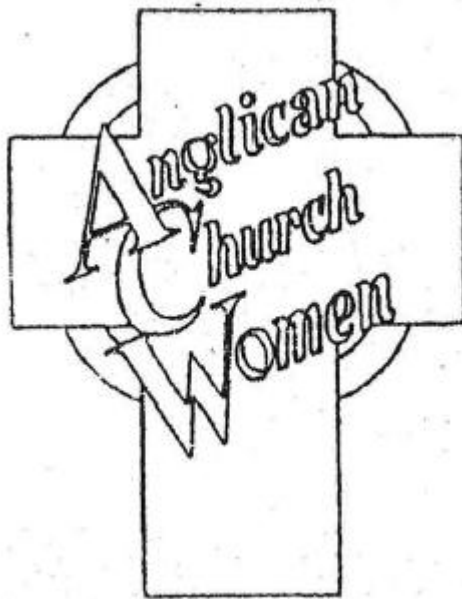


**TORONTO DIOCESAN
ANGLICAN CHURCH
WOMEN**



**ANNUAL REPORT
2024**

Anglican Church Women

Diocese of Toronto

ACW PRAYER

Almighty and Eternal God,
Enable us, through Worship,
Learning and Service,
To live a life in Christ,
That, strengthened by the Holy Spirit,
We may show forth your love
to others throughout the world.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2024

Dear Friends,

As I write this message, snow is falling and people are starting to dig themselves out of their homes and driveways. I'm looking forward to Spring and Easter as we move through March and April with warmer weather, sun shining and the first flowers pushing themselves up through the soil in our gardens.

The past year I've enjoyed getting to know Board members and many ACW members throughout the Diocese. All women of the Diocese are ACW members whether they have a formal group, or not. Please join us at our Women's Gatherings, our Deanery Days or any meeting you see advertised—you are always welcome. It doesn't mean you are automatically given a job! Just join us for the pleasure of each other's company.

I would like to acknowledge the good work that all the ACW's are doing throughout the Diocese in our parishes and archdeaconries as well as our Needleworkers.

We had two Women's Gatherings in 2024—St. James Orillia (June 1st) and Christ Church Stouffville (October 26th). There was a lot of fellowship, laughs, crafts and singing. Anglican's love to sing!

Our 2024 AGM was held by Zoom with our annual business meeting and special guest speakers. The theme was Hope and Peace in today's World. Our Special Project Theme for 2024-2025 is Food Insecurity.

Both themes, I think, are tied to one another. How can we each do our part to give hope to those who desperately need it in today's world? In our communities, people are unable to afford to buy healthy and nutritious food and find shelter. Learn firsthand about your communities' needs; seek out the food closets, food pantries, or food banks and volunteer or donate. Volunteer at a community garden that donates fresh vegetables—the need is great. Each Archdeaconry received \$1,000 and distributed it as follows: North supported the Angus Foodbank, Elmvale Foodbank, & Barrie Friendship Centre; West supported Youth Without Shelter; East supported Feed the Need, Durham; Central supported York Region Food Network & Feed Scarborough; and South supported the Teresa Group, Infant Formula Program.

Our special guest speakers were from the Stephen Lewis Foundation—Ida Mukuka, Special Advisor, Grandmothers to Grandmothers (Zambia) and Niambi Martin-John Director of Development. Ida spoke about the challenges of HIV AIDS and the effect it has on the community. To Ida, hope and peace is seeing her two children educated, independent and contributing towards a better country. Both Ida and Niambi spoke about the impact of HIV AIDS and the majority (70 percent) of those affected are young women. The Grandmothers are stepping in and becoming the decision makers and demanding changes. Again, the need is great especially for medications and treatments.

Diocesan Bishop Andrew Asbil brought greetings on behalf of the College of Bishops. Kate O'Quinn brought greetings on behalf of the Catholic Women's League and Savitri Rose brought greetings on behalf of the Women's Inter-Church Council of Toronto.

Reports and financial statements were presented and accepted. Bishop Asbil officiated at the installation of the Board.

In 2024, we supported the Council of the North, Threshold Ministries as well as the Sisters of St. John the Divine, Special Appeal.

2024 Annual Report – Page 2

I attended the National President's Conference (in person) from September 26 - 29, 2024. Meetings are held in person every other year. The theme was "Let Your Light Shine" and was hosted by the Parish of St. James Church, Stratford, ON (Diocese of Huron). We can all be a light to others—those in need, those who are lonely, and those who have no voice. Special guests were from the Mothers Union (Lilian Ketch); the Anglican Foundation (Michelle Hauser); and Alongside Hope formerly PWRDF (Janice Biehn). Each provided interesting information on their organizations. Attendees, if interested, were asked to help prepare a video for the Coventry Cathedral Litany of Reconciliation which included seven petitions: the hatred which divides nation from nation, race from race, faith from faith, class from class; the covetous desires of people and nations to possess what is not their own; the greed which exploits the work of human hands and lays waste the earth; our envy of the welfare and happiness of others; our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned, the homeless, the one who does not look like us, the one who is mentally ill, the refugee; the lust which dishonors the bodies of men, women and children; and the pride which leads us to trust in ourselves and not in God.

Prayer partners for 2024-2025 were chosen. The Diocese of Toronto is praying for the ACW's in the Diocese of Calgary and vice versa.

ACW Board meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month (seven times a year). The Finance Committee meets the Monday prior to the Board meeting. AGM planning committees meet in October, January and as needed. All meetings are held via Zoom. We would love to have you join us. If you are interested in joining the Board, please let me know. The Newsletter is published four times a year either by subscription through the mail (nominal cost) or by email.

I would like to thank Judy Beal our Office Administrator. I appreciate her support and help throughout the year.

Thank you to Sandra McPhail, our Treasurer. Thank you to June Dyer and Enid Corbett for their work on the Newsletter. Thank you to Reverend Joan Cavanaugh, our Diocesan ACW Chaplain and her thoughtful reflections. And last but not least, thank you to the Diocesan Board for your support and encouragement and to Bishop Andrew Asbil, the Area Bishops, and the Diocesan staff. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Hodgson, ODT
President, Toronto Diocesan Anglican Church Women

SECRETARY / TREASURER'S REPORT

The role of the Finance Committee is to ensure the financial accountability and stability of the Organization.

