kids that enter our building each Sunday morning and demonstrate what it means to be a servant of Christ. You are amazing and I am so thankful to partner with you all to make this ministry happen!

### **Growzone for the 2023/24 School Year**

During our two services at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., we offer programming for kids in JK through to Grade 5.

#### **Grasshoppers (JK/SK 9:00 a.m.)**

The Grasshopper class is taught by Kristen Garrett, who teaches all but one Sunday each month, and Nancy Curley, who teaches the first Sunday of every month. They have been teaching in this classroom for many years and I am so thankful for their commitment to offer consistent service to the youngest of our Growzone kids. They are a blessing to me and to the kids they serve.

I am also thankful for Stephanie Dearing, Claire Garrett, Christine Gaunt, Kim Gingerich, Kathleen Magwood, Allison Mills, Charissa Newson, Evelyn Postma, Ingrid Standish, Jordan and Tess Teeple, Joanna Vanderlaan, Svenja Webster and Jane Wellstood who all serve as helpers on a rotating basis.

We continue to use the *Gospel Light* curriculum. It offers a 2 year walk through the Bible. We are currently on year A of this curriculum.

#### **Grasshoppers (JK/SK 11:00 a.m.)**

Our Grasshoppers that attend the second service join with our Grades 1-3 in the Explorer room.

#### **Explorers (Grades 1-3 9:00 a.m.)**

We have a great team of teachers teaching *The Gospel Project* to our Grades 1-3 kids during the 9:00 a.m. service. Thanks to Brad and Lindsay McElroy, Chris Standish, Lauren VanderPloeg and Stephanie Vanderschaaf, these kids learn about the Gospel message each week as they journey through this 3-year walk through the Bible.

They are helped by Jason Bakker, Aliyah Hiebert, Katelyn Hesman, Caleb Jacob, Aslie Ilunga Kengela, Brynn Koopman, Adalai Majoran, Noor Salim and Merel Wharry who serve alongside these teachers on a rotating basis. Thanks for your faithful service!

#### **Explorers (JK-Grade 3 11:00 a.m.)**

In the past, we have always taught *The Gospel Project* to all those who attend this service. This year is unique in that we have a high number of JK/SK kids attending this service so the decision was made that this year we would teach the Grasshopper curriculum instead, to accommodate the majority of the kids attending. A big "Thank you" to Mara Boorsma, Evan McFaul, April Postma and Connor Rimkey for your flexibility as you switched curriculums midway to make this work--you are all amazing!

And to Isabella Batchasingh, Josh Boorsma, Caleb Gaunt, Rodrigo and Luciana Nogueira, Victoria Postma, Jordan Stanley, Delfina Taylor and Casella Yiu, thank you for your faithful service as well!

#### **Turbos (Grades 4-5)**

We continue to teach the *Gospel Light* curriculum to our Turbos. It is a 2-year curriculum that teaches them Bible truths and encourages them to apply what they have learned to their lives. We are currently on year B of this curriculum.

Thanks to Nathan Dunmore, Craig Garrett, Adam Gaunt, Aaron and Sara Haig, Joel Hamilton, Steve Hargraves, Rachel Heslinga and Jakob Nielsen who teach our oldest Growzone kids on a rotating basis and speak truth into the lives of these kids as they prepare the grade 5 students for Junior High.

Thank you, too, to all our Turbo helpers: Layad Noori Ali, Chris Blackwell, Dayna Carter, Andrew Gaunt, Aaron and Sara Haig, Aaron Hesman, Cole Koopman, Luke Kowal, Oliver Nikkel and Mac Stanley. You are all so appreciated!

### **Music**

Our Growzone kids' choir performed twice this year for our church family. Under the direction of Kristen Garrett, they sang *Praise the Lord Everyday by Yancy* for Palm Sunday and *Christmas Carol Medley from the Christmas comes to Lone Star Gulch musical* for Christmas.

This Christmas, the Turbo bells choir, under the direction of Ingrid Standish, also performed *Go Tell it on the Mountain*.

Thank you so much, ladies, for directing the kids in music—I so appreciate all you do and I know the church family does too!

### **Seedlings**

What a fun place to be on a Sunday morning! Thanks to our 60 nursery volunteers for caring for our 6 months-pre-JK kids—you are a blessing!

Each week the families are greeted by one of our amazing coordinators: Nancy Blackwell, MaryAnne Capstick, Karyn Koopman and Lorraine Turkstra, who make sure rooms are staffed according to guidelines and are there to welcome new families.

N1: this room is available for parents to come with their infants if they are not able to be in the service. A live-stream of the service is available here each week.

N: 6 months-2 yrs. - here you will find our crawlers and early walkers.

N3: 2 yrs.-pre JK - this is where you will find our toddler room where the kids are taught using the *Gospel Light* curriculum during our 9:00 a.m. service. Our teachers are: Rosanne Bakker, Cheryl Hargraves, Heidi Martin, Michelle Sutton-Luminoso and Erica Watkin—thank you for your commitment to speak the truth to these kids! During the 11:00 a.m. service, our toddlers join with the 6 months-2 year old kids in N2.

Our WLA church family was blessed with 7 new babies this year! Praising God for His goodness! Congratulations to the parents of: Isla Kernaghan, Isobel Nicol, Abigail Hesman, Clark Worrard, Eliana DeSmit, Malaya Hartnett and David Alaudi.

### **Baby Dedication**

Each year we offer baby dedications to our members, to give them an opportunity to stand before their church family to declare their intention and commitment to raising their children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. Nine babies were dedicated in 2023!

A heartfelt thank you goes out to Maddy DeSmit who, once again, put the dedication videos together and for blessing our families in this way.

A special thanks to Bryan Kowal for writing and performing an original dedication song for our fall dedication. Thank you for using your gifts and abilities all to the glory of God.

### **Nancy Blackwell**

Nancy wears many hats here at WLA. She is my administrator, Kim's office assistant and serves as nursery coordinator for children's ministries. I am especially thankful for her role as my administrator. I love doing this ministry with you, Nancy, and look forward to another year ahead with you serving alongside me.

To my husband, Steve—thank you—I couldn't do what I do without your continued love and support.

I look to 2024, not knowing what lies ahead but trusting in my great God to guide and direct as I seek to make known His greatness to our WLA kids.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Gaunt

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF BIBLICAL COUNSELLING

The Biblical Counselling Ministry sought to bring God's truth and love alongside those facing a variety of struggles in 2023.

In Psalm 31:9 the Psalmist pours out his heart, "Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress; my eye is wasted from grief; my soul and my body also." First, note his posture of humility. He demonstrated a humble attitude by identifying the Lord as his source of help. Secondly, note his portrait of pain. He shared about the distress that impacted his whole person: physical and spiritual. Thirdly, note his profession of hope. He cried out in faith for God to actively minister to him and be gracious.

This Psalm highlights a person's raw experiences of life and the resilient hope in God to navigate biblically forward. The counselling ministry seeks to walk alongside people in a season of suffering and struggle and discover God's counsel and help.

Therefore, the goal of our Biblical Counselling Ministry has been to engage from God's revelation a model and method to wisely help people in their problems. The counsel is shaped by a biblical view of human life, which takes seriously the physical, social, and developmental nature of our difficulties.

God has continued to develop the 10-year vision for biblical counselling, which Jude and the Elders desire to be established at WLA. In my full-time role in 2023, God opened the door of ministering through:

- 1) **Counselling-** We saw people from young adults to seniors, men and women, singles and couples reach out for help and support. Also, we have had the opportunity to set up a counselling track to help pastors and leaders go through a Sabbatical.
- 2) **Supporting-** We had the privilege of supporting various staff and church leaders, who reached out to triage situations and process them together. This helped to complement their leadership in taking caring steps forward with those who were hurting.
- 3) **Equipping-** We held a "live streamed" conference in the Spring on "Emotions." In addition, we held an "in-person" and "online" workshop on Biblically Informed Trauma Care. We had participation from men and women from WLA as well as from other churches across Canada. Lastly, we organized Team GRITT which provides a group of men and women the opportunity to focus on Fitness of Body and Soul, which culminates in running a 5k race together.
- 4) **Developing-** We have two training tracks to help people develop their quality of care and counsel. In targeting informal and formal counseling, our Level 1 Foundations course provides a biblical and practical foundation. Our Level 2 Practicum course provides a full year to experience observing counselling, supervision, and mentorship. Our aim is to see more men and women return to their ministries in providing care, but, also, joining a counselling team at WLA.

As we look into 2024, our prayer is for God's ongoing growth and development of the Biblical Counselling Ministry. Please visit our website for more information: <https://truenorth.care>

I believe that people can be healed, strengthened, and built up as they grow in their understanding of the gospel and in their relationship with Jesus Christ. In addition, this does not happen apart from the transforming work and personal dependence on the power of the Spirit of God.

Grace & Peace,

Richard Walton  
Director of Biblical Counselling

## REPORT OF THE TREASURER

*"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me" and "And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:13 & 19*

Thank you to all who gave sacrificially this year, especially in the context of the past two years of relatively high inflation. Let me say again, thank you! For those who are still working out your obedience to God's command, may you step out in faith and so "test God" [Malachi 3:10] and find Him more than sufficient. I am sure that some of you have had significant challenges this year, and could not give as you may have planned. I trust that you have seen God 'supply all your needs'.

This was our first full year of ministry following Covid and we pressed on with 'Making known the greatness of our God'. As a Board we give praise to our God that He moved in your lives to continue to give faithfully to His work here at WLA. We unexpectedly received \$102k in General Offerings in the last week of December which gives us the blessed responsibility to seek God's face as to what He would have us do with the resources that He has given into our hands.

Many of you gave via e-transfers which may have limited your ability to designate some of your giving towards our designated funds such as our Global Advance and District Ministries Fund. As such the Board authorized the giving of an additional \$13.3k to the Global Advance Fund and \$9.4k to the District Ministries Fund through our Missions / Community Outreach to match your traditional giving to our Global Missions Funds and to our District Ministries Fund.

By December 31<sup>st</sup>, you gave a total of \$1.292M in General Offerings, an increase of \$34k (2.7%) over our \$1.258M General Offering Budget. We finished the year with a General Fund Balance (GFB) of \$128.3k. This balance was significantly higher than expected and only realized after the year ended. The Board has prayed over how best to use this GFB, and this is addressed later in the report under the section "General and Capital Fund Budget for 2024".

The following pages provide the details of the revenues and expenditures by which we are enabled to financially support our ministries. They include our General Operating and Capital Fund Budget, Missions and Designated Giving Fund, 2023 Facility Upkeep and Special Projects, and our Auditor's Report.

