



The Lutheran Urban Ministry
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April 2020 News from your Ministry Manager

COVID-19 PANDEMIC: This is an especially difficult time for our city's most vulnerable citizens.

Suspended until further notice:

- The Urban has suspended all regular programming (sit-down community meals, coffee hours, sharing circles, men's group, worship services, etc.).

Postponed until further notice:

- The remaining Thursday "Get Better Together" workshops (with lunch incl.) facilitated by the Wellness Institute.
- The remaining "Mental Wellness Facilitated Co-ed Sharing Circles" (grant from WRHA, facilitated by the Canadian Mental Health Assoc.).

During these limiting and uncertain times, the Lutheran Urban Ministry is committed to continuing to help our Urban community in the best way that we are able to:

In place of the Wednesday Men's Group Lunches, Wednesday & Thursday Community Suppers, and Sunday Lunches:

- Bagged lunches (sandwiches, etc.) to take home are given outside the door in place of meals. Schedule is posted on the north side door of Lutheran Church of the Cross. Our meal teams are happy to help in this way and we are so grateful for this.

Winnipeg Harvest Foodbank at the Urban:

- Those registered for Winnipeg Harvest Foodbank will continue to pick up their hampers on foodbank days. However, the hampers will be brought up to the side door to be distributed outside to the recipients. Foodbank dates will be posted on the schedule on the north side door. Note: May & June dates TBD by Winnipeg Harvest.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic situation in Manitoba, the Lutheran Urban Ministry is committed to enforcing 2 m social distancing and enforcing the City of Winnipeg Order of no more than nine individuals gathered at any time on the sidewalk or parking lot of Lutheran Church of the Cross during bagged lunch distribution.

Please keep our vulnerable Lutheran Urban Ministry community in your prayers.

Please visit our website! The website address is the same (www.theurban.ca). Christmas 2019 photos and the photos from our Healing through Art program are up on the website. Also, check out: **The Lutheran Urban Ministry Short Documentary Film: *Hope is Never Lost*** (12 minutes) captures the heart and soul of the Urban. View from our website 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.

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.