



## Union Gospel Mission

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Speaking/Preaching

**SPENDING OF FUNDS** is confined to Board Approved Programs and Purchases. Each gift designated toward an approved program will be used as designated, with the understanding that when any given need has been met, or cannot be completed for any reason determined by the Board, designated gifts will be used where needed most. Gifts are acknowledged and receipted with an official receipt for income tax purposes.



Join us on Facebook & Twitter for daily updates



**Listen to a program of hymns**

Monday - Friday 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

**CFAM** Altona  
Radio 950

**AM 1250** Steinbach

**CJRB** Boissevain  
Radio 1220



Union Gospel Mission has a variety of guest speakers for your next event, whether that be a Men's Breakfast or a Ladies Tea, a youth rally or concert or a focus on mission's event.

We will even come and speak to a small group such as a pot-luck with a purpose, a Bible study or a missions committee.

We are still available to help with pulpit supply as well.

To arrange a special speaker please contact Jeff Gilfillan at 204-943-9904 Ext. 237.

## LOVING OUR NEIGHBOURS

By Frank Ulrich, Executive Director

**"And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." — Mark 12:31 (NKJV)**

At Union Gospel Mission, our neighbours are the people whom we serve in the seven ministries. One of these neighbours is a man named Paul. I had an opportunity to interact with Paul outside of our building as I came into work one morning. I hadn't seen him for months. Paul explained that he'd been staying in an apartment building in the downtown during the winter. Unfortunately, Paul shared that he had gotten himself involved in a situation at his home that resulted in a legal matter. He's now in the midst of dealing with that situation.

As we interacted, Paul stood beside a shopping cart full of items including pieces of plywood at the top of the cart. Paul said that unlike last summer he will not be staying on our grounds. Paul sincerely communicated that he would not have been able to exist without the services of Union Gospel Mission. Paul said that we are his only family and friends and that he is thankful to God that we are here. I imparted to him that we love him and that God loves him. My prayer is that Paul would grow in his relationship with Jesus and would live free from addiction.

## CHRISTIAN SCHOOL Faith Academy

### THE GOD OF ALL COMFORT AND MERCIES

By Gilbert Plante, Family Ministries Manager

I had an interesting conversation with one of our students from the Pritchard campus a while ago. He wasn't having a good day and it reflected in his behaviour and focus in class. After reassuring him I was there to help and he could always trust me with anything that troubled him, he broke down. He was concerned that his mom drank too much and he's afraid of some of the people who come to visit her. I asked him if he felt safe in his house. He said "Yes, but why are some people so scary??" He didn't think they were bad people, it was just how they looked.

I asked him if he knew why we had a fence around the playground. He looked at me puzzled and I told him it was there to protect the students from what lies outside the fencing. I told him that Jesus is like the fence around the school. He is there to protect and comfort people. We talked about how



Jesus is there to guide us through difficult times and when we talk to Him, He will help us when we are scared. I told him how Jesus made a promise to never leave you feeling alone. He is never far away. I said that when you're scared, you can ask Jesus for help and He takes His invisible shield of protection and covers you. We live in a fallen world and I'm very thankful for UGM's Christian School Program!

**ADOPT-A-STUDENT:  
\$50/MONTH OR \$600/YEAR**

**"Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand." — Isaiah 41:10 (NKJV)**



## CHILDREN & YOUTH *Family Life Centre*

### GOD LOVES TRUTH SEEKERS

By Ron Albo, Children's Ministry

**"So then faith comes by hearing,  
and hearing by the Word of God"  
— Romans 10:17 (NKJV)**

The Family Life Centre is pleased to announce a definite soar in attendance at the children's drop-in program. We have the challenge of an overflow of attendance. This is a welcome challenge. The attendance level increased after a Vacation Bible School (VBS) group from rural Manitoba set up shop for a week during the spring break. The kids were invited to check out our drop-in program.

To be perfectly honest, the spike in attendance was not due to the work of the VBS group. It was totally the work of the Holy Spirit. That's just another example of God working through His people.

What's wonderful about this new group of children is that most of them have already been exposed to some Bible teaching and they always seem to have great questions about God. Can you go to heaven without believing in Jesus? Who created God? Is Jesus the same as God? What is heaven like? What is hell like? Are there sins that can keep you out of

heaven? These are just some of the queries posed during our Bible lesson time. These questions demonstrate a thirst for real spiritual truth. And of course, the object of the drop-in is to teach the gospel. Please help me in praying for the salvation of the children.

## WOMEN'S ADDICTIONS *HEART Recovery Program* *Charis Centre*

### PRAISE THE LORD!

By Freda Klassen, Recovery  
Chaplain

Marjorie heard about God's love in Jesus from her grandparents and trusted Him when she was young, but after she experienced many losses in her life, she numbed her heavy heart with alcohol, instead of trusting God with her pain and fear.