Missions and Other Designated Giving in 2023, excluding the Church Planting Fund, totalled \$145,847. Giving to the District Ministries Fund was down, Global Missions was up, but the largest increase was the giving to the WLA Cares Christmas Initiative and to Other Designated. As noted above the Board directed that \$22.7k be given from the General Fund to Global Advance and District Ministries to match prior year's giving towards these two funds. The combined total is \$168,547. In comparison, the 2022 Missions and Other Designated total of \$109.3k plus \$27k from our 2022 General Fund totalled \$136,281.

### **Special, Facility Upkeep and JSAC Special Projects**

The final cost for the Special Projects was \$60.4k. The list of the completed works is shown on the following pages. A portion of the Sanctuary Audio Upgrade has been postponed to 2024 to follow the painting of the sanctuary.

The Facility Upkeep Plan addresses the replacement of major items such as our HVAC system, our flat and shingled roofs, the ongoing need to refurbish portions of our facility in a timely fashion and provisional items to address repairs.

Several Facility Upkeep projects were deferred or not used as they are provisional items, and they will be carried forward into future years. The final cost for the Facility Upkeep Projects was \$2.8k. The total funding from the

General Fund for the Facility Upkeep Program in 2023 was \$43,600 and as such the balance of \$40.8k was placed in the Contingency Fund in keeping with the principles of the Facility Upkeep Program.

JSAC Special Projects are funded directly from the Church Plant Fund. The total for the 2023 projects was \$9,246.

### **Contingency Fund**

In 2023 we added \$110.3k to our Contingency Fund (\$49.2k from the 2022 General Fund Balance, \$40.8k related to the Facility Upkeep Program and \$20.3k that was received as an unrestricted gift) resulting in a yearend total of \$744,535. The Contingency Fund has four purposes: to provide working capital, to be an emergency reserve fund, to support the facility upkeep program, and to provide for ministry / special project opportunities. We, your Elders, continue to seek God's wisdom to ensure we have the right balance between the amount we spend in ministry and the amount we hold in reserve. More details for the use of the Contingency Fund are presented in the 2024 Budget Report.

### **Let us give thanks to our Lord...**

Please join me in giving praise to our God for the faithful people who help in managing the day-to-day financial elements of our church. I am thankful to our Lord for all the ministry leaders and for their hard work to "make ministry happen" on time and within budget. I am very grateful for Kim Seabrook for her joyful service as our Office Manager. I am thankful as well for the work of our tellers. Thea Close oversees this ministry and served with Matt and Rebecca Brown, Colleen DeJager, Chris Fulford, Marilyn Lemon, and Tabitha Pye.

Finally, it is an honour for me to serve with the godly men of the Board whom our Lord has raised up to provide leadership for this church.

Once again, our God has proved Himself faithful by giving us "everything we need and some of what we want" in order to make known His greatness in London and in various places around the world. To Him be all the glory and praise.

Respectfully submitted,

***Ron Standish***, Treasurer

Contingency Fund = \$744,535  
Church Plant Fund = \$62,129

**APPROVED 2023 GENERAL & CAPITAL FUND ACTUAL TO BUDGET to Dec 31.23**

	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2023 Approved Budget
General offerings	\$1,174,131	\$1,195,714	\$1,292,179	\$1,258,000
Children's programs	\$108	\$613	\$928	\$1,200
Youth programs	\$1,752	\$5,965	\$4,780	\$12,500
Chinese Fellowship	\$0	\$295	\$4,050	\$4,800
Church Plant Income	\$29,690	\$22,500	\$17,250	\$17,250
Adult programs	\$2,836	\$31,758	\$22,508	\$31,200
Biblical Counselling	\$10,020	\$21,070	\$15,579	\$20,000
Community Life Income	\$2,235	\$2,282	\$13,228	\$6,500
Camp, Retreat & Mission Trip Income	\$17,340	\$30,327	\$55,884	\$59,400
Rental, Other Income, Miscellaneous	\$2,792	\$9,764	\$46,087	\$12,000
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,240,904</b>	<b>\$1,320,288</b>	<b>\$1,472,473</b>	<b>\$1,422,850</b>
Balance from previous year	\$109,336	\$184,028	\$146,130	\$146,130
Transfer In/(Out) - Designated Funds	(\$87,100)	(\$27,134)	(\$90,030)	(\$63,869)
Debt reduction gifts applied to principle	\$22,420	\$10,915	\$0	\$0
<b>Grand Total - Income</b>	<b>\$1,285,560</b>	<b>\$1,488,097</b>	<b>\$1,528,573</b>	<b>\$1,505,111</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND EXPENSES</b>				
<b>Salaries, Ministries</b>				
Salaries-Allowances-Benefits	\$665,670	\$733,482	\$792,348	\$781,424
Travel - Conference - Training	\$17,022	\$13,198	\$12,878	\$27,000
Children's Programs	\$8,198	\$5,506	\$5,012	\$11,300
Youth Programs	\$1,942	\$11,762	\$10,834	\$22,000
Chinese Fellowship	\$0	\$1,936	\$4,422	\$10,900
Adult Programs	\$18,821	\$46,997	\$45,707	\$73,500
Biblical Counselling	\$12,537	\$21,998	\$23,012	\$30,100
Community Life	\$13,227	\$19,568	\$30,191	\$26,500
Camp, Retreat & Mission Trip Expenses	\$16,936	\$43,310	\$61,823	\$73,400
Missions /Community Outreach Support	\$39,200	\$46,700	\$42,700	\$20,000
Leadership Development	\$0	\$17,268	\$28,399	\$25,000
	<b>\$793,553</b>	<b>\$961,725</b>	<b>\$1,057,326</b>	<b>\$1,101,124</b>
<b>Administrative expenses</b>	<b>\$42,327</b>	<b>\$37,876</b>	<b>\$39,139</b>	<b>\$53,350</b>
<b>Mortgage Interest</b>	<b>\$3,776</b>	<b>\$1,284</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Property</b>				
Property Maintenance & Insurance	\$67,405	\$101,478	\$112,064	\$114,000
Facility Upkeep	\$14,085	\$2,795	\$2,811	\$26,000
Special Projects Fund	\$5,557	\$5,876	\$38,402	\$70,900
Utilities	\$26,983	\$26,914	\$35,016	\$34,500
	<b>\$114,030</b>	<b>\$137,063</b>	<b>\$188,293</b>	<b>\$245,400</b>
<b>Church Plant Ministry Expenses</b>	<b>\$39,281</b>	<b>\$73,792</b>	<b>\$72,927</b>	<b>\$81,647</b>
76 Jacqueline St Building	\$12,656	\$18,218	\$20,461	\$22,900
76 Jacqueline - Special Projects		\$45,482	\$0	\$0
	<b>\$51,937</b>	<b>\$137,492</b>	<b>\$93,388</b>	<b>\$104,547</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,005,623</b>	<b>\$1,275,440</b>	<b>\$1,378,146</b>	<b>\$1,504,421</b>
Payment on Principle	\$95,909	\$66,527	\$0	\$0
Capitalized Projects	\$0	\$0	\$22,035	\$0
<b>Grand Total - Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,101,532</b>	<b>\$1,341,967</b>	<b>\$1,400,181</b>	<b>\$1,504,421</b>
<b>General Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$184,028</b>	<b>\$146,130</b>	<b>\$128,392</b>	<b>\$690</b>



**Miss/Other Desig - Actual vs. Prior Period  
For Report Group Monthly Report Missions/Other**

		1/1/23- 12/31/23 ACTUAL	1/1/22- 12/31/22 ACTUAL	DOLLAR CHANGE
<b>INCOME</b>				
<b>District Ministries Fund</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
1851	District Ministrie Income	\$ 8,599.00	\$ 10,914.88	\$ (2,315.88)
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 8,599.00</b>	<b>\$ 10,914.88</b>	<b>\$ (2,315.88)</b>
	<b>Total District Ministries Fund</b>	<b>\$ 8,599.00</b>	<b>\$ 10,914.88</b>	<b>\$ (2,315.88)</b>
<b>Global Missions</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
2102	Frankish GAF Income	\$ 3,450.00	\$ 2,630.00	\$ 820.00
2104	Frankish MPF Income	1,400.00	400.00	1,000.00
1710	Global Advance Income	58,577.75	61,487.67	(2,909.92)
951	Kuranji GAF Income	750.00	0.00	750.00
2205	M/N Howell GAF Income	6,125.00	5,150.00	975.00
2225	M/N Howell MPF Income	3,330.00	0.00	3,330.00
2031	R. Wilson GAF Income	1,025.00	0.00	1,025.00
2021	R. Wilson MPF Income	125.00	0.00	125.00
1801	Russell GAF Income	3,575.00	1,400.00	2,175.00
2005	Russell Ministry PF Inc	640.00	5,139.00	(4,499.00)
1705	Serbia Ministries Income	13,705.00	9,565.00	4,140.00
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 92,702.75</b>	<b>\$ 85,771.67</b>	<b>\$ 6,931.08</b>
	<b>Total Global Missions</b>	<b>\$ 92,702.75</b>	<b>\$ 85,771.67</b>	<b>\$ 6,931.08</b>
<b>Missions Funds Accounts</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
805	Church Plant Income	\$ 2,530.00	\$ 52,602.85	\$ (50,072.85)
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 2,530.00</b>	<b>\$ 52,602.85</b>	<b>\$ (50,072.85)</b>
	<b>Total Missions Funds Accounts</b>	<b>\$ 2,530.00</b>	<b>\$ 52,602.85</b>	<b>\$ (50,072.85)</b>
<b>Other Designated Funds Acco...</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
1910	Other Designated Amts Inc	\$ 23,195.00	\$ 7,614.75	\$ 15,580.25
1915	Pastors' Gift Income	720.00	530.00	190.00
1356	Womens Retreat Bursary In	485.00	0.00	485.00
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 24,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 8,144.75</b>	<b>\$ 16,255.25</b>
	<b>Total Other Designated Funds ...</b>	<b>\$ 24,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 8,144.75</b>	<b>\$ 16,255.25</b>
<b>WLA Cares</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
305	WLA Cares Income	\$ 20,145.00	\$ 4,050.00	\$ 16,095.00
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 20,145.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,050.00</b>	<b>\$ 16,095.00</b>
	<b>Total WLA Cares</b>	<b>\$ 20,145.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,050.00</b>	<b>\$ 16,095.00</b>
	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 148,376.75</b>	<b>\$ 161,484.15</b>	<b>\$ (13,107.40)</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>				
<b>District Ministries Fund</b>				
<b>Expense</b>				
1852	District Ministries Pymts	\$ 8,599.00	\$ 10,914.88	\$ 2,315.88
	<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$ 8,599.00</b>	<b>\$ 10,914.88</b>	<b>\$ 2,315.88</b>
	<b>Total District Ministries Fund</b>	<b>\$ 8,599.00</b>	<b>\$ 10,914.88</b>	<b>\$ 2,315.88</b>

