



MULTIPLY

**2023 CANADA COVENANT
DONOR REPORT**



In the face of the growing hunger of the crowd, Jesus replied, “They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.” The disciples replied, “We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish.” Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.

MATTHEW 14:15-21

As we near the end of 2023, many of us consider year-end charitable donations. As part of our annual year-end appeal, we offer this report to express our gratitude for generosity, raise awareness to our financial position, and give insight into how the resources God has given us have been used.

Together, **we START and STRENGTHEN churches... SERVE and SUPPORT pastors and leaders.** Your generosity enables us to look back at the year that's past... and look forward to what is ahead... with confidence as we invest deeply in our ongoing mission.

Within these short pages, I hope you are encouraged by how your generosity is making a significant difference. Our prayers and efforts remain focused on connecting, catalyzing, caring, and equipping churches, pastors, and leaders across Canada and around the world. Your support helps that work continue. Our hope is that the Holy Spirit moves in extraordinary ways where the gospel goes deep and offers real and lasting hope.

Overall, we see growing signs of health and hope across our movement. However, financial and relational pressures continue for many. At this point donations are down approximately 10% and remain below pre-pandemic levels. We continue to meet all of our commitments to global partners and church plants.

As we consider Jesus' multiplying five loaves and two fish, we are reminded of the way that Jesus invites us to *start where we are and do what we can.* **As your efforts and offerings are multiplied, through faith and by the power of the Spirit,** we see: the Gospel shared and embodied in our communities through Covenant churches across Canada; we see Jesus-followers be the hands and feet of Christ in their local context and in our world; and we will see the cultivation and nurturing of disciples, leaders and pastors, who love God and love their neighbours. I hope you are encouraged by these pages that offer a snapshot of the ways the churches of the Canada Covenant are seeking to live that truth out.