On behalf of all Anglican Women in our diocese, the Toronto Diocese Anglican Church Women planned and achieved an outreach objective of \$25,850.00 for 2024. This amount included \$10,000.00 to The Council of the North, \$10,000.00 to The Sisters of St. John the Divine Special Appeal, \$5,000.00 to the "Food Insecurity" Special Projects, \$100.00 to Threshold Ministries, and a \$750.00 bursary. Forty per cent of this outreach was donated by Anglican women in our diocese, both church groups and individuals. We thank them for their compassion and support. The balance of the outreach was withdrawn from investment reserves.

Thank you to the members of the Finance Committee, Janice Hodgson, Enid Corbett, Ruth Pengelly and Mavis McKenna, for their time, effort and input. A special thank you to Judy Beal, Office Administrator, for her patience and help during the past year.

The Finance Committee would welcome anyone who is interested and willing to join our team. Please contact the office: acw@toronto.anglican.ca

Respectfully submitted,
Sandy McPhail
Secretary-Treasurer, Toronto Diocesan ACW

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ECCLESIASTIC NEEDLEWORKERS' REPORT

2024 has been an interesting year. Our members have been loyal and returned to complete the work started earlier in the year. Through their efforts there has been a growth in their abilities and taken on challenges new to them.

We have welcomed a new member to our midst, Mrs. Catherine Monahan, a skilled embroiderer looking for new challenges.

We have however lost an honoured member of our group. Louise Reid passed away in August. She retired a short time ago after 40 years as a member of this group.

We have for disbursement a large amount of vestments and chancel adornments donated from churches that have closed or clergy that have retired or passed away. These items are available for donation or sale.

The silk embroiderers have managed the following work over the past year: Restoration of an antique superfrontal, with the full frontal to be done in 2025; 4 chasubles, 6 stoles, 3 burse and veils, as well as providing some minor repair work to the Cathedral and St. Thomas Huron Street. White work has been productive with 3 large fair linens, multiple purificators, corporals and veils, and with only two members working on them.

We look forward to productive 2025 with a large work load.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Perkins

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

WE HAVE MANY SPECIAL ITEMS THAT ARE FITTING FOR ALL TYPES OF RECOGNITION – A SMALL MEMENTO TO THE DIAMOND PIN!

The following items are available through the Toronto Diocesan Anglican Church Women’s Office
135 Adelaide Street East, Toronto ON M5C 1L8 acw@toronto.anglican.ca 416-363-0018

Diamond-Chip ACW or Chancel Guild Pins with Certificate	\$60.00
ACW or Chancel Guild Pins	\$35.00
National ACW Pins	\$5.00
Chancel Guild Manuals	\$5.00 each or 4/\$15.00
ACW Flashlights	\$5.00
ACW Tote Bags	\$5.00
ACW Notes with Envelopes (package of 4)	\$5.00
ACW Notebooks	\$3.00
ACW Pens	\$2.00
ACW Prayer Bookmarks	\$0.35 or 3/\$1.00
Chancel Guild Prayer Cards	\$0.35 or 3/\$1.00

SOCIAL CONCERN AND ACTION REPORT

The Special Project theme for 2024-2025 is Food Insecurity. The following organizations received your Special Project monies in 2024.

North Archdeaconry:	Angus Foodbank (\$350) Elmvale Foodbank (\$350) Barrie Friendship Centre (\$300)
South Archdeaconry:	Teresa Group and the Infant Formula Program (\$1,000).
East Archdeaconry:	Feed the Need, Durham (\$1,000)
West Archdeaconry:	Youth Without Shelter (\$1,000).
Central Archdeaconry:	York Region Food Network (\$500) Feed Scarborough (\$500)

ARCHDEACONRY REPORTS

NORTH ARCHDEACONRY REPORT

Holland Deanery

ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE, SHARON

In April 2024, the ACW met to decide what direction the ACW should be taking. The ultimate decision was to continue with an election of officers, as follows: President—Elaine Kingston; Vice-President—Colleen Henderson; Second Vice-President—Christine Fraser; Treasurer—Janice Hodgson; and Secretary—Jan Evans.

Meetings are held the third Monday of each month except July and August. Past President, Brenda Hammond, since 2017 was given a vote of thanks having served as President through a very difficult period. Average attendance is between 10 – 14 women. Everyone is welcome.

The June meeting was preceded by a potluck dinner and Janice outlined the collection of items for distribution to various organizations, e.g., eye glasses, pop tabs, milk bags, batteries, prescription glasses and stamps.

In September, our guest speaker, Denise Thomson, visiting from Scotland, talked about her village and their various activities which included soup Mondays (October – March) feeding approximately 30 people at each meal. Prior to Remembrance Day, volunteers (during the summer months) knit poppies to surround a silhouette of a soldier mounted on a board displayed outside of the church. Denise showed the members examples of a baptismal bag and a grieving bag. Denise gifted our ACW with a Holding Cross from her ACW in Scotland.

Christine Fraser made welcome bags for new parishioners.

In November cookie jars were assembled for our Advent mini-sales. In addition, we had a silent auction. In the Spring we had a plant and bake sale with a silent auction. Both were successful with disbursements of funds to the Diocesan Fairshare and the church.

The December business meeting was followed by a potluck dinner. January and February meetings will be held after the church service on January 19 and February 23.

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Kingston, President

Nottawasaga Deanery

The Nottawasaga Deanery continues to be a dynamic and diverse region. Their approach to Anglican Church Women is reflective of that multiplicity. All fourteen churches have female parishioners and every church has an active and dedicated alter guild. Five churches continue with a traditional formal ACW organizations. These churches do a variety of fund-raising and outreach programs. Some continue an old-style bake sale, while others have tried different approaches. We now have some doing their sales online. We still have Nearly-New Clothing Sales and a very profitable Scrapbook Day. There have been Plant Sales, A Quilt Show and Saturday Teas.

As well as just fundraising, several groups take an active role in their communities beyond the church walls. They support the unhoused, help with food insecurity and participate in community days.