**West London Alliance**  
**Miss/Other Desig - Actual vs. Prior Period**  
**For Report Group Monthly Report Missions/Other**

		1/1/23- 12/31/23 ACTUAL	1/1/22- 12/31/22 ACTUAL	DOLLAR CHANGE
<b>Global Missions</b>				
<b>Expense</b>				
2103	Frankish GAF Payment	\$ 3,450.00	\$ 2,630.00	\$ (820.00)
2106	Frankish MPF Payment	1,400.00	400.00	(1,000.00)
1720	Global Advance Payments	58,577.75	61,487.67	2,909.92
952	Kuranji GAF Payments	750.00	0.00	(750.00)
2210	M/N Howell GAF Payments	6,125.00	5,150.00	(975.00)
2230	M/N Howell MPF Payments	3,330.00	0.00	(3,330.00)
2032	R. Wilson GAF Payments	1,025.00	0.00	(1,025.00)
2022	R. Wilson MPF Payments	125.00	0.00	(125.00)
1802	Russell GAF Payments	3,575.00	1,400.00	(2,175.00)
2010	Russell MPF Payments	640.00	5,139.00	4,499.00
1610	Serbia Ministries Payment	13,705.00	9,565.00	(4,140.00)
	<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$ 92,702.75</b>	<b>\$ 85,771.67</b>	<b>\$ (6,931.08)</b>
	<b>Total Global Missions</b>	<b>\$ 92,702.75</b>	<b>\$ 85,771.67</b>	<b>\$ (6,931.08)</b>
<b>Missions Funds Accounts</b>				
<b>Expense</b>				
810	Church Plant Payments	\$ 9,245.33	\$ 45,174.19	\$ 35,928.86
	<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$ 9,245.33</b>	<b>\$ 45,174.19</b>	<b>\$ 35,928.86</b>
	<b>Total Missions Funds Accounts</b>	<b>\$ 9,245.33</b>	<b>\$ 45,174.19</b>	<b>\$ 35,928.86</b>
<b>Other Designated Funds Acco...</b>				
<b>Expense</b>				
1930	Other Designated Amts Exp	\$ 12,810.75	\$ 10,236.45	\$ (2,574.30)
1935	Pastors' Gift Payments	720.00	530.00	(190.00)
1551	Womens Rtrt Bursary Pymt	175.00	0.00	(175.00)
	<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$ 13,705.75</b>	<b>\$ 10,766.45</b>	<b>\$ (2,939.30)</b>
	<b>Total Other Designated Funds ...</b>	<b>\$ 13,705.75</b>	<b>\$ 10,766.45</b>	<b>\$ (2,939.30)</b>
<b>WLA Cares</b>				
<b>Expense</b>				
310	WLA Cares Payments	\$ 17,369.00	\$ 8,461.20	\$ (8,907.80)
	<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$ 17,369.00</b>	<b>\$ 8,461.20</b>	<b>\$ (8,907.80)</b>
	<b>Total WLA Cares</b>	<b>\$ 17,369.00</b>	<b>\$ 8,461.20</b>	<b>\$ (8,907.80)</b>
	<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 141,621.83</b>	<b>\$ 161,088.39</b>	<b>\$ 19,466.56</b>
	<b>NET INCOME (LOSS)</b>	<b>\$ 6,754.92</b>	<b>\$ 395.76</b>	<b>\$ 6,359.16</b>

**APPROVED 2023 SPECIAL PROJECTS**

	Budget	Actual
SANCTUARY AUDIO UPGRADE - final phase	\$20,000	\$7,517
NURSERY LIGHTING and CEILING	\$12,700	\$11,653
BACK LANDSCAPING OF THE TREES ON OUR PROPERTY LINE	\$14,200	\$15,713
SHED FOR THE NEW BBQ	\$1,100	cancelled
FURNITURE FOR NEW COUNSELLING MINISTRY OFFICE SPACE	\$2,900	\$3,519
subtotal	\$50,900	\$38,402
NEW FRONT SIGN WITH GRAPHICAL DISPLAY (capitalized)	\$20,000	\$22,036
TOTAL - funded through the General Fund	\$70,900	\$60,438

**APPROVED 2023 JSAC SPECIAL PROJECTS**

		Actual
REPLACE FENCE ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE PROPERTY	\$4,100	\$4,000
NEW DISHWASHER	\$5,000	\$966
ELECTRICAL AND MISCELLANEOUS WORKS	\$4,100	\$4,280
TOTAL - funded directly through the Church Plant Fund	\$13,200	\$9,246

**APPROVED 2023 FACILITY UPKEEP PROJECTS**

		Actual
CORE FURNISHINGS	\$6,600	deferred
REPLACE LARGE BBQ	\$8,000	deferred
SANCTUARY - PAINT FIRST 8 FT OF THE WALLS	\$1,100	deferred
REPLACE A FREEZER	\$1,100	deferred
CORE COUNTER	\$1,000	\$764
ASPHALT REPAIRS (provisional)	\$4,800	\$1,325
SHINGLE REPAIRS (provisional)	\$1,200	not required
FLAT ROOF REPAIRS (provisional)	\$2,200	\$722
TOTAL - funded in keeping with the Facility Upkeep Program	\$26,000	\$2,811

## The General and Capital Operating Budget for 2024

*"... Whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart ... for God loves a cheerful giver. ... He ... will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God." 2 Corinthians 9:6-11*

Our Lord puts before us His commandments, exhorts us to be faithful, and promises us the blessing of making known the greatness of His holy Name as He meets our needs.

Our intention is to continue with the ministries that our God has given us to do, both here in London and out into the world as we continue to make known the greatness of God by the lives we live, the love we show and the work we share. The ministry reports contained in The Annual Report give you a good indication of what we have done and where we are going. Our staff and we as a church continue to adapt as we seek to follow the leading of our Lord. How good is the grace of our God that we continue to make disciples across all ages and we are blessed to be able to support our Chinese and Arabic Fellowship, our daughter church, several international workers and look forward to global church planting and planting a second daughter church as God enables us.

### 2024 Budget Highlights

We thank God for His raising up Rhys Plant as our Church Plant pastor and for those of you who are being led to be a part of this ministry at 76 Jacqueline Street (JSAC). Financially we anticipate that this ministry will continue under WLA for 2024 and 2025 or until our daughter church is able to receive its charitable status and stand on its own. The projected operational cost for this ministry in 2024 is \$115k. We anticipate that the majority of this cost will be covered as follows: \$96k from the giving of the congregants attending JSAC, \$10.5k from the District and \$8k from the Church Plant Fund. The Church Plant Fund will also fund the \$6k of Special Projects proposed for JSAC in 2024.

As noted earlier in this report we had a December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 General Fund Balance of \$128.4k. The Board has determined that these funds be used as follows and this has been incorporated into the 2024 Budget:

- \$20.4K to fund our Special Projects
- \$20k to fund our Missions & Community Outreach ministry
- \$18k to help launch a Biblical Counselling Centre
- \$3.4K to help cover expenses for our Chinese Fellowship

As of the writing of this report \$66k of the GFB is unspoken for and the Board is seeking our Lord's wisdom as to what to do with the resources that He has given into our hands.

The 2024 Special Project budget is \$20.4k. The 2024 Facility Upkeep Budget is \$249.5k of which the largest component is the work related to replacing the flat roofs over the sanctuary and the gym for a total of \$214k. The Facility Upkeep Program is designed to help bear these types of projects, and the details are highlighted in the section relating to the Contingency Fund.

The Facility Upkeep Plan is adjusted every year in keeping with the rate of inflation and as project costs are updated. The Facility Upkeep Plan will ensure that our facility will be well maintained and thus enable us to effectively support our many ministries. The Facility Upkeep projects are funded through the General Budget. In the years where we need more funding than what we have budgeted and set aside we will either borrow from our Contingency Fund or from our Line of Credit with our financial institution. In the years where we need less than what we have budgeted we will transfer the difference to the Contingency Fund and hold it until needed to cover future year expenses.

The Board of Elders has approved the 2024 Proposed Budget for submission to our members for your approval at our Annual Meeting in March 2024. The net budgeted Income is \$1.854M of which the largest component of this income is our General Offerings of \$1.316M. Total budgeted Expenses are \$ 1.854M. You will see that the General Offering Budget of \$1.316M is an increase of 1.84% in comparison to the \$1.292M received in General Offering in 2023.

### **Regarding the Contingency Fund**

As noted earlier, the balance in the Contingency Fund as of December 31, 2023, is \$744.5k. The Contingency Fund has four purposes: to provide working capital and to be an emergency reserve fund (\$264k), support the facility upkeep program (\$167.7k), and provide ministry / special project opportunities (\$312.8k) of which \$100k of these funds have been set aside to be used as an "internal loan" to help cover upcoming expenses of the Facility Upkeep Program.

We, your Elders, have sought God's wisdom regarding the use of the ministry / special project opportunities (\$312.8k) and we have developed a plan to make good use of these gifts that God has given to us over the next few years. In addition to the \$100k set aside to be used as an "internal loan", the balance of the funds are currently 'earmarked' to enhance our Leadership Development, help fund our future Global Church Plant / second Church Plant, education, training and support of staff, as well as support ministries we have identified that may need support.

We have planned for the following amounts to be drawn from the Contingency Fund in 2024: \$167.7k from Facility Upkeep plus \$34.8k from the \$100k available for the internal loan to fund the 2024 Facility Upkeep Projects. The balance of the funding necessary to cover the \$249.5K in Facility Upkeep projects (\$47k) will come from the 2024 General Fund budget.

In addition, the plan is to transfer \$25k from the Contingency Fund to the General Fund in each of 2024 and 2025 to help expand our Leadership Development Program as we look forward to the privilege of training another pastoral apprentice over the next two years.

We recognize that this Budget will continue to stretch us as we continue with our vision. We, the Staff and the Elders, continue to pray that our Saviour will move in the hearts of each West Londoner to "bring in the whole tithe" that we might be able to "test our Lord" and see Him "open up the windows of heaven" for the sake of making known His greatness in London and around the world. We are confident that with the sacrificial giving of the Lord's people, in concert with our heart to see God at work in this place, we will see more and more people impacted for Jesus. We firmly believe that God is able to supply all our needs, both as individuals and as a church, according to His riches in Christ Jesus.

We, your Elders, continue to be committed to good stewardship of the resources that you give to the Lord. We serve our Lord Jesus Christ, who calls us to be wise, to be faithful, to give to His work and to trust Him to direct our steps. May we, the body of Christ here at West London, delight to make known His greatness as we pour ourselves out in service to Him.

