Introduction
Edda Jaenisch, member Faith Lutheran Church
1907 King Street East.
Volunteer organizer Bartonville Neighbourhood
Community Garden.
Church gardener: responsible for 9 botanical
gardens refurbished in 2010 and a young
3 plant apple orchard planted in 2011.

As all good things come from God's earth it
seemed a natural progression, and the
right time, to dream about a Community garden.
Our church mission statement invites us to practise
Action-based faith by making that difference in our
neighbourhood community.
Helping to protect the earth and to provide a
secure food source for all regardless of income
seemed a logical choice.
A newly retired coordinator with a passion for
gardening came forward and we were off.

The Planning Steps
Eight raised plot (the land is not flat but severely
sloped) 4 x 8 foot gardens were planned for the
South west corner on the front lawn.
Ten raised plot 6 x 10 foot gardens were planned for
The backyard north east corner. Total 18 plots.
All garden water by water barrel was planned.
Gardener sheds, green waste storage and
Rest areas were planned as well as future
expansion.

Garden Amenities
18 garden plots
available for season
rental in two
gardens. Water
supply by barrel,
picnic table and tool
shed provided.
Subsidies available
and all are welcome.

Where would the money come from?
Start up funding was requested and received
from the Eastern Synod of the ELIC
(Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada)
along with donations from church member
families and the search began for a garden network
for help so that we would not need to reinvent the wheel.
Enter the Hamilton Community Garden Network
and thus began our relationship with
Coordinator Clare Wagner.
Development Of Front Garden
This is an over view of the development from:
plot measuring, sod cutting, raised bed construction
and installation, soil digging and soil amending
of the eight front raised garden beds.
The gardeners added the early plants.
The sod was relayed in other parts of the church grounds.
Many volunteer hours went into this task.
We could not have gotten this far without the help of
coordinator Clare who assisted with contacts for lumber
and bulk soil purchase. The lumber was provided by Turkstra
Lumber who generously subsidized the cost.
Compost in bulk was received through the network as well.

Development Of Rear Garden
This is an over view of the north east rear garden
consisting of ten 6 x 10 raised plots.
The sod was cut and relayed elsewhere in the garden
and we see the soil amendments set out in their big yellow bags.
The wooden boxes were constructed and set in place and
volunteers filled the ten plots with soil.
The gardeners moved in and planted the beds.
There is potential to expand the rear garden by ten
more plots and to expand the orchard to include pear,
cherry and peach trees.
Again, no expansion will be possible without the team
work efforts of the garden network through the coordinator.
It is essential to learn from best practices and experience
and to purchase in bulk to sustain our young urban food supply.
This represents a brief sample of the garden season of 2011 from early days to harvest days and thanksgiving celebration at the Bartonville Neighbourhood Community Garden. Food produced was used by the church in the Good Food Box Program and in the Hot Lunch Program. Food produced was harvested and used by the season rental gardeners. Food produced was gleaned (a biblical term to support the poor, widows and orphans) by at least one neighbour that we got to know.

Season 2011 was successful in that grass areas were turned into food production and not mowed every week. Good, local, nutritious organic food was introduced into the neighbourhood to the people that produced it or for the use of people who needed it thus helping to reduce poor nutrition due to poverty. It is an example that a healthy supply of local food is available simply because we can produce it on a fallow green space. It is also an example of team work in action. Without partnerships and networks, each garden struggles alone perhaps to fail. Why not continue to work together? Thereby the whole community is able to profit and share in the earth’s abundance.