

2023 Annual Report

Sharing Hope



The
Presbyterian
Church
in Canada



Presbyterians
Sharing

Supporting Mission and Ministry Together

through *The Presbyterian Church in Canada*



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

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



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

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



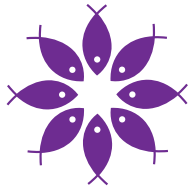
"The grant from Presbyterians Sharing makes it possible to support our community with food, a place of safety and culturally appropriate programs. It allows us to remain in contact with local indigenous elders, who actively support the fellowship centre, and operate our community transition housing program."

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



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

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



Presbyterians
Sharing

Your gifts make a difference!

For we are God's servants, working together

| Corinthians 3:9a



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

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

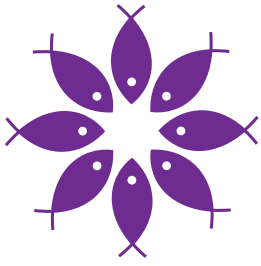
"According to the traditional elders of my people, we should serve the less fortunate of this world. We call it caring and sharing. It is one of our sacred teachings. Jesus also says that the greatest of all people will be the servants of all. Thanks to Presbyterians Sharing our congregation can do this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

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



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

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



Presbyterians Sharing

Sharing Hope, Together

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

Karen Plater
Stewardship & Planned Giving

Ian Ross-McDonald
General Secretary, Life & Mission Agency