Respectfully submitted,

***Ron Standish***, Treasurer

## **Appendix A: Setting the budget**

Our Pastoral Staff start the budgeting process each year in the Fall as they develop their ministry plans and associated funding needs for the coming year, in keeping with our vision to 'make known the greatness of God' both here in London and throughout the world. Detailed budget sheets are prepared by each ministry and submitted to the Treasurer. The Treasurer receives this information from the Staff and puts it together with the projected salaries and other revenues and expenses to form a draft Budget for submission to the Board of Elders. The draft Budget is set in the context of a multi-year budget projection in order to enable the Elders to understand the potential implications of the coming year's decisions on future Annual Budgets.

Each Elder spends time in prayer, looking to the Lord for guidance and confirmation of the overall direction of our ministries, the amount of funding that is required to support these ministries, and what we believe is appropriate to recommend to the Membership. The outcome of this first round is a Target Budget.

Our year-end position can vary widely from year to year. That said, through your generous giving we have exceeded our General Offering Budget for the period 2020 to 2023. We give great praise to our God who works through us to accomplish His purposes.

The 2024 budget anticipated the replacement of the flat roofs over the sanctuary and the gym, a normal ministry year for many of our ministries, helping to launch a Biblical Counselling Centre and increasing our Leadership Development ministry. We have learned to hold lightly our plans in the confidence that our God will direct our steps.

The Audit is conducted early in January once we have closed our books for the fiscal year ending December 31<sup>st</sup>. In January the Elders continued to seek the direction of the Lord and to work within the opportunities and constraints before us to finalize the Budget for recommendation to the congregation at the Annual Meeting. At this point I am able to complete my Annual Report and prepare a Budget presentation for our Annual General Meeting.

The Elders, through the Treasurer, prayerfully presents the Budget to the Membership at the Annual Meeting, trusting that God will lead His people to make wise decisions respecting the Budget and then to give generously as the Lord enables each one of us.

Throughout the year, the Elders take on the role of 'Comptroller', committed as we are to living within our means. If our Lord should choose to give us less than what was approved, the Budget and expenditures are reduced accordingly. Similarly, if the Lord provides more, we seek His guidance as to how best to apply His resources to bring blessing and honour and glory to His Name.

Contingency Fund = \$744,535 Church Plant Fund = \$62,129

**PROPOSED 2024 GENERAL & CAPITAL FUND ACTUAL TO BUDGET**

	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Proposed Budget
General offerings	\$1,174,131	\$1,195,714	\$1,292,179	\$1,316,000
Children's programs	\$108	\$613	\$928	\$1,200
Youth programs	\$1,752	\$5,965	\$4,780	\$12,500
Chinese Fellowship	\$0	\$295	\$4,050	\$4,800
Church Plant Income	\$29,690	\$22,500	\$17,250	\$10,500
Adult programs	\$2,836	\$31,758	\$22,508	\$31,100
WLA's Biblical Counselling	\$10,020	\$21,070	\$15,579	\$11,100
Biblical Counselling Centre (new 2024)				\$15,800
Community Life Income	\$2,235	\$2,282	\$13,228	\$12,200
Camp, Retreat & Mission Trip Income	\$17,340	\$30,327	\$55,884	\$100,500
Rental, Other Income, Miscellaneous	\$2,792	\$9,764	\$46,087	\$35,000
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,240,904</b>	<b>\$1,320,288</b>	<b>\$1,472,473</b>	<b>\$1,550,700</b>
Balance from previous year	\$109,336	\$184,028	\$146,130	\$128,391
Transfer In/(Out) - Designated Funds	(\$87,100)	(\$27,134)	(\$90,030)	\$175,000
Debt reduction gifts applied to principle	\$22,420	\$10,915	\$0	\$0
<b>Grand Total - Income</b>	<b>\$1,285,560</b>	<b>\$1,488,097</b>	<b>\$1,528,573</b>	<b>\$1,854,091</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND EXPENSES</b>				
<b>Salaries, Ministries</b>				
Salaries-Allowances-Benefits	\$665,670	\$733,482	\$792,348	\$861,157
Travel - Conference - Training	\$17,022	\$13,198	\$12,878	\$29,300
Children's Programs	\$8,198	\$5,506	\$5,012	\$11,300
Youth Programs	\$1,942	\$11,762	\$10,834	\$22,500
Chinese Fellowship	\$0	\$1,936	\$4,422	\$12,200
Adult Programs	\$18,821	\$46,997	\$45,707	\$74,300
WLA's Biblical Counselling	\$12,537	\$21,998	\$23,012	\$21,300
Biblical Counselling Centre (new 2024)				\$31,900
Community Life	\$13,227	\$19,568	\$30,191	\$31,800
Camp, Retreat & Mission Trip Expenses	\$16,936	\$43,310	\$61,823	\$112,700
Missions /Community Outreach Support	\$39,200	\$46,700	\$42,700	\$20,000
Leadership Development	\$0	\$17,268	\$28,399	\$50,000
	<b>\$793,553</b>	<b>\$961,725</b>	<b>\$1,057,326</b>	<b>\$1,278,457</b>
<b>Administrative expenses</b>	<b>\$42,327</b>	<b>\$37,876</b>	<b>\$39,139</b>	<b>\$42,700</b>
<b>Mortgage Interest</b>	<b>\$3,776</b>	<b>\$1,284</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Property</b>				
Property Maintenance & Insurance	\$67,405	\$101,478	\$112,064	\$116,500
Facility Upkeep	\$14,085	\$2,795	\$2,811	\$249,500
Special Projects Fund	\$5,557	\$5,876	\$38,402	\$20,400
Utilities	\$26,983	\$26,914	\$35,016	\$31,000
	<b>\$114,030</b>	<b>\$137,063</b>	<b>\$188,293</b>	<b>\$417,400</b>
Church Plant Ministry Expenses	\$39,281	\$73,792	\$72,927	\$91,312
76 Jacqueline St Building	\$12,656	\$18,218	\$20,461	\$23,800
76 Jacqueline - Special Projects		\$45,482	\$0	\$0
	<b>\$51,937</b>	<b>\$137,492</b>	<b>\$93,388</b>	<b>\$115,112</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,005,623</b>	<b>\$1,275,440</b>	<b>\$1,378,146</b>	<b>\$1,853,669</b>
Payment on Principle	\$95,909	\$66,527	\$0	\$0
Capitalized Projects	\$0	\$0	\$22,035	\$0
<b>Grand Total - Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,101,532</b>	<b>\$1,341,967</b>	<b>\$1,400,181</b>	<b>\$1,853,669</b>
<b>General Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$184,028</b>	<b>\$146,130</b>	<b>\$128,392</b>	<b>\$422</b>

**PROPOSED 2024 SPECIAL PROJECTS**

SANCTUARY AUDIO UPGRADE - final phase	\$9,000
UPGRADE LIGHTING IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS	\$3,000
REPLACE LIGHT SWITCHES IN THE CORE	\$3,000
PAINT THE COUNSELLING OFFICE	\$1,400
NEW FURNITURE AND DECORE FOR THE COUNSELLING OFFICE	\$4,000
	<b>\$20,400</b>

**PROPOSED 2024 JSAC SPECIAL PROJECT**

REPOINT THE BRICK WORK	\$6,000
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**PROPOSED 2024 FACILITY UPKEEP PROJECTS**

LIFT GAS LINES PRIOR TO REPLACING FLAT ROOFS	\$16,000
REPLACE FLAT ROOFS	\$198,000
REPLACE CABINETS IN CORE KITCHEN	\$5,000
subtotal of projects to be capitalized via the auditors report	<b>\$219,000</b>
ASPHALT REPAIRS	\$4,500
SHINGLE REPAIRS	\$1,200
REPLACE 1/2 OF CORE FURNISHINGS	\$6,900
REPAINT ALL SANCTUARY WALLS	\$10,000
REPAINT 1ST 10 FEET OF GYM WALLS	\$3,800
FREEZER REPLACEMENT	\$1,100
REPLACE MAIN BBQ	\$3,000
subtoal - non capitalized projects	<b>\$30,500</b>
TOTAL	<b>\$249,500</b>



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

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To the Board of Elders of West London Alliance Church of the Christian and Missionary Alliance of Canada

*Qualified Opinion*

We have audited the financial statements of West London Alliance Church of the Christian and Missionary Alliance of Canada (the "Organization"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2023, and the statements of operations, changes in fund balances and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the *Basis for Qualified Opinion* section of our report, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as at December 31, 2023, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

*Basis for Qualified Opinion*

In common with many not-for-profit organizations, the Organization derives revenue from donations, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of this revenue was limited to the amounts recorded in the Organization's records and we were unable to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to revenue or the accumulated fund balances and assets for the year ended December 31, 2023. Our audit opinion on the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023 was modified accordingly because of the possible effects of this limitation of scope.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with those requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

*Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Organization's financial reporting process.

(continues)

*Jeremy A. Giles CPA, CA      Lissa Savage CPA, CA, CPA (Illinois)*

*Mark Snyders CPA, CA      Dillon O'Henly CPA, CA*

*James B. MacNeill FCPA, FCA, CFP (Counsel)      Robert F. Edmundson CPA, CA (Retired)*

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**MACNEILL EDMUNDSON**  
PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION  
CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (continued)**

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*Auditor's Responsibilities of Management for the Audit of the Financial Statements*

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

London, Ontario  
January 26, 2024

*MacNeill Edmundson*

PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION  
CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS  
Authorized to practice public accounting by  
Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario

*Jeremy A. Giles CPA, CA      Lissa Savage CPA, CA, CPA (Illinois)*  
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**West London Alliance Church of the Christian and Missionary  
Alliance of Canada**

**Statement of Financial Position**

December 31	(\$) 2023	(\$) 2022
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash (note 2)	310,648	240,990
Short term investments (note 3)	652,980	630,000
Other receivables (note 3)	7,296	3,343
Harmonized sales tax receivable	18,704	27,299
Prepaid expenses and deposits	10,937	2,434
	1,000,565	904,066
<b>Capital Assets (note 4)</b>	<b>1,176,490</b>	<b>1,203,222</b>
<b>Long Term Investment</b>	<b>3,334</b>	<b>3,396</b>
	2,180,389	2,110,684



**Liabilities**

<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	31,814	34,671

**Fund Balances**

<b>Unrestricted net assets:</b>		
General fund	128,392	146,130
<b>Internally restricted net assets:</b>		
Capital fund	1,176,490	1,203,222
Church planting fund	62,129	68,845
Contingency fund	744,535	634,259
<b>Externally restricted net assets:</b>		
Designated fund (note 2)	37,029	23,557
	2,148,575	2,076,013
	2,180,389	2,110,684

Approved on behalf of the board:

  
 \_\_\_\_\_, Director  
  
 \_\_\_\_\_, Director

**West London Alliance Church of the Christian and Missionary  
Alliance of Canada**

**Statement of Operations And Changes in Fund Balance  
General Fund**

Year ended December 31	(\$) 2023	(\$) 2022
<b>Revenues</b>		
Offerings - receipted	1,185,268	1,121,281
Program income	114,304	90,806
Offerings - non-receipted	106,911	74,433
Interest income	31,587	7,898
Jacqueline Street	17,250	22,500
Government grants	13,015	
Program donations - receipted	2,654	3,207
Rental income	1,275	
Other income	209	164
	<b>1,472,473</b>	<b>1,320,289</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Wages and benefits	792,347	733,482
Ministry programs	190,278	171,736
Property (Schedule 1)	149,891	131,187
Jacqueline Street (Schedule 1)	93,388	137,492
Camps, mission trips and retreats	61,823	43,310
Administration (Schedule 1)	39,139	37,876
Special projects	38,402	5,876
Conference and travel	12,878	13,198
Mortgage interest		1,284
	<b>1,378,146</b>	<b>1,275,441</b>
<b>Excess of revenues over expenditures</b>	<b>94,327</b>	<b>44,848</b>
<b>Fund Balance, beginning of year</b>	<b>146,130</b>	<b>184,028</b>
	<b>240,457</b>	<b>228,876</b>
<b>Fund Transfers (note 5)</b>	<b>(112,065)</b>	<b>(82,746)</b>
<b>Fund Balance, end of year</b>	<b>128,392</b>	<b>146,130</b>

**West London Alliance Church of the Christian and Missionary  
Alliance of Canada**

**Statement of Operations And Changes in Fund Balance  
Capital Fund**

Year ended December 31	(\$) 2023	(\$) 2022
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Amortization	48,767	45,510
	48,767	45,510
<b>Deficiency of revenues over expenditures</b>		
	48,767	45,510
<b>Transfers From:</b>		
<b>General Fund (note 5)</b>		
Capital asset additions and deposits	22,035	
Mortgage payments		55,612
<b>Designated Fund</b>		
Mortgage payments		10,915
	(26,732)	21,017
<b>Fund Balance, beginning of year</b>	1,203,222	1,182,205
<b>Fund Balance, end of year</b>	1,176,490	1,203,222

**Statement of Operations And Changes in Fund Balance  
Contingency Fund**

Year ended December 31	(\$) 2023	(\$) 2022
<b>Revenues</b>		
Offerings - receipted	20,246	100,000
	20,246	100,000
<b>Excess of revenues over expenditures</b>		
	20,246	100,000
<b>Transfers From:</b>		
<b>General Fund (note 5)</b>		
	90,030	74,528
<b>Fund Balance, beginning of year</b>	634,259	459,731
<b>Fund Balance, end of year</b>	744,535	634,259

**West London Alliance Church of the Christian and Missionary  
Alliance of Canada**

**Statement of Operations And Changes in Fund Balance**

**Church Planting Fund**

Year ended December 31	(\$) 2023	(\$) 2022
<b>Revenues</b>		
Offerings - receipted	2,530	36,303
Offerings - non-receipted		16,300
	2,530	52,603
<b>Expenditures</b>	9,246	8,174
	(6,716)	44,429
<b>Excess of revenues over expenditures</b>		
<b>Transfers To:</b>		
General Fund (note 5)	-	(47,394)
	(6,716)	(2,965)
<b>Fund Balance, beginning of year</b>	68,845	71,810
<b>Fund Balance, end of year</b>	62,129	68,845

**West London Alliance Church of the Christian and Missionary  
Alliance of Canada**

**Statement of Operations And Changes in Fund Balance  
Designated Funds**

Year ended December 31	(\$) 2023	(\$) 2022
<b>Revenues</b>		
<b>OFFERINGS</b>		
Global Advance	55,876	55,703
Other Designated	23,175	4,585
Benevolent and WLA Cares	15,035	750
Serbia	12,455	7,565
M & N Howell	9,435	5,150
District Ministries	8,599	10,193
Frankish	4,850	3,030
Russell	4,215	6,504
R. Wilson	1,150	
Women's Retreat Bursary	225	
Debt Reduction - additional principal payments		10,915
Sam's Purse (Frankish)		400
	135,015	104,795
<b>OTHER</b>		
Offerings - non-receipted	10,832	15,401
	145,847	120,196
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Global Advance	58,576	61,488
Benevolent and WLA Cares	17,369	8,461
Serbia	14,455	9,565
Other Designated	13,531	10,766
M & N Howell	9,455	5,150
District Ministries	8,599	10,915
Frankish	4,850	3,030
Russell	4,215	6,539
R. Wilson	1,150	
Women's Retreat Bursary	175	
Sam's Purse (Frankish)		400
	132,375	116,314
Excess of revenues over expenditures	13,472	3,882
Fund Balance, beginning of year	23,557	30,590
<b>Transfer from (to):</b>		
<b>Capital Fund</b>		
Debt Reduction - mortgage payments		(10,915)
	37,029	23,557

**West London Alliance Church of the Christian and Missionary  
Alliance of Canada**

**Statement of Cash Flows**

Year ended December 31	(\$) 2023	(\$) 2022
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>		
Cash provided by operations:		
Excess revenues over expenditures:		
General Fund	94,327	44,848
Capital Fund	(48,767)	(45,510)
Contingency Fund	20,246	100,000
Church Planting Fund	(6,716)	44,429
Designated Fund	13,472	3,882
Adjustments for non-cash items:		
Amortization of capital assets	48,767	45,510
	<b>121,329</b>	<b>193,159</b>
Changes in non-cash working capital:		
Other receivables	(3,953)	(3,343)
Harmonized sales tax receivable	8,595	(11,169)
Prepaid expenses and deposits	(8,503)	(114)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(2,857)	21,057
	<b>(6,718)</b>	<b>6,431</b>
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>	<b>114,611</b>	<b>199,590</b>
<b>Cash Flows from Financing Activities</b>		
Mortgage repayments		(66,527)
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>		
Long term investment (additions) reductions	62	(699)
Capital asset additions	(22,035)	
	<b>(21,973)</b>	<b>(699)</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in Cash during Year</b>	<b>92,638</b>	<b>132,364</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year</b>	<b>870,990</b>	<b>738,626</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of year</b>	<b>963,628</b>	<b>870,990</b>
<b>Cash Represented by:</b>		
Cash	310,648	240,990
Short term investments	652,980	630,000
	<b>963,628</b>	<b>870,990</b>



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# West London Alliance Church of the Christian and Missionary Alliance of Canada

## Notes to the Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

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### Purpose of the Organization

West London Alliance Church Of The Christian Missionary Alliance of Canada ("the Organization") is a Christian Church organized to preach and teach the word of God with additional emphasis to discipling and caring.

The Church is registered as a Charitable Organization with the Canada Revenue Agency, and is exempt from taxation under the Canadian Income Tax Act.

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### 1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations and include the following accounting policies:

#### (a) Contributions

The Organization follows the restricted fund method when recognizing donations for support of the ministry. Donations are recorded as revenue when the funds are received or when ownership of donated assets are transferred to the Organization. Other revenue and expenses are recorded in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

#### (b) Fund Accounting

The Organization maintains the following funds:

##### General

The general fund is an unrestricted fund that reflects all activity of the Church other than those associated with the building fund and designated fund.

##### Capital

The capital fund is an internally restricted fund that reflects the direct allocation of funds to this area and the change in the indebtedness as related to the capital assets.

##### Church Planting

The Church Planting Fund is an internally restricted fund that has been established to provide funding for local and global church planting endeavours and ministries.

##### Contingency

The contingency fund is an internally restricted fund that has been established to provide for unique ministry opportunities, facility upkeep, special projects, and unexpected emergencies.

##### Designated

The designated fund is an externally restricted fund that reflects the activities of the Church related to giving's that were specifically designated for certain programs, events or causes.

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*continues . . .*

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**West London Alliance Church of the Christian and Missionary  
Alliance of Canada**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**

December 31, 2023

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**1. Accounting Policies (continued)**

(c) Contributed Services

Volunteers contribute an undeterminable number of hours per year to West London Alliance Church and the fair value of the contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements.

(d) Capital assets

Capital assets are valued at cost. Amortization is provided annually at rates calculated to utilize the assets over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Building	- 5, 20 and 40 years straight line
Furniture & equipment	- 5 and 15 years straight line
Parking lot	- 20 years straight line

(e) Investments

Investments are recorded at fair market value.

(f) Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. In the opinion of management, these financial statements reflect, within reasonable limits of materiality, all adjustments necessary to present fairly the results for the years presented. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

(g) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand and bank balances.

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**West London Alliance Church of the Christian and Missionary  
Alliance of Canada**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**

December 31, 2023

**2. Externally restricted cash**

The following is a summary of externally restricted cash on hand.

	(\$)
Women's retreat bursary	465
WLA Cares	11,559
Other designated funds	25,005
<b>Subtotal (Designated fund)</b>	<b>37,029</b>
Restricted to the Church Planting Fund	62,129
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>99,158</b>

**3. Short Term Investments**

	2023 Total (\$)	2022 Total (\$)
Term Deposits	652,980	630,000

Short term investments are comprised of guaranteed investment certificates maturing from February 6, 2024 to November 23, 2024 and earn interest at rates between 3.75% and 5.73%. Included in other receivables is accrued interest of \$7,296 (2022 - \$3,343).

**4. Capital assets**

	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	2023 Net	2022 Net
Land	160,000	-	160,000	160,000
Building	2,777,665	1,815,023	962,642	1,001,993
Equipment, fixtures, furniture	260,996	229,857	31,139	15,274
Parking lot	64,925	42,216	22,709	25,955
	<b>3,263,586</b>	<b>2,087,096</b>	<b>1,176,490</b>	<b>1,203,222</b>

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**West London Alliance Church of the Christian and Missionary  
Alliance of Canada**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**

December 31, 2023

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**5. Fund Transfers**

Summary of transfers to and from the General Fund:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
From General to Capital - mortgage payments	-	(55,612)
From General to Capital - capital additions	(22,035)	
From General to Contingency	(90,030)	(74,528)
From Church Planting to General	-	47,394
	<u>(112,065)</u>	<u>(82,746)</u>

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**6. Line of Credit**

The Organization has a \$40,000 line of credit which bears interest at 1% plus prime. As of December 31, 2023, \$0 has been used.

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# West London Alliance Church of the Christian and Missionary Alliance of Canada

## Notes to the Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

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### 7. Financial Instruments

All assets and liabilities, with the exception of prepaid expenses, are financial instruments, and are initially recorded at fair market value and are subsequently recorded at amortized cost. Unless otherwise noted, it is the Board's opinion that the Organization is not exposed to significant risks arising from its financial instruments.

#### Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk of potential financial loss caused by fluctuation in fair value of future cash flow of financial instruments due to changes in market interest rates. The Organization is exposed to this risk through its interest bearing investments and its mortgage. The Organization manages this risk through investing in fixed-rate securities of short to medium term maturity and plans to hold the securities to maturity as well as entering into fixed-rate mortgages.

#### Credit Risk

Credit risk is the potential for financial loss should a counter-party in a transaction fail to meet its obligations. The Organization places its cash and investments with high quality institutions and believes its exposure is not significant.

#### Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Organization will not be able to meet its obligations as they become due. The Organization manages this risk by establishing budgets, operating within the budget to meet its expenses and debt payments.

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### 8. London Chinese Alliance Church

On January 1, 2020, the London Chinese Alliance Church amalgamated its operations with the West London Alliance Church.

The West London Alliance Church is now responsible for the maintenance and rental operation of the property previously held by the London Chinese Alliance Church located at 76 Jacqueline Street. Since the District holds title to the property, it has not been presented as an asset of the Organization.

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### 9. Comparative Figures

Some of the prior year comparative figures were reclassified to conform with current year presentation.

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**West London Alliance Church of the Christian and Missionary  
Alliance of Canada**

**Schedule 1**

December 31, 2023	(\$) 2023	(\$) 2022
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>		
Office supplies	12,077	9,710
Office equipment	8,264	6,897
Audit	5,805	4,677
Audio/Visual and IT	5,632	9,839
Telephone	5,632	4,839
Bank charges	1,729	1,914
	<b>39,139</b>	<b>37,876</b>
<b>PROPERTY</b>		
Property maintenance	85,876	81,577
Utilities - heat	15,073	7,815
Insurance	13,916	12,953
Utilities - hydro	12,650	11,828
HVAC Maintenance	12,272	6,948
Utilities - water	7,293	7,271
Facility upkeep	2,811	2,795
	<b>149,891</b>	<b>131,187</b>
<b>JACQUELINE STREET</b>		
Wages and benefits	68,331	65,708
Insurance	8,054	7,068
Utilities - heat	5,757	5,477
Property maintenance	2,715	1,675
Ministry programs	2,548	972
Utilities - hydro & water	2,286	2,770
Conference and travel	1,980	2,227
Utilities - telephone	1,649	1,228
Office supplies	68	195
Special projects		45,482
Setup needs		4,690
	<b>93,388</b>	<b>137,492</b>

# REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

February 7, 2024

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present to the West London Alliance Church membership this "written outline of biblical qualifications" in accordance with our bylaws, and to make nominations to the Board of Elders.

The following **six** church members are nominated to serve as elders of West London Alliance Church for a two-year term beginning immediately following the Annual General Meeting (March 3, 2024). Two of the candidates are currently serving as elders (\*) and have agreed to allow their names to stand for re-election. Four of the candidates allow their names to stand coming out of the membership.

**Rob Bell**  
**Aaron Haig**  
**Ron Hesman**  
**Kent McVittie**  
**Ron Standish\***  
**Barry Usher\***

The CONSTITUTION OF THE CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE IN CANADA requires that, to become elders, candidates must be elected by the Membership at the Annual Meeting (Sunday, March 3, 2024)

## CONSTITUTION, Article XV

*Elections shall be by ballot, and in order for an elder to be elected, he must receive at least a majority of the ballots cast at the meeting.*

Respectfully submitted,

The members of the Nominating Committee:

(Members)	<b>Susan Phillipson</b>	<b>Colleen Shoemaker</b>	<b>Al Bulckaert</b>
(Elders)	<b>Ray Majoran</b>	<b>Tim Seabrook</b>	<b>Brian Worrad</b>
(Chairman)	<b>Jude St. John</b>		

# Biblical Qualifications and Responsibilities for Eldership

The following document is produced in order to abide by and faithfully accomplish the task that Bylaws 20 and 21 (of the local church constitution of West London Alliance Church) set out for the Nominating Committee.

This document is an adaptation from two internet articles: **Biblical Qualifications of a Pastor**<sup>1</sup> and **Looking for A Few Good Men**<sup>2</sup>.

The Bylaws in question are as follows:

- **WLA Bylaw 20:** The Nominating Committee shall provide each prospective nominee with a written outline of the Biblical qualifications and responsibilities.
- **WLA Bylaw 21:** The Nominating Committee shall post, along with their nominations, the written outline of Biblical qualifications and responsibilities used in their selection of candidates.

Thus, with the aforementioned goals in mind:

## Biblical Qualifications and Responsibilities for Eldership

Here is a list of 17 things—primarily from 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9—that do qualify one to be an elder in a local church according to the Bible.

### 1 Timothy 3:1-7 ESV

<sup>1</sup> The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. <sup>2</sup> Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, <sup>3</sup> not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. <sup>4</sup> He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, <sup>5</sup> for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? <sup>6</sup> He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. <sup>7</sup> Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.

### Titus 1:5-9 ESV

<sup>5</sup> This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you— <sup>6</sup> if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. <sup>7</sup> For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, <sup>8</sup> but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. <sup>9</sup> He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.

Being above reproach is the overarching, summarizing characteristic. Living a life above reproach is the first requirement in both lists and Titus repeats it. The other items on the list explain what "above reproach" means. If we peruse the two lists, as well as First Peter, we find 17 qualifications of an elder who is above reproach.

1. An elder, if married, must be devoted to his wife; a one-woman man (Titus 1:6; 1 Tim 3:2). The elder's marriage illustrates Christ's love for His church—His bride (Eph. 5:22 ff.). An elder must love his wife exclusively with his mind, will, and emotions and not just his body.

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1 ("Biblical Qualifications of a Pastor." *Acts 29*, Acts 29, 26 Jan. 2015, [www.acts29.com/biblical-qualifications-of-a-pastor/](http://www.acts29.com/biblical-qualifications-of-a-pastor/)

2 "Looking For A Few Good Men." *9Marks*, 9Marks, 26 Feb. 2010, [www.9marks.org/article/looking-few-good-men/](http://www.9marks.org/article/looking-few-good-men/)



2. An elder's children must be in submission, though not perfect (Titus 1:6; 1 Tim 3:4-5). If a man does not know how to manage his own family, he will not know how to take care of God's church. The first flock for an elder is his own family. An elder's qualification for the church starts in his home management as he leads them up in the discipline and admonition of the Lord (Eph. 6:4).
3. An elder is a faithful steward (Titus 1:7). Here the term used is overseer (Greek episkopos). It is not another office, but a functional title of the elder. It is what he does. He is a steward, a manager of God's resources and Jesus' flock. He takes responsibility, but not ownership.
4. An elder must be humble — not arrogant (Titus 1:7). An elder must constantly demonstrate the gospel by admitting when he is wrong and assuming responsibility and restoring relationships.
5. An elder must be gentle — not quick-tempered (Titus 1:7; 1 Tim 3:3). No man will be of any use in the kingdom that is quick-tempered.
6. An elder must be sober — not a drunkard (Titus 1:7; 1 Tim 3:3). This is not just overindulgence in alcohol but is idiomatic for any behavior that fuels addictive responses.
7. An elder must be peaceful — not violent (Titus 1:7; 1 Tim 3:3). An elder is not prone to inflict violence through his words. He is to be a peacemaker.
8. An elder must have financial integrity — not greedy for gain (Titus 1:7; 1 Tim 3:3; 1 Peter 5:3). An elder is to be upright in his financial dealings and not accused of pursuing money over the kingdom of God.
9. An elder must be hospitable (Titus 1:8; 1 Tim 3:2). An elder's home is to be open for others to enjoy. An elder's home is not a heaven on earth, but rather a place of ministry.
10. An elder must be a lover of good (Titus 1:8). An elder genuinely loves what is good. He does not just think he should love it.
11. An elder must be self-controlled (Titus 1:8; 1 Tim 3:2). Self-control is a characterization of every area of an elder's life: diet, time, mouth, exercise, relationships, sex, and money.
12. An elder must be upright (Titus 1:8). He has integrity in his relationships and in how he treats others.
13. An elder must be holy (Titus 1:8). His life is devoted wholeheartedly to Jesus externally and internally.
14. An elder must be able to teach (Titus 1:9; 1 Tim 3:2). All of the other qualifications are character qualities. This is the only ability-based requirement. He is to be able to teach sound doctrine, not just be able to communicate in an excellent manner. His teaching can be to one or two, to twenty, to a hundred or to a thousand. But he must be able to teach.
15. An elder must be spiritually mature (1 Tim 3:6). Positions of authority without spiritual maturity lead to the trap of pride. When pride grows in a man, sin abounds.
16. An elder must be respectable (1 Tim 3:7). That does not mean that everyone must like him or even appreciate him. It means that there is no credible witness to an ongoing sinful behavior.
17. An elder must be an example to the flock (1 Peter 5:3). Elders are to be biblical examples in their sexual conduct, time management, marriage, parenting, worship, relationships and in many other ways. Elders ought to conduct themselves in a manner worthy of the gospel and thus worthy of emulation.

## Additional Considerations

The Bible specifically speaks about the qualifications for those who will lead a congregation of people. These qualifications have been the same for almost 2,000 years. Nevertheless, it may be helpful to clarify what qualifies one to be an elder by also mentioning some often assumed qualifications which, in fact, do not qualify one to be an elder.

***Being male does not, in and of itself, qualify one for eldership.***

We believe the biblical teaching about the role of eldership, and it being reserved for men, is clear (1 Tim 2:12) and that the criteria laid out in 1Tim 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9 assume male leadership in the church (Titus 1:6; 1 Tim 3:2). Though both men and women are equally created in the image of God and are equal in value, dignity, and worth, God has given them different yet complementary roles to fill both in the home and in the church. Nevertheless, being a man does not, in and of itself, qualify one for eldership.

***Being an elderly male does not, in and of itself, qualify one for eldership.***

Bare chronological advancement, even when married to upstanding church membership, is not sufficient to satisfy the requirements outlined in 1Tim 3 and Titus 1. Life experience alone does not qualify a man as an elder.

***Success in business or vocational proficiency do not, in and of themselves, qualify one for eldership.***

Leadership in the church is fundamentally different than leadership in the business world. The church is not simply a non-profit business. It is the body of Christ, and as such is the most unique corporate institution in the world. It operates on principles of distinctively Christian doctrine, servant-hood, holiness, faith, hope, and love. Success and leadership in the business world do not necessarily qualify one for eldership in the local church.

***Community involvement or leadership do not, in and of themselves, qualify one for eldership.***

Being elected to sit on a city or neighborhood council is a wonderful privilege and a unique evangelistic opportunity but it is neither necessary nor sufficient for meeting the qualifications of elder. A man can be the president of a parent-teacher association, coach amateur sports, be an alderman, or lead a Boy Scout troop and still not be qualified as an elder.