On May 3, 2025, there will be a Deanery Day hosted by Christ Church-St Jude's, Ivy. The emphasis will be that ALL Anglican women will be welcomed not just those belonging to a formal ACW organization. This deanery is also home to several multi-point parishes and two multi-church regional ministries. It is hoped that the future might see a new direction in the organization of ACW groups.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Cryer
Nottawasaga Deanery ACW Rep

SOUTH ARCHDEACONRY REPORT

Parkdale – West Toronto Deanery

ST. OLAVE'S, SWANSEA (TORONTO)

The Anglican Church Women (ACW) includes all the women who are members of St. Olave's. While some women belong to the Mary and Martha group and to the ACW Executive, many, who do not, are active in several ways, be it singing in the choir, serving on the Altar Guild, teaching Junior Church, greeting, reading lessons, streaming the online services, helping with community outreach such as Hunger Patrol and Parkdale Golden Age Foundation (PGAF) Meals for Seniors, serving in some official capacity or simply volunteering for events and providing much needed support.

We acknowledge the work and contribution of Wardens Janice Douglas, who was recently awarded the Order of the Diocese of Toronto (ODT), Sharm Powell and Carol Ambler; Treasurer Annis Tebbutt; Church Secretary Judy Beal; Altar Guild Dale Allen and her team; Junior Church Coordinator Siobhan Carmichael; live streaming crew Janice Douglas, Aden Shapland, Carol Ambler and Allison Inouye; Chair of the Second Century Fund, Carol Drummond; Chair of the Stewardship Committee, Martha Drake; Convener of Mary and Martha Louise Rennie; Convener of Coffee Hour Lisa Jeens; and Convener of Greeters and Youth Group Leader Carol Ambler to whom we give a special vote of thanks for her leadership and invaluable contribution to the life and congregation of St. Olave's.

Activities in 2024 included the following: Hosting 3 coffee hours; Participating in March 9 World Day of Prayer; Community Day and Christmas Craft Sale organized by Junior Church Leader Siobhan Carmichael; Hosting a table at the Community Christmas Dinner: Preparing and collecting Easter bags with the help of Jr. Church for donation to Seniors at LOFT, a practice which was resumed in 2024; Decorated the traditional Christmas and Mitten trees. Items from the Mitten Tree are donated to Sistering Agency for Women & Children; Donation and presentation of Bibles to confirmands.

Fund raising activities included raffles of a massager and an Xmas gift basket; No Bake Sale; Sale of Books, Art, Baking, Treasures & Knitting. These sales sustain the ACW fund for charitable donations and for support for church programs.

Special recognition is given at this time to Bette Birmingham who has served devotedly for many years as ACW Treasurer. She is stepping down from that position but will remain as a most valuable and sage member of the Executive. Jane Boudebab, whom we welcomed to the committee in 2024, will assume the role of Treasurer.

In the partnership between St. Olave's and Parkdale Golden Age Foundation (PGAF), the ACW assists the team lead by Joyce Pinnock in the **Meal for Seniors Program** by taking meal orders, packing and delivering an average of 60 meals every other Thursday. Our thanks to volunteers Bette, Allison, Cathy, Margaret, Judy, Sally, Leslie, Gabbie, Jane and Janice. This community outreach program is enhanced by the participation of ADDUS which makes the desserts. Thanks to Tavis, Rosie and Stephanie.

The Mary and Martha group meets in the EBR at 2:00 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

Topics of meetings included:

- A McMaster Seminar on Eye Diseases affecting Seniors e.g. Glaucoma
- A Presentation on Dutch Art by Debbie Cowling illustrated by slides from her travels
- Debra Dundas Author and member of St. Olave's speaking eloquently about her book *On Class*
- Natasha Manji audiologist and owner of Toronto Hearing on Hearing and implications for Seniors' Health and dementia
- Swansea Historical Society talk on the importance of the Indigenous waterways in early Canada
- and of great interest was the Hands-on Tech session on our digital devices presented by Siobhan Carmichael with requests for a follow-up session to be held in early 2025

We were saddened by the untimely loss of Sue Harris who was a staunch and generous supporter of St. Olave's as was all her family. The ACW was privileged and pleased to cater and arrange her funeral reception.

At the time of writing this report we also mourn the recent death of June Floyd who, with her husband John, were faithful members of our congregation.

This report is submitted on behalf of the ACW executive members Bette Birmingham, Judy Sher, Margaret Roze and Jane Boudebab.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheila Tait, ODT
St. Olave's ACW President

EAST ARCHDEACONRY REPORT

Oshawa Deanery

The following reports were collected and submitted by Oshawa Deanery Representative, Carolyn Atkinson.

ALL SAINTS, WHITBY

This is a very busy church with a large congregation. They have a food bank twice a week, Tuesdays and Friday. A very successful Plant and book sale in early spring. A successful Bazaar, movie and game night for the children and information nights for adults.

ST. GEORGE'S, OSHAWA

Very busy parish. 2024 was St George's 100th anniversary! The church and parishioners welcomed a new minister in 2024. An Easter Basket raffle was held and enjoyed. St George's participated in Oshawa's. Christmas market which was very successful and enjoyed by all who attended.

ST MARTIN'S COURTICE

Has attendance from White Cliffe seniors residence as well as some long time members of this parish.

ST. MATTHEW'S, OSHAWA

This parish had a successful dinner evening and Bazaar.

Peterborough Deanery

ALL SAINTS, PETERBOROUGH

Hold regular monthly meetings with a speaker. Average attendance is 7 to 10. Members are happy to have a couple of recently retired women join their ACW. They no longer fund raise; their emphasis is on fellowship.

ST. JAMES, EMILY

ACW meetings are held after church service on a Sunday. They have no president or chairperson but have a couple of informal leaders and all members: pitch in and help" They do have a secretary to record minutes (attendance is usually 15 to 20). Meetings are for planning or they may have a speaker e.g. a Police officer to talk about scams, someone to talk about MAID, etc. They do fund raise e.g. a fashion show featuring an area boutique. Their outreach is mostly local e.g. food bank, women's shelter etc.) They also donated to the St. John's Sisters in Toronto. One interesting donation was money given to a local farmer (for expenses like seeds, fertilizer etc.) who sets aside one acre of his land. All produce and revenue from this land goes to charity.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, LAKEFIELD

Hold monthly meetings (average attendance 10). They have crafts for sale, especially around Christmas. They do coffee time regularly after church services and help regularly at all special events. Lenten lunches with a speaker once a week during Lent are done every year (other Lakefield churches are involved too).

