



The Lutheran Urban Ministry
Rm 25, 560 Arlington Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3G 1Z5
www.theurban.ca
rhonda@theurban.ca
204-774-3143

September 2020 News from your Ministry Manager

School has started and we have quite a few families who are part of our Urban community. Now, with only giving out bagged lunches from the door, often only one family member stops by to pick up bagged lunches for those at home but it's wonderful when we see a family coming along and have a chance to say hi to the children. Parents are worried about virus transmission in school and one family decided to home school all of their children this year.

Homeless: There are always a number of people who come to the Urban who, for so many different reasons, are living on the street or couch surfing with friends or relatives.

Until Further Notice: the Urban is continuing the suspension of all regular programming (sit-down community meals, 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. So many ask if we'll be open downstairs soon but we have to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Mandatory Masks *as of September 2, 2020: Masks (cloth or disposable) are now mandatory for everyone entering the church property (sidewalk and parking lot) to pick up bagged lunches. We provide a disposable mask if needed.*

The Urban enforces 2 m social distancing on the church grounds of Lutheran Church of the Cross during bagged lunch distribution.

During this pandemic time, we are continuing to provide physical and spiritual nourishment in the best way we can in the present circumstances:

Bagged Lunches (sandwich, dessert, juice box, etc.) to take home are given outside the door in place of sit-down meals at our four regularly scheduled weekly mealtimes. This schedule is posted on the north side door of Lutheran Church of the Cross. 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 in the parking lot as long as weather permits!

We have so much gratitude for our volunteers and the meal teams; for the prayers; and for all those who provide financial support toward our operating expenses.

Continuing: Winnipeg Harvest Foodbank at the Urban: We have 14 registered clients for our 560 Arlington St. Winnipeg Harvest Foodbank who pick up their hampers on foodbank days every 4 weeks. When the snow comes, one person at a time can come inside the door to receive their items.

Please visit our website! (www.theurban.ca). Links to our 2020 Ride for Refuge **fundraiser for the Urban** - October 3. It's exciting this year with lots of Freestyle options besides walking or riding! Join an Urban team, form an Urban team or donate to one of our participants! This is a national fundraiser for charities and non-profits working with the vulnerable and disadvantaged.

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

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.