***Being popular or well-known do not, in and of themselves, qualify one for eldership.***

Living in the same location and having the same friends or even being a member of the same church for 30+ years doesn't make a man an elder. Serving in the capacity of elder in a local church should not be dependent on whether a man is a part of the right social network, or whether he's from a particular area of the city.

***Political acumen or involvement do not, in and of themselves, qualify one for eldership.***

The biblical office of elder *is* an elected office. But the man who fills it should not be one who subtly or overtly campaigns for it, or one who is noticeably vocal about promoting political positions in the context of the local church.

## ***Statistical Comparisons***

	2023	2022
<b>A.M. Average</b>	<b>391 (9:00)</b> <b>263 (11:00)</b> <b>654</b>	<b>353 (9:00)</b> <b>276 (11:00)</b> <b>629</b>
<b>Members</b>	265	250
<b>Associates</b>	30	23
<b>Honorary Members</b>	6	6
<b>Inactive Members</b>	3	7
<b>Baptisms</b>	17	11
<b>Infant Dedications</b>	9	8

2021		Jan - Feb 21 Locked Down	Feb 21 - April	April 28 - June 12 Locked Down	June - Dec
<b>A.M. Average Attendance</b>	<b>8:00</b>		105		114
	<b>9:30 (Main)</b>		132		157
	<b>9:30 (Core)</b>		23		26
	<b>11:00</b>	N/A	140	N/A	152
	<b>Arabic</b>		31		32
	<b>Cantonese</b>		12		16
	<b>Mandarin</b>		9		16
	<b>TOTAL AV.</b>		452		513
<b>Average On-Line Viewership (Households)</b>		491	75	415	42
<b>Members</b>	268				
<b>Associates</b>	19				
<b>Honorary Members</b>	6				
<b>Baptisms</b>	11				
<b>Infant Dedications</b>	6				

## Statistical Comparisons

2020		Jan/Feb Pre-Covid	June 21 - Aug 9	Aug 16 - Dec 20
<b>A.M. Average Attendance</b>	<b>8:00</b>	--	--	114
	<b>9:00</b>	482	117	--
	<b>9:30 (Main)</b>	--	--	128
	<b>9:30 (Core)</b>	--	--	34
	<b>11:00</b>	346	92	128
	<b>Arabic</b>	Incl. Above	32	28
	<b>Cantonese</b>	Incl. Above	15	13
	<b>Mandarin</b>	Incl. Above	0	12
	<b>TOTAL AV.</b>	<b>828</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>457</b>
<b>Average On-Line Viewership</b>	<b>139 (Households)</b>			
<b>Members</b>	<b>252</b>			
<b>Associates</b>	<b>23</b>			
<b>Honorary Members</b>	<b>4</b>			
<b>Baptisms</b>	<b>7</b>			
<b>Infant Dedications</b>	<b>3</b>			

	2019
<b>A.M. Average</b>	464 (9:00) <u>272</u> (11:00) 736
<b>Members Associates Honorary Members</b>	241 19
<b>Baptisms</b>	18
<b>Infant Dedications</b>	7

## NEW CHURCH MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATES IN 2023

The following men and women made their association with us official in the year 2023. We welcome each of them into membership and trust the Lord to make their "official" involvement a blessed and joyful experience.

### **Members:**

Dinesh Balachandran  
David Bell  
Grace Bell  
Nancy Brock  
Nancy Colbert  
Sheldon Dueck  
Ken Gates  
Maria Gil  
Sarah Hesman  
Jesleana Jacob  
Raja Jacob  
Joel Knapp  
Laura Knapp  
Karyn Koopman  
Mark Koopman  
Jannel Laquihon  
Patricia McCormack  
Danielle Myers  
Jacob Myers  
Andrew Newson  
Luke Newson  
Caleb Postma  
Robert Reid  
Curtis Rimkey  
Henny Seager  
Lindsay Somerville  
Louise Somerville  
Judah St. John  
Courtney Thiessen  
Eldon Thiessen  
Jane Wellstood  
Josh Wellstood  
Reg Wiltshire

### **Associates:**

Eric Bos  
Johanna Bos  
Seung Hye Dueck  
Peter Eeuwyk  
Rosemarie Eeuwyk  
Heidi Martin  
Ted Martin

**Members and Associates, December 31, 2023**  
**(Alphabetical)**

**Regular Active Members: 265**

- |     |                          |      |                   |
|-----|--------------------------|------|-------------------|
| 1.  | Barbara Adams            | 51.  | Madeleine DeSmit  |
| 2.  | Howard Adams             | 52.  | Sheldon Dueck     |
| 3.  | Kehinde Adewale-Kareem   | 53.  | Cathy Dunmore     |
| 4.  | Heather Appleton         | 54.  | Dave Dunmore      |
| 5.  | John Appleton            | 55.  | Nathan Dunmore    |
| 6.  | Rosanne Bakker           | 56.  | Dina Emmanuel     |
| 7.  | Dinesh Balachandran      | 57.  | Lois Etherington  |
| 8.  | Larry Banman             | 58.  | Megan Felker      |
| 9.  | Morgan Barnhill          | 59.  | Paul Felker       |
| 10. | Christine Bell           | 60.  | Mackenzie Galajda |
| 11. | David Bell               | 61.  | Barbara Garnaitis |
| 12. | Grace Bell               | 62.  | Roger Garnaitis   |
| 13. | Rob Bell                 | 63.  | Craig Garrett     |
| 14. | Kendra Birtch            | 64.  | Kristen Garrett   |
| 15. | Christopher Blackwell    | 65.  | Janet Garrod      |
| 16. | Doug Blackwell           | 66.  | Lawrence Garrod   |
| 17. | Jonathan Blackwell       | 67.  | Ken Gates         |
| 18. | Nancy Blackwell          | 68.  | Adam Gaunt        |
| 19. | Mara Boorsma             | 69.  | Andrew Gaunt      |
| 20. | Jason Booy               | 70.  | Judith Gaunt      |
| 21. | Shelly Booy              | 71.  | Kaleigh Gaunt     |
| 22. | Deb Braniff              | 72.  | Steve Gaunt       |
| 23. | Cathy Branov             | 73.  | Maria Gil         |
| 24. | Stefan Branov            | 74.  | Raquel Gonzalez   |
| 25. | Nancy Brock              | 75.  | Aaron Haig        |
| 26. | Rebecca Brown            | 76.  | Sara Haig         |
| 27. | Anne Buchanan            | 77.  | Angela Hamilton   |
| 28. | Graham Buchanan          | 78.  | Joel Hamilton     |
| 29. | Al Bulckaert             | 79.  | Sarah Handler     |
| 30. | Shelley Ripley-Bulckaert | 80.  | Cheryl Hargraves  |
| 31. | Patricia Cabra           | 81.  | Steve Hargraves   |
| 32. | Sarah Cameron            | 82.  | Gerald Hayes      |
| 33. | Mary Anne Capstick       | 83.  | Gloria Hayes      |
| 34. | Sarah Carandang          | 84.  | Donald Heinrichs  |
| 35. | Ana Castillo             | 85.  | Helen Heinrichs   |
| 36. | Patricio Castillo        | 86.  | Rachel Heslinga   |
| 37. | Deborah Chamberlin       | 87.  | Aaron Hesman      |
| 38. | Christine Clarke         | 88.  | Amanda Hesman     |
| 39. | Keith Clarke             | 89.  | Jasmine Hesman    |
| 40. | James Close              | 90.  | Katelyn Hesman    |
| 41. | Thea Close               | 91.  | Nathan Hesman     |
| 42. | Nancy Colbert            | 92.  | Ron Hesman        |
| 43. | Nicki Coles              | 93.  | Sarah Hesman      |
| 44. | Darren Conners           | 94.  | Alicia Hiebert    |
| 45. | Erie Conners             | 95.  | Carol Hiebert     |
| 46. | Conor Culverhouse        | 96.  | Dave Hiebert      |
| 47. | Haley Culverhouse        | 97.  | Monica Hyatt      |
| 48. | Nancy Curley             | 98.  | Diana Issa        |
| 49. | Rick Curley              | 99.  | Fadi Issa         |
| 50. | Dave DeSmit              | 100. | Jesleana Jacob    |
|     |                          | 101. | Raja Jacob        |

- |      |                     |      |                       |
|------|---------------------|------|-----------------------|
| 102. | Lucas Jamieson      | 156. | Catherine Bond-Mills  |
| 103. | Mary Jamieson       | 157. | Jim Mitchell          |
| 104. | Anthony Johnston    | 158. | Julie Mix             |
| 105. | Marie Johnston      | 159. | Lyall Mix             |
| 106. | Ryan Johnston       | 160. | Allan Moore           |
| 107. | Robin Joseph        | 161. | Dwain Murphy          |
| 108. | Steve Kim           | 162. | Janis Murphy          |
| 109. | Angela King         | 163. | Danielle Myers        |
| 110. | Brian Klassen       | 164. | Jacob Myers           |
| 111. | Corinne Klassen     | 165. | Andrew Newson         |
| 112. | Joel Knapp          | 166. | Charissa Newson       |
| 113. | Laura Knapp         | 167. | Luke Newson           |
| 114. | Dave Koning         | 168. | Christina Ng          |
| 115. | Willie Koning       | 169. | Kevin Ng              |
| 116. | Karyn Koopman       | 170. | Alisha Nicol          |
| 117. | Mark Koopman        | 171. | Charles Nicol         |
| 118. | Bryan Kowal         | 172. | Jakob Nielsen         |
| 119. | Daniel Kwong        | 173. | Katrina Nixon         |
| 120. | Evelyn Kwong        | 174. | Mike Nixon            |
| 121. | Caleb Lam           | 175. | Rory Patten           |
| 122. | Mark Lambley        | 176. | Susan Phillipson      |
| 123. | Christina Langstaff | 177. | Dodie Phinnemore      |
| 124. | Liliana Lapierre    | 178. | Natalie Plant         |
| 125. | Jannel Laquihon     | 179. | Rhys Plant            |
| 126. | Marilyn Lemon       | 180. | Alexis Portillo       |
| 127. | Gayle L'Heureux     | 181. | April Postma          |
| 128. | Jo Anne Lightbody   | 182. | Barbara Postma        |
| 129. | Stuart Lightbody    | 183. | Caleb Postma          |
| 130. | Lis Logie           | 184. | Chris Postma          |
| 131. | Anita Louwerse      | 185. | Paula Reibling        |
| 132. | Chad Louwerse       | 186. | Steve Reibling        |
| 133. | Enas Luka           | 187. | Robert Reid           |
| 134. | Rand Luka           | 188. | Connor Rimkey         |
| 135. | Brett MacDonald     | 189. | Curtis Rimkey         |
| 136. | Ena MacDonald       | 190. | Lynda Rolleman        |
| 137. | Karen MacDonald     | 191. | Elizabeth Russell     |
| 138. | Amy Magwood         | 192. | Jillian Rutledge      |
| 139. | Jewel Magwood       | 193. | Pauline Salisbury     |
| 140. | Jonathan Magwood    | 194. | Graham Sawer          |
| 141. | Timothy Magwood     | 195. | Shirley Sawer         |
| 142. | Carolyn Majoran     | 196. | Kim Seabrook          |
| 143. | Ray Majoran         | 197. | Tim Seabrook          |
| 144. | Lesley Martynowski  | 198. | Henny Seager          |
| 145. | Angela Matches      | 199. | Colleen Shoemaker     |
| 146. | Ryan Matches        | 200. | Kevin Shoemaker       |
| 147. | Millie Mathers      | 201. | Benjamin Shore        |
| 148. | Agnes McCaffery     | 202. | Hazel Sinclair        |
| 149. | Patricia McClelland | 203. | Louise Somerville     |
| 150. | Patricia McCormack  | 204. | W. Lindsay Somerville |
| 151. | Derek McLachlin     | 205. | Judah St. John        |
| 152. | Cheryl McVittie     | 206. | Jude St. John         |
| 153. | Kent McVittie       | 207. | Meaghan St. John      |
| 154. | Milan Mihalj        | 208. | Nicole St. John       |
| 155. | Sara Mihalj         | 209. | Raymond St. John      |