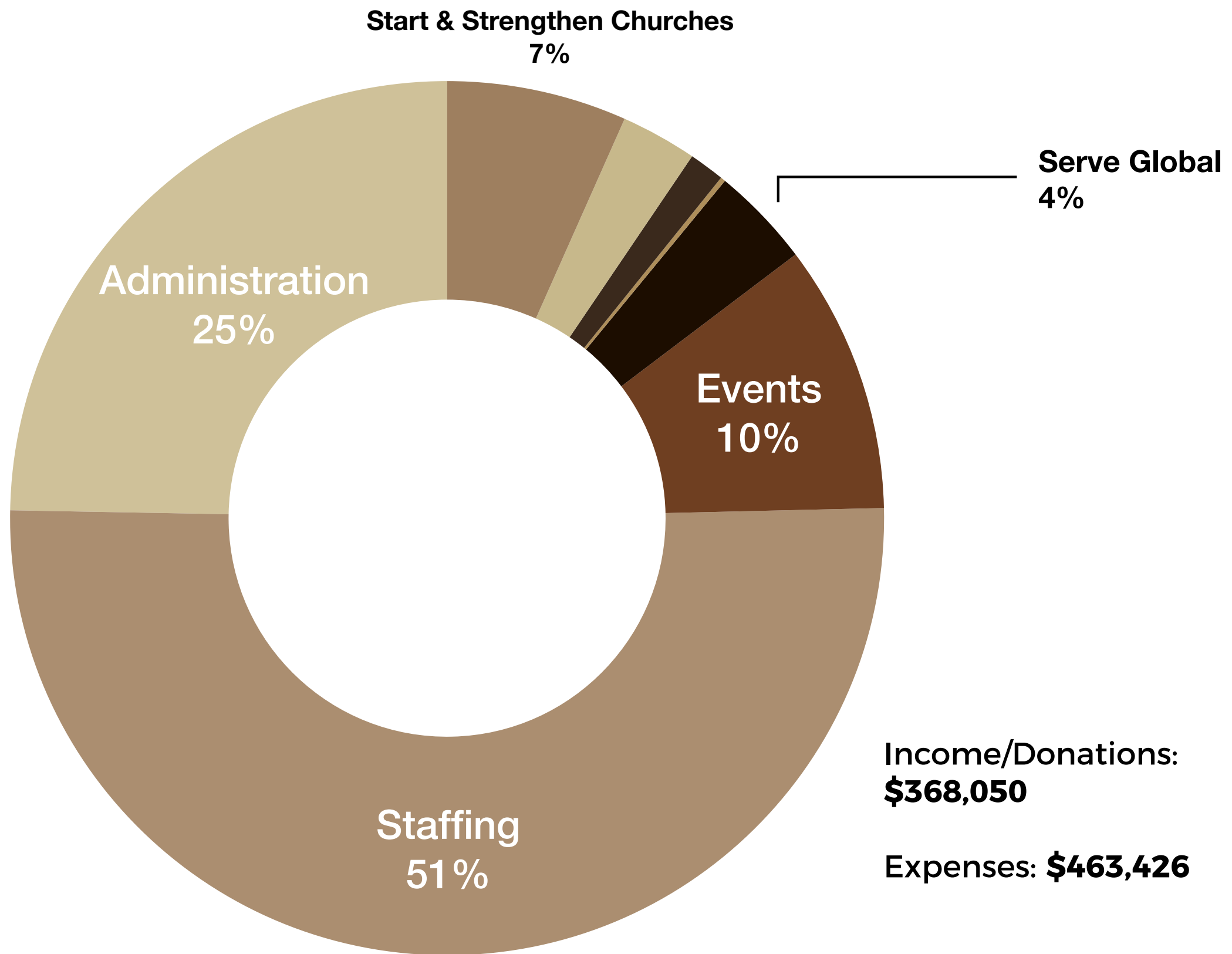
With deep gratitude



Glenn Peterson, *President/Superintendent*



2023 EXPENSE BREAKDOWN



Note: The numbers reported represent our year to date as of November 1. They do not include RRSP and Extended Health Benefit amounts that the Canada Covenant administers on behalf of local churches. Audited financial statements will be presented at our Annual General Meeting once our year end is closed.

Together, we:

**START +
STRENGTHEN
CHURCHES**

**SERVE + SUPPORT
PASTORS
and LEADERS**

In 2023 we saw:

- + Churches STARTED: **Encounter** (Mississauga, ON), **Stonehouse** (Steinbach, MB), **Zoe** (Toronto, ON), and **City Collective** (Langley, BC) continue to faithfully respond to God's work in their communities. **FuYin** (Richmond Hill, ON), a Mandarin ministry/church plant and **New Wine** (Newmarket, ON) took significant steps forward this year. **Riley and Sarah Enns** (Transcona, MB) continue to take steps forward as a church plant. **RO Neighbourhood Coffee** (Riondel, BC) continues to bless the east shore of Kootenay Lake.
- + Churches STRENGTHENED: We see growing signs of health and hope across Canada. People are returning and new faces are emerging. We launched our **"Moving Forward"** resource this past spring. Many churches, pastors and leaders have engaged in coaching and other expressions of support to help their communities grow upward, inward, outward, and move forward.
- + Pastors and Leaders SERVED and SUPPORTED: **Multiply** was launched as a new initiative to encourage discipleship and development of next generation leaders across the Canada Covenant. Many participated in initiatives towards deepening prayer and friendship with God. Emotional, financial, and relational support was offered to clergy and leaders.
- + Across Canada and Around the World: 3 Global Regions, Partnerships and engaged Global Personnel.

Take a few minutes to LOOK back...