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, PETERBOROUGH

St. Margaret's Guild/ACW meet every month. Average attendance is 8 to 12 (double or more when there is a speaker) This ACW does less fundraising now than in the past but enough to donate in 2024 to the school children's meal program, the cabins for the homeless, the Church budget, the Toronto Diocesan ACW etc. This ACW plans to donate to the local food bank in 2025. Fundraisers included 2 craft sales with tables at Activity Haven, a jewelry/ craft sale at church, hosting the strawberry social (with other members of the congregation.) the ACW hosts coffee hour once a month after the morning service. Whenever there is to be a speaker, anyone who is interested is welcome to come to the meeting and the information is advertised in time for people to plan to join. Despite declining membership (due to age and illness) members remain active.

The sudden and unexpected death of the ACW president ELAINE HEWITT shocked and saddened all members and the congregation. Elaine who had severe cerebral palsy and used a motorized special wheel chair was a faithful member of her church and participated in every way she could.--biblical story telling, reading scripture, selling tickets to events etc. She was a Lions Club member who was a top fundraiser every year for their Guide dog and service dog training program. She will be missed.

ST. LUKE'S and ST. JOHN'S, IDA

Share a priest. Do not have an ACW but are active churches working for their church family and their communities.

ST. MATTHEW / ST. AIDAN'S, BUCKHORN

No longer has an official ACW but women continue to work for their church and community. Mary Lou Bowles who has faithfully served as an ACW member and on the Peterborough Deanery ACW executive recently received the Order of the Diocese of Toronto. Congratulations Mary Lou.

ST. THOMAS, MILLBROOK

Their ACW holds monthly meetings. In winter they meet at members' homes. They have a guest speaker at some meetings (recently a person from the library). Though St. Thomas has a small congregation, 8 women regularly attend ACW meetings. They do fund raise i.e., they host a Lion's Club dinner every 2 months, had a craft sale and turkey dinner in December and as " Sandwich Sisters" they make sandwiches once a month for the homeless.

THE REGIONAL CHURCHES IN OUR AREA

Five churches comprise this group. They have a combined regional church service for all congregations to worship as one whenever there is a 5th Sunday that month. A lunch is served after these combined services. Only 2 of these churches have ACWs. By working together, they share clergy and rely on lay ministry.

CHRIST CHURCH, CAMPBELLFORD

The only other church in the Regional group that has an ACW. They hold monthly meetings and have 17 to 20 members at their meeting. Leadership is shared. Members are divided into Groups of 2 women responsible for planning and conducting each meeting. Each group is assigned a month and rotate month about. They do fund raise (yard sales, rummage sale, advent and other dinners and teas, etc. It some meetings they have speakers--at one they had a florist demonstrate how to arrange a floral centre piece. Two services per month have a priest; the other Sundays a lay reader.

ST. GEORGE'S, HASTINGS

No ACW. Two services with clergy; 2 with lay reader. No ACW. They have regular butter tart sales each year—their very successful and popular fund raiser.

ST. JAMES, ROSENEATH

No ACW. Two services with a priest: 2 with lay reader.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, HAVELOCK

Have an ACW that meets every second month--held after the Sunday service (average attendance 7 or 8. This is pretty good because the number of people at church would be around a dozen. Fundraising is a spring and fall sale. A retired priest conducts one church service per month. A lay reader leads the other Sunday services.

Special Celebration: On Sunday February 21st, the Diocesan Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Andrew Asbil will visit St. John the Evangelist church in Havelock to present HILDA COLE (Lay Reader and ACW member) with the Order of the Diocese of Toronto in recognition of her dedicated service to her church and community. Congratulations, Hilda

ST. MICHAEL'S, WESTWOOD

No ACW. One service with clergy per month.

Respectfully submitted,
Gerri Currier
Peterborough Deanery ACW Rep

WEST ARCHDEACONRY REPORT

Etobicoke – Humber Deanery

CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, ETOBICOKE

Here we are again at the end of an old year, and ready for a new one. 10 monthly meetings were held with between 2 and 12 members present. A busy year has seen us work on many varied projects and activities. The book cart continues to provide reading material for many. The monthly card parties have had a few dedicated players but seems to be picking up. Rev. Jeff Nowers joined our parish in November 2023. This has been a busy time for him with ACW support for several events.

A very successful World Day of Prayer service was held the first Saturday in March with 7 other churches joining us. After the reception it seemed no one wanted to go home. This allowed us to think more locally and the idea of a group, "*The Christian Women of Etobicoke*" began. The first executive meeting was held at the end of the summer when representatives of local parishes came together and brainstormed what we might do. Read their report for more detail.

The parish Lasagna supper in early June had 30 people in attendance and was a great opportunity for us all to re-connect and for Jeff to meet informally with quite a few parishioners. It is amazing the enthusiasm for change in the parish that is developing.

In the fall we planned a Christmas Tea and mini bazaar for Nov. 16th. Not as large as our former bazaars but successful as far as participants and customers were concerned. Thank you to all those who volunteered to set up, station a booth, and clean up. This successful event allowed CTK to reconnect with many in the community.

With funds we had gathered we ordered new banners for Pentecost and distributed donations to Faithworks, Diocesan ACW, PWRDF, and Moorelands. Also, we have continued to send seasonal cards to women in the parish who are unable to come out to services. We hope that no one feels forgotten.

October saw an excellent crowd of people come to hear the Police department inform us of Fraud in its many forms and how to deal with this and avoid the consequences. Excellent questions from the crowd produced a very productive question and answer session during refreshments.

A Parish Potluck supper was held in December with a wide variety of dishes prepared. The ACW along with other volunteers set up and cleaned up. With smaller active numbers it still seems there is a reliable crew to share the workload. We have had several members who encountered illness, and we pray for them and wish them well in the new year.

Thank you to all who have worked alongside us as we carry on, following our goals.

