



The Lutheran Urban Ministry
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February 2018 News from your Ministry Manager

The winter weather and slippery sidewalks continue to be a struggle for so many of our Urban community who walk everywhere and are not able to use public transit or not often.

The second Thursday of every month is our no-charge family bingo immediately following the 7:00 p.m. meal. On February 8th, 90 people had supper and played bingo, including 15 children who played with their parents or grandparents. They had a lot of fun and everyone won a prize. The bingo prizes consist of donated items (some new, mostly used) that are in good condition: toys, games, pots & pans, dishes, ornaments, picture frames, backpacks/purses, quilts, small kitchen appliances, etc.

Update on the gift from Handbags for Hope: The Urban was so fortunate to receive 100 handbags for the women in our Urban community (each filled with personal items) from the Handbags for Hope Project. All of these purses have been given to our Urban women (except for four kept aside for emergency situations). Many of these purses were received by women living in extremely struggling situations. Because this wonderful gift consisted of so many handbags, women were able to choose the style and colour rather than having one handed to them.

Sharing Circles continue each week for women on Wednesdays 4:30-5:30, Co-ed on Thursdays 5:45-6:45 and Wednesdays bi-weekly at the Men's Group 1:30-2:30. Three hours spent each week in fellowship, prayer, listening and sharing, laughter and sometimes tears.

Volunteers Needed (please contact me: rhonda@theurban.ca for more information):

- Someone who could assist with our Winnipeg Harvest Foodbank every other Wednesday from 5:30 – 6:45 p.m. This volunteer would check off the names of those on the list and keep an eye on the foodbank tables.
- A few volunteers who could spend an hour or two a few times a month helping to keep our pantry and storage room organized.
- Volunteers (any age) who could sit down at the tables with our Urban community members and start up conversation or have a game of cribbage or checkers. Some are shy but when volunteer faces become familiar, the shyness goes away.

The Lutheran Urban Ministry Short Documentary Film has been released!! This film was made possible by an ACTS of the MNO Synod grant and the Urban is so grateful for the opportunity to bring the Urban to you. We are hoping that you will enjoy having a peak into typical Lutheran Urban Ministry days, worship, meals, sharing circles and some of the events of 2017.

Produced by Rick Scherger of Fate Communications, we feel that the heart and soul of the Urban has been captured (12 minutes long). <http://www.fatecommunications.ca/Hope.html> or through Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FatPtzT9HhY>

Thank you to the meal teams who ensure that no one leaves the Urban hungry and to all those who donate groceries for our emergency food. Our website calendar shows available dates for meal teams: <http://www.theurban.ca/calendar.php> Please contact me: rhonda@theurban.ca for additional information or to add your meal team to the calendar.

Kind regards,
Rhonda Gorham
Ministry Manager
Lutheran Urban Ministry