ECUADOR ADVENTURE 2023



ISRAEL/PALESTINE 2023

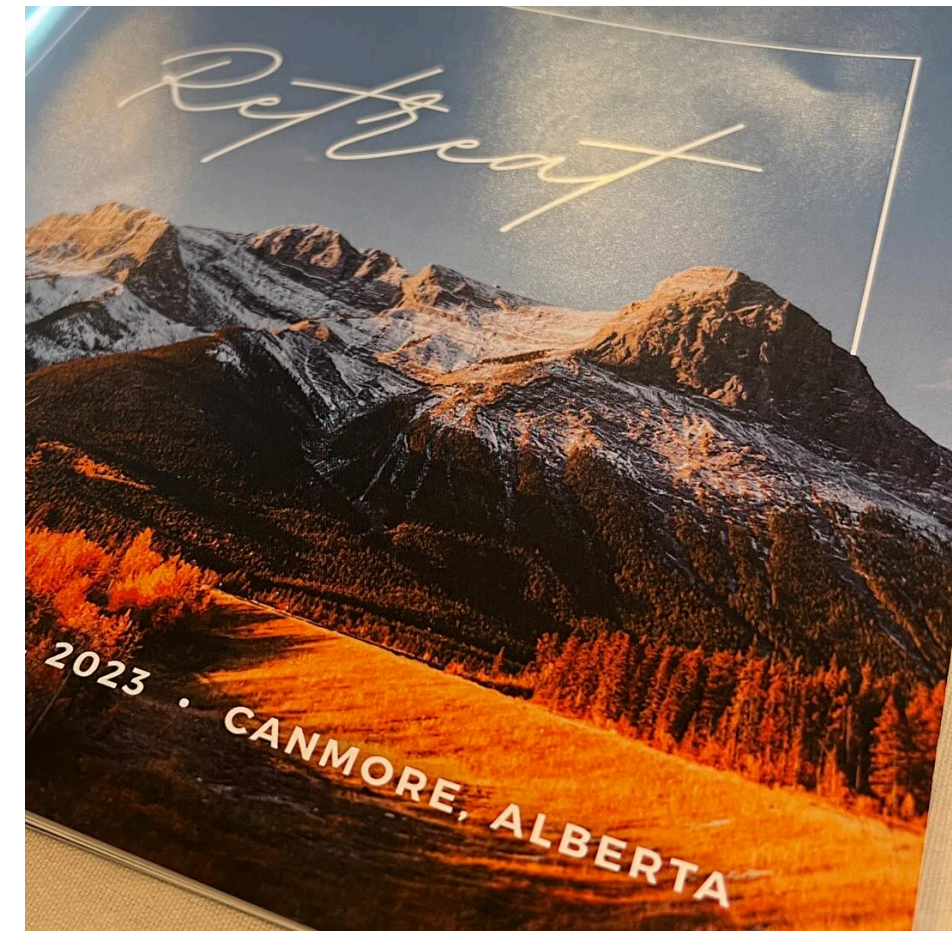


HAITI 2023

#Here4Haiti 

CONNECT.

- + We're grateful to Emmanuel Covenant (S. Surrey, BC) for hosting our Annual Meeting the first weekend in May.
- + Rob Loane and Pam Edwards (Vantage Point 3) along with Grace Shim (ECC Serve: Global) facilitated a great Fall Retreat focused on "Encountering the Heart of the Father Amidst Life's Disruption". We're grateful for the support of the Trellis Foundation that enabled us to bring special guests to encourage our community.
- + Vision Trips offer opportunities for people to make new connections and mission friendships.



CATALYZE.

- + We renewed our commitment to START churches (30 in 10).
- + Our Church Planting Team (Jason Condon - Team Leader, Gavin Jensen - MB/SK, Jason Charles - BC) along with Glenn Peterson and Sarah Cowan Johnson (Coaching) continue to invest in projects and planters across the country.
- + We're grateful for ongoing investment of Global Personnel, Partnerships in Ecuador, Haiti, and the Middle East and North Africa, and for volunteers like: Tara Linsley, Evan Dewald, Kirsten Waldschmidt, and Janelle Peterson (Haiti); Natasha Westerhoud and Arden Gustafson (Ecuador); Sally Carlson, Eric Hedberg, and Jeff Anderson (MENA). We welcomed Sarah Pascoe Enns as a new part-time coordinator for our Global efforts.



CARE.

- + Lighthouse (Sarnia, ON) and Norquay (Norquay, SK) identified new pastoral leadership. 2 churches are actively searching for lead pastors.
- + “Clergy Health Resources” developed and released.
- + We continue to see the lag effects of the Pandemic and its impact on pastors. We continue to offer coaching, counseling, and care support as needed.



EQUIP.

- + February and March saw new Roundtable Discussions, including Mark Baker’s “Centre-Set Church”.
- + We launched a new church health/missional vitality tool (Moving Forward). Rob Peterson, Associate Superintendent, has been walking with 6 of our churches through intentional discernment and discovery of renewed mission in this season.
- + New Learning Labs were launched for pastors (Prayer) and leaders (Church Chairperson Training) and a Re-Launch Cohort was run for 4 churches this fall.
- + Coaching, Cohorts, and Consultation were freely offered and pursued.



30
30
30
30
IN
10
10
10
10

In 2011, we set out on a bold adventure to start 20 new churches, ministries, or initiatives across Canada. At our Fall Leadership Board Meeting, we renewed our commitment to **START churches and will, with God's help, seek to start 30 new churches in the next 10 years as expressions of hope and God's good news to neighbours across Canada. At the same time, we remain committed to the **STRENGTHENING** of our existing churches. These two actions go hand in hand.**

TEAM

We are grateful for the women and men that God has used over the years to advance the mission of the Canada Covenant. Be it committed board members, key volunteers, or our dedicated staff, we are reminded that God uses particular people, in places, and time to accomplish His purposes. We are particularly grateful for Hanne Pihowich who began maternity leave on December 1 and the individuals who will cover her responsibilities for the next twelve months.