To Live with Worship, Learning, and Service

Respectfully submitted,
Sandy McPhail, Ruth Pengelly, and Anne Saxton

ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE, REXDALE

The year 2024 has been a very inspiring, rewarding and active year for our Anglican Church Women at St. Paul The Apostle, Rexdale.

We held monthly meetings, planned and reviewed all our activities, participated in Reflection times and other fellowship activities. Here is a recap of our year:

ACW members participated in World Day of Prayer by watching the video prepared by the Christian women of Palestine at our meeting on March 16th. It was a very moving and inspirational video.

Members participated in the making of Palms for Palm Sunday.

ACW members attended the Diocese ACW Annual General Meeting held via Zoom on SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2024, Theme “Hope and Peace in Today’s World” Special Guests from The Stephen Lewis Foundation.

We hosted several very successful events, celebrating two milestone Birthday parties, our annual Spring Tea Party, Chair participated in the Mother’s Day Service, sharing a Poem and the Reflection. ACW also provided carnations to all the ladies attending the Mother’s Day service as well as the hospitality after the service.

Our Second Annual Spring Tea Party on May 25th was a resounding success, a wonderful evening of fun, fellowship and being ministered in song was enjoyed by all in attendance. An article on our Spring Tea Party along with pictures of our contestants for the best hat were submitted and published in the Diocesan ACW Newsletter.

ACW participated in our 70th anniversary celebration by supplying the beautifully decorated cakes for the reception.

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Members also attended a Fall Gathering event hosted by our sister ACW members at Christ Church, Stouffville. It was a day of meeting fellow ACW members from across the Diocese, fun activities assisted us in connecting with each other, we enjoyed a singsong and listening to an empowering presentation on empowering women in the workplace, at home and at work. A blessed and wonderful time was had by those who attended.

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry is active, we have several Prayer shawls available for those who maybe in need of Prayer and comfort. We have distributed 3 prayer shawls over the past months. Please speak to Margaret if you know someone in need of one.

Over the summer months we held a draw which was very successful, with members donating the wonderful prizes that were won by members of our congregation. ACW also held tables at the St Paul's Flea Market and Christmas Market, also participated at the North Etobicoke Christmas Market with items made or donated for sale.

For our outreach, ACW donated to the Women's Inter Church Council of Canada to support the inspirational work they do each year towards World Day of Prayer.

We also donated funds to Youth Without Shelter, Ernestine's Women Shelter and Delta Family Services. These organizations have been very grateful for our donations.

Youth without Shelter shared a letter expressing their gratitude for our generous donation stating, "Your donation holds profound significance for the Youth under our care" Our donation was directed specifically to their Home for the Holidays campaign, meaning that it was matched by a group of compassionate benefactors. This is awesome!! Our outreach and donations are impacting lives.

Our ACW lost one of our founding members, Olga Clarke, in the month of July this past year. I would like to acknowledge and pay our respects to Olga not only as a long-standing member of St Paul's ACW, a member of the Diocesan ACW Board, for being the inspiration and blessing she was to many in our parish over the years. Our ACW members were honored to host and serve at the reception held after her celebration of Life. May she rest in Eternal Peace!

I would like to extend my gratitude and appreciation to all members of our ACW at St. Paul The Apostle, Rexdale. We've had another year of many blessings, reflections, love, sharing, caring, praying with and for each other

Anglican Church Women-continues to be "A focus for Christian Community among Anglican women, affirming their gifts and encouraging their ministries through worship, learning and service"
Margaret Durant,

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Durant
ACW Chair, St. Paul the Apostle, Rexdale

CENTRAL ARCHDEACONRY REPORT

Eglinton Deanery

ST. CUTHBERT, LEASIDE

Using an idea we “borrowed” from St. Leonard’s Church years ago, we host a Women’s Dinner in the fall that isn’t a potluck. Women from the church as well as neighbourhood friends gather on a Friday night to enjoy a sit down dinner, with the men setting tables, serving AND cleaning up! Wine was included in the price. Yes, some women did do the food prep, but then handed it off for the men. Profit from the dinner went to the Anishnawbe Health Foundation. As an additional treat this year, we were entertained by a quartet of guitarists, led by a professional guitarist who meets and plays with his amateur friends weekly.

For 39 years now, we sell cheese from the Empire Cheese & Butter Co-op in Campbellford, twice a year to parishioners and neighbours. The profits from this, along with the honoraria we charge to host memorial or funeral receptions for parishioners enable us to continue to support the Diocesan Anglican Church Women.

As part of an agreement between our ACW and our church leadership a number of years ago, ACW money is now handled through the church accounts, and our twice a year Fairs are now parish events, rather than being ACW events. The church then took on the responsibility of supporting the many outreach ministries that had been previously supported by the ACW, including sending money to the Diocesan ACW towards the year’s Special Project.

We now have 2 ACW groups. St. Andrew’s meets weekly to quilt and knit, and St. Monica’s meets irregularly for social get-togethers.

Respectfully submitted,
Lorna Krawchuk

York Central Deanery

CHRIST CHURCH, STOUFFVILLE

The ACW plays a vibrant role in the life of the Anglican Church and serves to bring women of all ages together for social, learning and service opportunities. We are pleased to share the following report of events and activities for 2024.

Fundraising activities included the design and creation of a beautiful hand-made quilt – raffle to be held on Easter Sunday April 20, 2025. We gratefully thank all who helped in the organization and preparation of these activities – including a talented group of quilters, ticket sellers, and ticket buyers. We also held a very successful Poinsettia Plant sale. This support is invaluable in the life of the church and neighbouring community.

We acknowledged Mother’s Day with a beautiful carnation for each lady who joined us at church on Mother’s Day Sunday. A big thank you to Gail Ranger for her kind donation of flowers.

The ACW hosted two Muffin Breakfasts with exceptional guest speakers including Anne Embleton and Jane Smith who thoughtfully shared their insights and experiences from trips to support the hospital development services in Ghana. The fall guest speaker was Marjorie Mason from Mason House Gardens who delighted us with tips to grow and dry various herbs.

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In October – we were delighted to host Women’s Gathering for the Toronto Diocese. The guest speaker was Ida Morra-Caruso, Morra Caruso Law, a local lawyer who gave a very informative presentation on issues affecting women and the law. One of our own ladies was the lucky recipient of a draw for a Will Service (kindly donated by the law firm). In addition to a bag lunch and a delicious baked apple desert, the ladies enjoyed fun and fellowship with a Hello Bingo Card icebreaker, garden craft and an expressive paint activity.

