

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

May 2025 News from your Ministry Manager

Family Violence has no boundaries, and can happen within homes of the very advantaged to the very disadvantaged. It also affects many within faith communities around the world. **Some of the factors that cause a partner to return again, or stay silent:** *embarrassment, judgment of others, threats, retaliation fears, economic factors, cultural/religious expectations, worry of impact to children, lack of resources to begin again - to name a few.*

An employee of Willow Place was invited to our Women’s Sharing Circle on Wednesday, April 16. Over a timespan of 1 ½ hours, she provided an overview of the services of Willow Place & statistics on family violence in Canada. She answered questions and described the different types of violence, how everyone can help, and the resources available to those experiencing family violence; including information of the myths about family violence. She provided a comprehensive understanding of the factors of violence within the family.

Willow Place provides person-centred, trauma informed supports for women and men who are experiencing family violence, gender-based violence, or intimate partner violence. These forms of violence are a serious public health issue impacting thousands of Manitobans.

Services at Willow Place include shelter and outreach programs, advocacy, counselling for adults and children, as well as 24-hour crisis support services.

Violence may be physical, emotional, verbal, sexual or financial. All forms of violence are harmful and adversely impact well-being. Witnessing violence also has harmful effects on children and adults.

Contact Willow Place with questions or for information:

- *24-hour crisis support:* 1-877-977-0007
- *Winnipeg crisis support:* 204-615-0311
- *Text line crisis support:* 204-813-8887
- *Outreach (weekdays/daytime):* 304-230-9399

Ask about partner locations and hours.

To our MNO Congregation Members and Clergy: Please join us anytime in Sunday worship at 1:30 and pray with us – and join us anytime in fellowship in our sharing circles:

Sunday Worship Service: door opens at 1:00 p.m. with coffee/tea. Worship service 1:30 – 2:15 p.m.

Men’s Lunch/Sharing Circle every Wednesday - Downstairs at Noon

Please stop by at 12:00 p.m. Noon (*ring the doorbell*) for lunch and great fellowship and conversation!

Women’s Sharing Circle every Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. (until 3:30 p.m.)

Please arrive at 2:00 p.m. (*ring the doorbell*) for coffee/tea/dessert and great fellowship and conversation!

Women’s Drop-in every Wednesday from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Please drop in (*ring the doorbell*) for coffee/tea/cookies and visiting together! Kids & grandkids welcome to come with you and we have colouring and arts and crafts to keep them busy.

Co-ed Sharing Circle every Thursday at 4:30 p.m. (please arrive at 4:30 p.m.)

(*ring the doorbell*) Join us for great fellowship and conversation! And coffee/tea/dessert.

- 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