



The Lutheran Urban Ministry
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“Reconciliation is getting to know one another”, Mary Simon, Governor General: National Post, July 26, 2021

May 2022 News from your Ministry Manager

Connection to each other: “All my relations” is the Indigenous reminder that we are all in relation and that all parts of creation are inter-connected. The daughter of a good friend of mine wrote recently of how our souls are created for connection and she included a quote by Ram Das: “We’re all just walking each other home”. It’s so very true because there are so many times in life when strangers, friends or family walk alongside each one of us - through the happy, the sad and the complex twists and turns of our lives – sometimes it’s for a very brief walk - or for years and years. We can see the face of our Creator in those who walk alongside.

Resource links on our website:

<https://www.opencounseling.com/hotlines-ca> Free Telephone Counseling Hotlines in Canada
<https://klinik.mb.ca/contact/> Klinik
<https://www.wpgboothcentre.ca/> Centre of Hope - Salvation Army
<https://www.siloam.ca/> Siloam Mission
<https://www.mainstreetproject.ca/need-assistance/> Main Street Project
<https://willowplaceshelter.ca/> Willow Place
<https://www.wvhealthline.ca/displayService.aspx?id=200411> National Indian Residential School Crisis Line
<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1576089519527/1576089566478> Hope for Wellness Hotline – English, French, Cree, Ojibway, Inuktitut
<https://www.dmsmca.ca/> Daniel McIntyre / St. Matthews Community Assoc.
<https://wcvrc.ca/> West Central Women’s Resource Centre
<https://efsmanitoba.org/> Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba
<https://johnhoward.mb.ca/> John Howard Society of Winnipeg

Pandemic Notes: Pandemic worries are not yet over in Winnipeg and the Urban continues with the following:

Until Further Notice: the Urban is continuing the suspension of all regular programming (coffee hours, sharing circles, men’s group, worship services, etc.) in the lower level of Lutheran Church of the Cross, due to the COVID-19 pandemic situation. *Struggling and vulnerable single people and families (in the same numbers as pre-pandemic times when we were open downstairs) are continuing to come to the Urban - bagged lunches 4x/week are distributed outside (Wednesday men’s lunch, Wednesday & Thursday supper times and Sunday lunch). Our meal teams are happy to help us in this way and we are so very grateful for this. Our website calendar shows available dates for meal teams. Fellowship is happening briefly in the parking lot as long as weather permits! Worship services and sharing circles will resume when the pandemic is over.*

We have changed our pre-pandemic emergency food bags to an equitable “one food item” (if enough in our pantry) per person (two items if a family) once or twice each week during the distribution of bagged lunches. Gloves, socks, seasonal jackets etc. (and weekly bread/pastries) are also distributed outside.

Masks and 2 m social distancing continue to be mandatory on the church sidewalk and parking lot. The line sometimes overflows to the city sidewalk if necessary and all current gathering sizes are enforced as per provincial regulations. The Urban provides a disposable mask if needed.

The Lutheran Urban Ministry has so much gratitude for our volunteers and the meal teams; for the pantry donations, for the prayers; and for all those who donate financial support toward our operating expenses.

Our website: www.theurban.ca. Check out our new video on our website, “Urban Gratitude”!

Please keep our vulnerable Lutheran Urban Ministry community in your prayers. Please contact me: rhonda@theurban.ca for additional information, or to have your meal team added to the calendar.

Kind regards, Rhonda Gorham,
Ministry Manager, Lutheran Urban Ministry Corp.

We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of age, ability, health, ethnicity, gender identity, gender expressions, language, sexual orientation, life circumstances, marital status, race, or anything else which sometimes divides us. The Urban is committed to racial equity. We welcome diversity and uniqueness. Our unity is in Christ, whose grace is freely given to all. All are welcome. The Lutheran Urban Ministry Corp. is a member of Reconciling Works – Lutherans for Full Participation www.reconcilingworks.org