In November we celebrated ACW Sunday with two guest speakers including Ruth Briffett and Deb Reilly. Ruth shared the work of the Ecclesiastical Needlework group and brought a few samples that were displayed during the coffee hour. Of note – the Altar Guild received a dozen purificator linens this year that were hand-made by this talented group. Our second guest speaker Deb Reilly delighted us with a brief history and photo presentation of the beautiful individual bespoke vestments that she created in collaboration with past priests and Rev Canon Lisa. Special music was provided by Cathy Tubb and accompanied by Gary Heard – thank you to both! After the service, the ACW hosted a parish light luncheon for a time of fun and fellowship.

Our Christmas pot-luck dinner was well attended, and a good time was held by all with yummy food, carol singing, and fellowship. We missed everyone who was unable to attend!

Respectfully submitted by: Glenda Kerr & Wilma Scorrar (Co-Presidents)

Past Co-Presidents: Susan Walmsley & Eleanor Winters; Deputy Leader(s): Gail Ranger & Bev Whittaker

GRACE CHURCH, MARKHAM

We started 2024 with an A.C.W. Sunday (January 28, 2024) at both the 8:15 A.M. and the 10:15 A.M. Church Services.

Paint Night (March 5, 2024) was held in the Upper Hall and all participants went home with a new piece of artwork – a painting of a Hummingbird.

Our A.C.W. Rummage Sale (April 13, 2024) was well attended by shoppers. There was lots of help from the Volunteer ladies, men and youth. Thanks to Lianne McOuatt for publicity of the Rummage Sale. Guest Speaker (May 7, 2024) was from York Region Paramedics and the Topic was “Preparing for a Medical Emergency”. We all gained a very thorough and better knowledge of how to prepare for a Medical Emergency. All attendees were given a “Medical Emergency Kit” for completion and posting on their fridge to assist Paramedics in the event of a Medical Emergency.

The June 4, 2024 General Meeting was held at the Upper Hall of the Church. There were 30 members and guests in attendance for the Meeting and Potluck Dinner.

The Christmas Bazaar (November 9, 2024) Theme (inspired by and thanks to Wendy Dottin) was the “12 Days of Christmas”. Santa arrived for photos and there were 3 beautiful baskets available for winners who had their “Bazaar Passports” stamped at the various Tables. Thanks to Terry Halliday and Team of Volunteers, a “Festive Lunch” was served and we received many favorable compliments.

Our December 3, 2024 General Meeting and Potluck Lunch was held at the Upper Hall of the Church and was attended by 36 members and guests. Our thanks went to the following Members of the Executive who are stepping down from the A.C.W. Executive Committee at the end of December 2024 – Carol Baird, Elizabeth Langdale, Robyn Magee and Ruth Park.

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The A.C.W. (thanks again to Terry Halliday and Team of Volunteers) worked on 6 funerals and 2 Lions Dinners in 2024.

We are delighted to welcome new Members of the Executive Committee for 2025 as follows – Cheryl Brown, Nancy Shim, Deb Warga and Hope Warga.

2024 marked another year of Faith, Fellowship, Fun and Fundraising. The A.C.W. couldn't do what we do without such amazing Teamwork.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth (Liz) Langdale
ACW President, Grace Church Markham

HOLY TRINITY, THORNHILL

Throughout 2024, the ACW continued to be very active. The six ACW groups continue to meet in person or virtually to enjoy times of fellowship. Ongoing fundraising initiatives included an occasional book sale during coffee hours and the collection of gold and silver for the Treasure Chest. The talented quilters completed a beautiful quilt for the Festival of Christmas in November and have begun work on another for the next Festival. The groups take their turns hosting coffee hour after church as well as helping at the Parish rummage sale.

In November, the Festival of Christmas was again a popular and successful event. The Festival included the raffle, the always popular bake sale, the Country Store, the Christmas Past Room, a Jewellery Room and a This 'n' That room. A delicious light lunch of a chicken salad croissant, green salad and apple crumble was available.

The above fundraising activities allow us to donate to selected charities supporting women and children, to community programs and to our Fair Share for Toronto Diocesan Anglican Church Women.

Respectfully submitted,
Enid Corbett, ODT

York Mills Deanery

The only constant in life is change! As at January 1, 2024, the Diocese of Toronto reorganized and updated their boundaries, parameters, and titles from four “Areas” to five “Archdeaonries” which are titled North, South, East, West, and Central. Thus, the Deanery of York Mills formerly was a part of the “York-Scarborough Area” and henceforth is in the new “Central Archdeaonry”. The “Central Archdeaonry” consists of four Deaneries: Eglinton; Scarborough; and York Mills, which are all located in the previous York-Scarborough Area; plus the southern portion of the York Central Deanery from the previous York-Simcoe Area. That may all sound as clear as mud, meantime, I am delighted to be working in closer liaison with several inspirational women on our Anglican Church Women’s Board who all worship in the former York-Simcoe Area.

As I finalize this report, we mark the fifth anniversary of the COVID-19 World Pandemic. Thankfully, this year I am feeling more of a sense of stability within the Deanery that has been missing for the past few years. The nine congregations within our busy Deanery of York Mills are: Church of Our Saviour Anglican Church; Church of the Ascension Anglican Church; The Church of the Incarnation Anglican Church; St. Christopher’s Anglican Church; St. Cyprian’s Anglican Church;

St. George on Yonge Anglican Church; St. John's Anglican Church, Willowdale; St. Matthew the Apostle Oriole Anglican Church; and last, meantime certainly not least, St. Theodore of Canterbury Anglican Church.