Glenn Peterson

President/Superintendent



Hanne Pihowich

Administrator



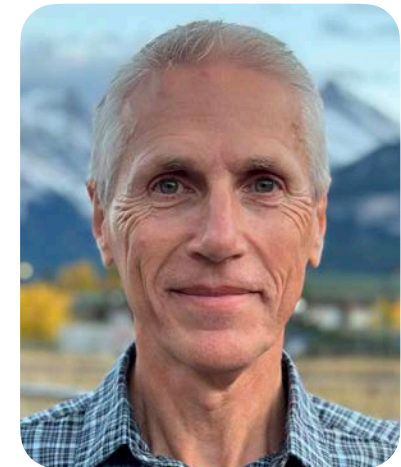
Erika Hedberg

Communications



Brandi Bobee

Finance Manager



Rob Peterson

Associate Superintendent



Jason Condon

Church Planting Leader



Gavin Jensen

Church Planting - MB/SK



Jason Charles

Church Planting - BC



Sarah Pascoe Enns

Global Engagement



Emily Thomas

Finance Officer

Leadership Board (2023-2024)

Bethany Abramson, Paul Campbell (Treasurer), Ira Carty, Jennifer Fetch (Liaison to the the ECC Executive Board), Rob Horsley, Viviane Ndiom, Jenell Pluim (Chairperson), Marc Vandersluys (Secretary).



Bekah Peterson

Acting Administrator



Shane Pearsall

Operations Consultant

“

**We see God raising up
a new generation of
pastors and leaders
through internships
and residencies...**



LOOK Forward

We remain committed to an expanding vision for our growing family of churches. Here are a few areas that our staff and board have identified for growth and development in 2024:

START CHURCHES

- + One of the (main) reasons we plant churches is our longing and desire to see people come to know and walk with Jesus. The Great Commission continues to be our driving invitation towards mission.
- + Our aspiration is to plant churches at a rate of 7.5%. That's 2-3 projects every year. We'd also like to continue to shift our emphasis from the "Canada Covenant planting churches" to "churches planting churches". In 2024, we'd like every established church to self-identify as a parent or partner and name one way they'll live that out in the next 12-18 months for a current church plant.
- + We have 3 projects and 3-4 planters who are in the queue for assessment. Please join us in praying with and for these women and men as they discern God's call on their lives in this season.

STRENGTHEN CHURCHES

- + We'd like to build on our 2023 "Call to Prayer" continuing to invite pastors, leaders, and churches to live out of a sense of dependence and awareness of God's work and Spirit's power in our lives.
- + We are encouraged by growing signs of health and hope across our community. We'd like to see more. We'd like to add to the growing number of churches who are using our Moving Forward resource in conjunction with coaching and consulting.

Continued on the next page...

- + We'd like to see churches growing in organizational maturity through the development of more resourcing for church chairpersons and leadership teams as well as growing generosity. Aspirationally, we'd like to see every church give at least 10% of their revenue to mission "outside their doors".

SERVE AND SUPPORT PASTORS AND LEADERS

- + This past year we launched our MULTIPLY Internship Initiative. We would like to see 6 more interns in the coming year as a symbol of a growing intention to raise up leaders from within and encouraging churches to be the place of that work.
- + We continue to create spaces for Pastors and Leaders to grow and develop. We will continue to develop and offer Learning Labs and Retreats. Rob Peterson will be facilitating a silent retreat in June of 2024 at Kingsfold (Cochrane, AB).
- + Plans are underway to experiment with a new Annual Meeting format in 2024. In an attempt to lower cost and raise accessibility and attendance, on May 4, we will do the first trial of 6 simultaneous, one day, regional mission and ministry events. Stronger Together, will include a 90 minute digital annual meeting simulcast across the 6 regional gatherings. Stay tuned for more details.

ACROSS CANADA AND AROUND THE WORLD

- + In response to the Great Commission and growing need around the world, we believe that every church should find some expression of engaging mission globally.
- + The current crisis in Israel/Palestine demands ongoing prayer, watchfulness, and concern. Please continue to pray for and remember our friends in Israel and Palestine.
- + The economic crunch that we experience in Canada is only amplified around the world. We continue to look for ways to give and grow generosity towards partners in Haiti, Ecuador, and Israel/Palestine.

**Thank you for being part
of God's work in 2023.**

**Thank you for your generosity and
partnership as we seek to MULTIPLY
in 2024 and beyond.**

