



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 2023 News from your Ministry Manager

The Lutheran Urban Ministry is back in full swing with **Sunday worship** in the lower level of Lutheran Church of the Cross with coffee and tea served between 1:00 and 1:30 and worship from 1:30 – 2:15 including holy communion. Everyone is welcome at the Lord’s Table for communion. We have small tables and chairs too - with lots of busy kids colouring and drawing really great pictures during the service! *Bagged lunches are distributed at the side door on Sundays between 1:00 and 2:00 for those not coming in for the service.*

Why am I so persistent in inviting MNO congregation members and pastors to drop in to our worship services and our sharing circles? The Urban is a vibrant outreach filled with wonderful people. If reconciliation speaks to your heart and you are able come by and sit with us in worship, or in our sharing circles, you are so very welcome. Each of our city congregations can view the Urban as a satellite congregation to their own church and fellowship and connection is really what the Urban is all about. *I won’t stop asking or give up until I feel that this message to the city congregations in our Synod is heard.*

What is a sharing circle? It’s simply people gathering to have coffee/tea, dessert and fellowship. To sit together in conversation. Some people are a bit shy and are self-described listeners, and they give the gift of listening to the person who is speaking. We talk about lots of things: hope, faith, worry, sadness, community issues, restorative justice, grief, food and housing insecurity, the latest good news in someone’s life, and so many other topics. Sometimes the topic is “how is your week going”? For us within the MNO Synod this is an effortless opportunity to participate in reconciliation in action - and we are all mutually enriched in getting to know each other.

Men’s Lunch/Sharing Circle: Every Wednesday at noon. Really great discussions! Just ring the doorbell to the left of the side door. We welcome MNO congregation men to drop in for lunch and fellowship.

Women’s Sharing Circle: Every Wednesday from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. with coffee/tea/dessert. Great discussions! Just ring the doorbell to the left of the side door. MNO congregation women – you are so welcome to join us!

Wednesday Women’s Drop-in after school from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. so that children/grandchildren can attend with them and be busy with arts and crafts while the women drink coffee and tea...and visit together. Just ring the doorbell to the left of the side door. We welcome MNO congregation women to drop in and sit with us too.

Thursday Co-ed Sharing Circles from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. Coffee/tea & dessert. We welcome MNO congregation members to drop in and sit with us too.

Bagged meal distribution continues outside the side door on Wednesdays and Thursdays (and Sundays) at the times listed on the door.

Our website: www.theurban.ca. 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