Located within the York Mills Deanery, there are also two Ministries, the first of which is **The Sisterhood of St. John The Divine**, an Anglican monastic community founded in Toronto in 1884. During the past one hundred and forty years, the Sisters have lived a life of prayer and service to the church throughout Canada, pioneering in: health care; education; care of the elderly; retreats; and spiritual formation. St. John's Rehabilitation Hospital, which is next door to the east of the Convent, is partnered with Sunnybrook Hospital. For many years, in their sacred space at the Convent, they have provided "Food For The Soul" programs as they welcome visitors to participate in: worship, prayer, and song; a variety of programs and workshops; quiet days; and daytime, personal, and group retreats. Modern technology continued to allow for delivery of their regular programs: via virtual meetings; Zoom lessons; musical retreats; spiritual direction; and meditation. The overnight retreats remain suspended until the Guest House renovations are completed. The **Anglican Church Women's Board** generously donated ten thousand dollars towards these renovations. Additional donations would be gratefully appreciated. As always, all would be welcome who could spare a few hours of volunteer time at the Convent. For more details, or to learn about their publication entitled "The Eagle", their website address is www.ssjd.ca, their telephone number is 416-226-2201, and they are located at 233 Cumber Avenue in Willowdale.

Our second Ministry is the **Flemingdon Park Ministry**, incorporated in 2009, and whose slogan is "Building Community Through Compassionate Service". Maria Reolin is the Executive Director, ably assisted by Banazir and Melodie. This community based agency has been walking alongside, and working with the people of Flemingdon Park for fifty-seven years. In addition to the local Food Bank's assistance within the community, food was distributed: to local families; and also to seniors through the F.P.M. wellness program. Cob's Bakery provided bread twice a month for these same people. F.P.M. also has: a clothing bank; weekly English classes, plus Bible and Koran studies; art and craft classes; and an exercise program five days per week. Workshops: informed the immigrants of Canadian laws and basic women's rights; included cooking classes which demonstrated nutritious and affordable meal preparation; and they partnered with community programs teaching financial independence, self defense, and much more. Some past recipients of the Flemingdon Park Ministry volunteered on a regular basis, and women from Northlea United Church visited regularly to support the Flemingdon Park Women's Group. As always, purse strings are stretched to the limit, and subsequently many programs remain on hold due to the lack of funds. In 2017, **Church of Our Saviour**, provided space for the "Common Table Farm" project which believes in access to healthy food for all communities. In 2024, the project was overseen by a part time worker. Partnering with a local Don Mills school gave children the opportunity to visit and learn about farming, pollinators, and native plants throughout the different seasons. The grown produce was distributed to Flemingdon Park community residents, many of whom were newcomers to Canada. This project assisted in alleviating food insecurity within the community as they worked to care for the Earth and toward a more just and equitable food system for all. Meanwhile, there is much to be accomplished, and your financial contributions or volunteering your time would be warmly welcomed and appreciated.

The Anglican Church Women's group at **Church of Our Saviour** had a productive year and including several successful fund-raising events. Subsequently their financial donations supported additional favourite charities. Sadly, most Anglican Churches do not have a women's group who meet on a regular basis and specifically one entitled the Anglican Church Women, affectionately known as the A.C.W. **It matters not, for the reality is, that every female attending an Anglican church IS an Anglican Church Woman!** As such, many, not belonging to an official group, regularly support the Diocesan A.C.W. by: attending the Annual General Meeting plus other sanctioned gatherings; generously donating financially; and subscribing annually to the Toronto Diocesan A.C.W. Newsletter through PAL (Prayer, Action, and Learning).

This financial support is greatly appreciated as the Diocesan Board's largest charitable donation is ten thousand dollars forwarded annually to **The Council of the North**. If you have any A.C.W. questions or concerns, contact may be made via telephone at 416-363-0018 or Email to 'acw@toronto.anglican.ca'. Your suggestions, insight, comments, et cetera, are also most welcome.

With joy and thanksgiving, I sincerely thank all of the **Anglican Women** who worshiped in the nine parishes within the Deanery of York Mills, as I recognize that, while wearing many hats, numerous women continue to work quietly behind the scenes "where they hide their little lights under their bushels"! Over and above Sunday Worship Services, we thank all who were busily involved: churchwardens and deputies who worked tirelessly in countless ways and with a multitude of challenges; treasurers, envelope secretaries, stewardship campaigners, and financial steering committees; astute property managers; office administrators; teams of people who kept us connected by telephone and internet; advisory board members; amazing fund raising teams; parish nurses; pastoral ministry teams; lay synod members; parish selection committees; and those members who were committed to the Diocesan Committees regarding Anti-Bias and Anti-Racism (ABAR), responsible ministry, social justice, outreach, and advocacy.

I am pleased to report that most of our churches have a few new families worshipping regularly, of which several were non-Christian newcomers to Canada. On Sundays, we were incredibly grateful for those who assisted the Priests in Charge or the Interim Ministers. We were blessed to have the dedication, commitment, and organizational skills of our faithful Chancel or Altar Guild members who shared their time and talents for the work of God. In addition to them, there were other faithful women at each Sunday service: honorary assistants and deacons; candle bearers, crucifers, and servers; lay anointers, readers, and intercessors; wardens; choir members and music leaders; greeters, sides people, and counters; the livestreaming ministry teams who kept those at home connected virtually; Sunday School teachers, Messy Church leaders, nursery attendants, and creative volunteers who assisted with all the children and youth programs; and the dedicated hospitality teams who provided refreshments following Sunday services. Thank you also to all of the parishioners for their continued generous financial support, encouragement, and commitment.

Over and above the Sunday services, some of the in person or virtual services, programs and/or events held within our nine parishes included: morning and/or "Evening Compline" services, prayer groups, and meditations; Good Friday Stations of the Cross; Bible study, and including a group of young adults; World Day of Prayer services; pastoral care visits with the elderly and those shut-in, and sending greeting cards; and weekly insightful old testament commentaries.

