

Hopeful Garden – where hope and community grow

The Gathering Place, Barnes Road entrance

26 June 2026

A wonderful event took place at the Gathering Place today! The garden, now called “Hopeful Garden” at the back of the building, Barnes Road, has been redeveloped and officially opened. With the financial assistance of sponsors and community groups and the work of many hands, including staff, volunteers and guests of the Gathering Place, and the gift of God’s sun the **Hopeful Garden** is now open. Those associated with the Gathering Place as well as the local neighbours and visitors are free to enjoy the beautiful space – to cultivate the garden, to meditate, or to walk or to sit among the growing produce and flowers, the working honey bees and other creatures. It is a garden for everyone_ a shared community space designed for learning, connection and growth.





Andrew Holm, Manager of Strategic Partnerships & Initiatives



Welcome, Colin McNeil, Executive Director



The first planting





Paul Davis, Sr. Elizabeth Davis, Colin McNeil



*Sister Elizabeth Davis,
Chair Board of Directors of The Gathering Place*

GARDENS ARE PLACES THAT ENGAGE ALL OUR SENSES

GARDENS ARE PLACES OF GROWTH AND NEW LIFE

GARDENS ARE PLACES OF INCLUSION

GARDENS ARE MEETING PLACES

GARDENS ARE PLACES OF HEALING

GARDENS ARE PLACES OF HARMONY AND HOPE

**MAY WE FIND HOPE HERE IN THIS GARDEN WHEN THE TIME SEEMS DARKEST
AND JOY AND HOPE SEEM FAR AWAY. MAY WE ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT THERE
ARE RAINBOWS IN THE LITTLE, WRINKLED BROWN SEEDS!**

WE BLESS YOU OUR HOPEFUL GARDEN!

WE THANK YOU, FOR BY YOUR VERY PRESENCE, YOU BLESS US!

The Garden Blessing by Sister Elizabeth Davis