210. Chris Standish  
211. Ingrid Standish  
212. Kate Standish  
213. Ron Standish  
214. Adele Stanley  
215. Mac Stanley  
216. Mary Stanley  
217. Michael Stanley  
218. Dave Stranks  
219. Deb Stranks  
220. Emily Stranks  
221. Carolina Suarez  
222. Karen Suderman  
223. Tim Suderman  
224. Tess Teeple  
225. Courtney Thiessen  
226. Eldon Thiessen  
227. Esther Thorne  
228. Josh Thorne  
229. Carlos Tovar  
230. Brian Trapp  
231. Mellany Tuesta  
232. Alicia Usher  
233. Barry Usher  
234. Lois Usher  
235. Paula VanBrenk  
236. Ron VanBrenk  
237. Joanna Vanderlaan  
238. Lauren VanderPloeg  
239. Michaela Virr  
240. Brian Wade  
241. Margaret Wade  
242. Richard Walton  
243. Teresa Walton  
244. Dean Watson  
245. Gary Webb  
246. Ilse Webb  
247. Jane Wellstood  
248. Josh Wellstood  
249. Seamus Wharry  
250. Deb Wilkins  
251. Harry Williams  
252. Marie Wilson  
253. Reg Wiltshire  
254. Brett Worrad  
255. Brian Worrad  
256. Jake Worrad  
257. Katie Worrad  
258. Leah Worrad  
259. Mindy Worrad  
260. Mary Wright  
261. Warren Wright  
262. Dan Zawada  
263. Iris Zawada

264. David Zuanazzi  
265. Maura Zuanazzi

**Associate Members: 30**

1. Ayman Alkhouri
2. Jason Bakker
3. Eric Bos
4. Johanna Bos
5. Kyle Cameron
6. Seung Hye Dueck
7. Peter Eeuwyk
8. Rosemarie Eeuwyk
9. Matthew Haves
10. Marian Kowal
11. Karen Lambley
12. Denis Lapierre
13. Heidi Martin
14. Ted Martin
15. Dave Mills
16. Jeanette Nywening
17. Melvin Nywening
18. Gerardo Prada
19. Judy Ramsay-Martin
20. Lorraine Turkstra
21. Timothy Turkstra
22. Andre Vanderlaan
23. Andrew VanderPloeg
24. David van der Velde
25. Sonya van der Velde
26. Merel Wharry
27. Andrew Whynot
28. Nancy Whynot
29. Everett Zwiers
30. Pauline Zwiers

**Honourary Members: 6**

1. Kelly Boers
2. Marcel Boers
3. Ian Frankish
4. Rebecca Frankish
5. Michael Howell
6. Nikki Howell

**Inactive Members & Associates: 3**

1. Corinna Delancey
2. Werner Hesse
3. Shawn Reeder



**West London Alliance Church  
Annual General Meeting  
Sunday, March 26, 2023**

**1. Call to Order.** Jude St. John welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Jude explained the procedures of the meeting and read aloud Article VII. Jude St. John opened in prayer. A quorum was determined: 73 members and 2 associates.

**2. Welcome to the new Members and Associates for 2022.** Ray Majoran prayed. Jude also noted those who have left over the course of the year.

**3. MOTION: To adopt the Report of the Nominating Committee (Page 52) made by Tim Magwood, Seconded by Jim Mitchell.**

**Vote: Motion Carried**

**Appointment of Tellers:** Aaron Haig, Tim Magwood, Jewel Jamieson.

**Election of Elders by Ballot:** The following Elders have agreed to let their names stand for re-election for another 2-year term: Dave Dunmore, Ray Majoran, Brian Worrad

**4. Presentation of Other 2022 Ministry Reports (Pages 2-24) + Minutes of Annual Meeting, March 6, 2022 (Pages 62-64).**

**MOTION: To adopt the Ministry Reports and Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2022:** Jim Mitchell, Seconded by Rob Bell.

Discussion: There were no questions or comments from the congregation.

**Vote: Motion Carried**

**5. Pursuing Faithfulness - Jacqueline Street Alliance Church (JSAC).**

Jude interviewed Brett and Leah Worrad regarding their decision to go to JSAC. At the right time, they explained that they really felt the Lord leading them there. Leah expressed that there was a need at JSAC for young families, and that was a factor in their decision. Jude expressed that Brett and Leah took a very godly approach to their transition from WLAC to JSAC. Brett explained that they did not make the initial choice to move to JSAC right away, but in the Lord's timing, it was the right decision.

Jude explained the relationship between JSAC and WLAC: we want to treat them as autonomous, but they are not autonomous yet. Right now, JSAC is a ministry of WLAC. Technically, Jude is the lead pastor of JSAC, but we want people to treat Rhys Plant as the lead pastor of JSAC. We are working towards autonomy.

Rob Bell prayed for JSAC.

**6. Report of the Treasurer for 2022 (Pages 25-31) + Report of the Auditor for 2022 (Pages 38-51).** Ron Standish

**Presentation:** Ron Standish shared his presentation entitled Treasurer's Report 2022. Ron shared that the ministries have continued and that God has blessed WLA.

**Highlights:** Ministry returned to "normal" (or more normal). 2022 offerings – God blessed us! We received 79K above what we expected to come in. Also received money for missions, church plant fund, etc. Principal (for the mortgage) was paid off by August 1; the mortgage is now discharged. Because we received so much over budget, we gave more to missions and community outreach and to our partners. Ron explained the different funds we have set up to be prudent (i.e., building, emergency, special projects, etc.) and provided details.

Giving to missions and other designated was \$109,281.

Ron praised God for His faithfulness in establishing our daughter church. The expenses last year were \$137,500, and we were blessed by Larry Banman and Seamus Wharry for their generosity in time. The 40 congregants at JSAC set a target budget of \$85,000, which Ron notes is wonderful.

Back to WLAC:

Ministry happened - \$1.34M.

There was a 2022 balance of 146K.

Actual general offering: \$1.196M

General Offering budget: \$1.151M

Our God is faithful, delighting to work through us to make known His greatness.

**MOTION:** To adopt pages 25-31 of the Report of the Treasurer: Ron Standish, Seconded Jake Worrad.

**Discussion:** There were no questions posed by the congregation.

**Vote: Motion Carried**

**7. Pursuing Faithfulness – Continued:** Jude St. John on the Union School of Theology.

Jude explained the details of the Union School of Theology (UST). UST has learning communities; they are opportunities for those who are considering learning more about theology. UST falls under Leadership Development in our 10-year plan.

Jude interviewed Dave DeSmit and Nathan Dunmore.

Regarding the GDIP (Graduate Diploma in Theology Program), Nathan explained that it has been very valuable and practical; he is very impressed. Dave noted (1) the quality of teaching is world-class, (2) integration between the quality of schooling and the in-person aspect is excellent (they talk about what they learned together; not in isolation), (3) UST's emphasis on the local church is very evident.

Jude noted that he and Andrew Hall have also benefited from it; it has been very helpful.

Nathan noted that his view of missions has been greatly helped by UST. Dave notes that the emphasis on the greatness of God through the Trinity has been amazing.

Regarding telling others about UST's GDIP, he noted to the congregation that it has been helpful in so many practical ways. Dave noted that the community aspect has been instrumental in his ability to learn and discuss together.

Jude explained that we had a lot of people who were interested in UST's GDIP; however, because of UST's specific class timing, it just did not work out for most people (other than Nathan and Dave). Jude noted that we may have the ability to change that (timing) so that more people can attend.

Milan Mihalj asked, "Why UST out of Wales?" Jude notes that UST is doing theological training within the context of the local church.

**8. Presentation of 2023 General Fund Budget (Pages 32-36): Ron Standish.**

Ron quoted 2 Cor. 9:10

We are a quarter of the way through the ministry year, and things are going well. (Praise be to God.) Slowly but surely, our ministries, opportunities, and budgets are expanding.

Ron spoke regarding the 2022 General Fund Balance of \$146.1K and where the funds are being allocated (see Page 32), the Contingency Fund (Page 33), and Direct Ministry Costs (ministry, facilities, church plant, admin - \$1.5M). He then presented the 2023 budget, a 5.21% increase from 2022 Actual. Finally, he spoke to MATEO (Money, Abilities, Time, Energy, Opportunities).

**MOTION: To approve the 2023 General and Capital Fund Budget as highlighted in pages 32 to 37 of the Report of the Treasurer:** Ron Standish, Seconded by Rhys Plant.

**Discussion:** There were no questions posed by the congregation.

**Vote: Motion Carried**

**9. Election of 3 members to the 2023 Nominating Committee.**

The following names were put forward:

Dwain Murphy nominates Al Bulckaert

Catherine Bond-Mills nominates Colleen Shoemaker

Nicki Coles nominates Susan Phillipson

**Motion: To close the names for the Nominating Committee:** Jim Mitchell, Seconded by Jon Blackwell.

**Motion: To accept the 3 names proposed:** Rob Bell, Seconded Jim Mitchell

**Vote: Motion Carried**

**10. Announcement of the election results.** All 3 elders up for re-election were voted in.

**Motion: To destroy the ballots:** Chris Blackwell, Seconded Mac Stanley

**Vote: Motion Carried**

Chris Postma prayed for the Elders.

**11. Motion: To adjourn the meeting:** Rhys Plant, Seconded Jim Mitchell.

**Vote: Motion Carried**

**12. Closing Prayer:** Rhys Plant