CHURCH AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH: Many of our churches continue to experience a decrease in Sunday attendance, fewer volunteers to fill key parish roles, and a diminished number of regular financial givers. Clergy and lay leaders also continue to experience a deep sense of fatigue and anxiety about the future. In that light, we continue to encourage a gentleness with one another and a renewed commitment to self-care as we navigate post-pandemic realities. Most of our churches had a weekly electronic update of congregational news. For those people with no internet service, a telephone tree kept most of them connected with church happenings. All of our parishes continued to feel the pinch of a Covid-19 shrunken volunteer base. We deeply appreciated all who contributed their time, talent, and treasure offering or assisting with the following: participation in events such as the "Reverse Advent Calendar" Food Drive, and where the need continued to be so great, generous donations were made to local food and clothing banks; every second month gift card distributions, plus the delivery of Christmas gift cards or hampers, and an Advent "adopt a family" project; Salvation Army back pack and school supplies drive; volunteering with NeighbourLink North York; provisions and clothing were supplied to the Mission to Seafarers; assisting with English as a Second Language classes, plus children's reading programs; providing space for community vegetable gardens; refugee sponsorship programs and including the purchase of honey and Amaryllis bulbs to support the Don Valley Refugee Resettlers

(DVRR) projects; meditation and exercise classes; September welcome back barbecues; being involved with the multi faith Willowdale Church Coalition which was formed following the 2018 van attack; and used postage stamp plus eye glass collections which were donated to the appropriate charities. Several of our church buildings host day care programs for which parish members were active on the Board of Directors. Numerous volunteers assisted elsewhere in the community, outside of the church walls. Over and above the aforementioned, a few of the 2024 fund raisers: selling Church Calendars; walkathons; and pancake suppers. Financial assistance was provided to the Oriole Food Space, and to the Toronto Urban Native Ministry.

SPECIAL PROJECTS: At **St. Theodore's**, the outdoor mini food bank “Deacon’s Cupboard”, was available for their immediate community 24/7; they supported newcomers to Canada plus church neighbours through several new projects including a “clothes swap”; and they held their annual Monk’s Cell Dinner: at **St. Matthew the Apostle Oriole**, they continued their popular Travel Adventure Series which allowed members of the parish to share their travel experiences via Zoom presentations, several times throughout the year: at **St. John’s**, the new Pollinator Garden continues to thrive on the property between the church and the rectory: at **St. George on Yonge**, Ukrainian children meet and play together every two weeks; and parishioners have a monthly Friday night “Pub Knights” meeting which now includes a few members from **The Church of the Incarnation: St. Cyprian’s**, being a partner in the Tri-Congregational Church, continue their worship with the Iona Presbyterian Church congregants: **St. Christopher’s**, a Cantonese congregation, and also a partner in the Tri-Congregational Church, held senior exercise classes several times per week: **Church of the Ascension** hosted “Café 65” which is a weekly lunch and entertainment event enjoyed by church and community seniors: and **Church of Our Saviour** generously shared their outdoor space with the **Flemingdon Park Ministry’s** “Common Table Farm” project.

In the previously known York Scarborough Area, only the Deanery of York Mills is represented within our A.C.W. Annual Report! In February, 2026, on behalf of your Church members, please consider submitting a 2025 Annual Report either in recognition of your Anglican Church Women’s group and/or representing the women of your congregation. You may also give some thought to becoming a member of the **Anglican Church Women’s Board** and/or the **Finance Committee**, whose meetings are mainly held via Zoom. You would be more than welcome, and it is a rewarding and informative experience to work with this wonderful group of remarkable women!

May the rich blessings of God and the peace of Christ be with you all. Compared to most of the world, we, living in Canada, are extremely fortunate. May God continue to richly bless you and those you love.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Macnamara

York Mills Deanery Representative

A member of St. Cyprian's Anglican Church, a partner in the Tri-Congregational Church which celebrates its Fifty Fifth Anniversary in 2025 – the longest standing Tri-Partnership in Canada!

REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

Financial Statements

PLEASE SEE SEPARATE LINK

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2024 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**TORONTO DIOCESAN ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD BY ZOOM
SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2024**

PLEASE SEE SEPARATE LINK

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2024 AGM MINUTES

Anglican Church Women

NATIONAL ACW PRAYER

Almighty God, we pray for your blessing and grace on our work and witness as Anglican Church Women in Canada. We give you thanks and praise for giving us wisdom, knowledge and understanding so that we may serve you in spirit and truth. Called to be your church, may our study, learning, worship and service be always to your glory and the building of your kingdom in our communities and throughout the world. In our ministry may we always respond to the needs of others with your love. We pray in the name of the One who redeemed and loves us, your Son, Jesus our Saviour.

Amen.

MEMORIAL BOOK

Inscribed in the Book of Memory, 2024

*Florence Weatherston
St. Paul the Apostle, Rexdale
May 14, 2007*



*Margaret Cady
Christ the King, Etobicoke
June 1, 2009*



*Doreen Collins
St. Paul the Apostle, Rexdale
October 7, 2011*



*Constance Peters
St. Paul the Apostle, Rexdale
February 28, 2013*



*Evelyn Grover
St. Paul the Apostle, Rexdale
December 16, 2014*



*Lindell May Mitchell
St. Paul the Apostle, Rexdale
January 4, 2017*



*Betty Oakley
St. Paul the Apostle, Rexdale
March 3, 2017*



*Barbara Payne
St. Paul the Apostle, Rexdale
June 12, 2017*

*Jane Moore Anderson
Christ the King, Etobicoke
May 13, 2021*



*Carolyn Fredenburg
Christ the King, Etobicoke
July 15, 2021*



*Velma Leaver
St. Paul the Apostle, Rexdale
August 26, 2021*



*Jessie Adams
Christ the King, Etobicoke
October 31, 2022*



*Carol MacKay
Christ the King, Etobicoke
November 25, 2022*



*Vivian Brennen
Christ the King, Etobicoke
August 21, 2023*



*Maria (Mieke) Gerdina
Delange
Christ Church, Stouffville
December 31, 2023*



*Shelagh Ann Heath
Holy Trinity, Thornhill
January 16, 2024*

*Florence Elizabeth Neville
Holy Trinity, Thornhill
January 16, 2024*



*Hazel Audrey Denning
Holy Trinity, Thornhill
March 17, 2024*



*Mary Evers
Christ Church, Stouffville
May 12, 2024*



*Ruth Grace Burritt
Ecclesiastical Needleworker
May 28, 2024*



*Margaret Raymond
Holy Trinity, Thornhill
June 12, 2024*



*Olga Clarke
St. Paul the Apostle, Rexdale
July 22, 2024*



*Louise Reid
Ecclesiastical Needleworker
July 28, 2024*



*Carol Mary McGlaughlin
Holy Trinity, Thornhill
October 19, 2024*