



The Lutheran Urban Ministry
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September 2018 News from your Ministry Manager

Lots of grinning young faces at the Urban - summer holidays are over and back to school activities are on their minds! Many of the children, youth students who attend with their parents and/or grandparents, along with some adult students received a new backpack because of a wonderful gift to the Urban of 40 new backpacks!

The Urban is receiving another wonderful gift that is enabling us to rent a school bus on September 22 and arrange an all-day event to take many of our Indigenous attendees to a sweat lodge ceremony at the Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre in Beausejour. This ceremony will be followed there by a traditional feast and then the bus ride back to our parking lot. The Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre is a United Church Indigenous Seminary. We are very excited about this! The drive to Beausejour will be fun and an area of Manitoba that many have not visited before. Our board of directors will be learning more about the Indigenous cultural, traditional and spiritual customs as well.

Please consider donating to a walker or rider on one of the Urban teams in the Ride for Refuge on September 29, 2018 – The Urban is a registered charity for this event. It's not too late to form a team for the Urban or donate to an Urban team:

Event info: <https://rideforrefuge.org/location/winnipeg>

Frequently Asked Questions: <https://rideforrefuge.org/faq>

To register "your team" to walk or ride (or both) for the Urban: <https://rideforrefuge.org/register>

To join the "Urban Board and Friends" Team or donate to a team walking or riding for the Urban: <https://rideforrefuge.org/charity/theurban>

The Urban is taking part in our second Ride for Refuge (a 5 km walk here in the city, or a 10, 25 or 50 km bike ride leaving from North Kildonan) on September 29, 2018. The pledges for the teams for the Urban are allocated to the Urban (minus the Blue Sea Philanthropy admin costs determined by the amount raised for the Urban). Last year these were our teams for the Urban: *Urban Epiphanies* (Epiphany Lutheran), *the Urban Team* (Urban board members), *Gloria Dei Lutheran Church*, *First Lutheran Church*, *Crosswalkers* (Church of the Cross) and *West End Riders*. It was a beautiful day and the event was really well organized!!

I'm really hoping to have 10 teams or more this year! Last September, the Ride for Refuge took place in cities across Canada raising money for 186 charities, of which 31 charities were in Manitoba, charities that provide refuge and hope for displaced, vulnerable and exploited people everywhere. The Urban is so happy to be a part of this event.

The walk is approx. 1.5 hrs with lunch at the end of the route. The ride details are on the website. The route again begins at Covenant Christian Reformed Church, 653 Knowles Ave. in North Kildonan (totally organized by Blue Sea Philanthropy - police direction on route, insurance for walkers/bike riders, snacks, lunch, t-shirts, etc.).

The Lutheran Urban Ministry Short Documentary Film (12 minutes) captures the heart and soul of the Urban <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

We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of age, ability, health, ethnicity, gender identity, language, sexual orientation, life circumstances, marital status, race, or anything else which sometimes divides us. We welcome diversity and uniqueness. Our unity is in Christ, whose grace is freely given to all. All are welcome.