Last September, Marjorie chose to come to Charis Centre to deal with her addiction. As her chaplain, I have had the privilege of walking with Marjorie through her pain and fear. She chose to return to God and He heard her cry. Now Marjorie's heavy heart is light and filled with praise to God. Her heart is filled with the joy that is found in trusting Jesus, who is faithful and who gives life, hope, and strength to face life. This is Marjorie's testimony in her own words.

"I was all messed up and doing everything I wasn't supposed to. I used to go with my friends to the store and steal ice-cream and chips. I started smoking weed and drinking at 16 and started stealing booze off people. I felt bad, but I had a lot of pressure from my friends. My



grandparents used to tell me a lot about God because I would ask questions. I decided by myself to believe in God and I got baptized at 17. Then I started backsliding because I stayed with those friends and partied with them and my brother's friends. My drinking got worse. I had a lot of fear. I was still praying, but not following God.

I re-dedicated my life to God when I came to Charis, because I felt lost without Him and heavy with sin. As I started to follow Him again, I started to feel lighter and lighter. I am glad that I did that, because it makes me feel glad in my heart. I read about God in my Bible and I started understanding more. It was like He was talking to me in the Bible. I talk to God now, and sometimes I will dream about the things He is teaching me, like to not be shy and speak out about Him with believers and non-believers both. I love Jesus because He first loved me. I know that He died for me, for my sins, and He rose again, so we can follow Him and be like Him and so we can have everlasting life like He promised. I encourage everyone to follow Jesus as He wants us to and be in the family of God and be happy."

**"Blessed be the Lord, because He has heard the voice of my supplications! The Lord is my strength and my shield; My heart trusted in Him, and I am helped; Therefore, my heart greatly rejoices, and with my song I will praise Him. The Lord is their strength, and He is the saving refuge of His anointed." — Psalm 28:6-8 (NKIV).**

**CHERISH CHARIS:  
\$100/MONTH OR \$1200/YEAR**

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- UGM Gladstone Dessert Night, Oct. 6, 7pm at Gladstone Christian Fellowship
- UGM Altona Banquet, Oct 11, 6:30pm at Rhineland Pioneer Centre
- UGM Community Thanksgiving Dinner, Oct 12, 11am to 1pm at 320 Princess
- UGM Winnipeg Banquet, Oct 19, Noon & 6:30pm at North Kildonan MB Church
- UGM Carman Dessert Night, Oct 27, 7pm at Friends Community Church

### OUR NEEDS FOR FALL:

*Donations can be dropped off at  
320 Princess Street, Winnipeg*

- Fall jackets, hoodies, runners, sweat pants, jeans

### PRAYING FOR OUR FAMILIES

By Marlene Wiebe, Women's Ministry

**"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." – 1 Peter 1:3 (NKJV)**

In our Tuesday Bible studies, we're using Sheila Walsh's "The Shelter of God's Promises". One study was on the promise of hope for all generations. As followers of Jesus, we may be able to maintain a measure of hope for ourselves, but when we think of our families who are also in need of hope, we sometimes get very discouraged. Many families have been affected by the misplaced hope of past generations. God promises hope for all—future generations included.

Sheila writes that there is nothing more powerful for restoring our hope than the Word of God and challenges us to pray Scripture over our children, grandchildren, parents, grandparents, etc.

She gave a list of verses we could use to pray for our families. I printed those out for each lady to take home and use as they felt led.

Some weeks later, one of the ladies said, "I use that prayer page you gave me to pray for my children. I think it

helps." A lady who had not attended that particular day asked for that prayer hand-out so she could pray Scriptures over her children too.

We are all aware of the life situations that those in the North End face—poverty, violence, addictions, etc. Oh God, we petition you to bring living hope to this neighborhood as we pray with these women for their families.

### MEN'S ADDICTIONS

#### New Life in Christ Recovery Program

### GRADUATION

By Junior

I'm sure God wants us to be happy, joyous and free, but it is clear that we make our own misery. Avoid the deliberate manufacture of misery, but if trouble comes, cheerfully capitalize on it as an opportunity to demonstrate God's omnipotence—His all-powerful supremacy.

I used to be a legend in my own mind. I was a non-stop, won't stop, ignorant, defiant, rude and angry man.

Luke 19:10 says, **"For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost."**

Lost I was. The evil of this world had corrupted me and had such a hold on me. Coming through the doors of UGM, going to class and volunteering my time is one of the best gifts God has given me. Reading and accepting the lessons really opened my eyes.

"For this is how God loved the world. He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16.

On December 3rd, 2018, Carel led me in prayer and I let Jesus in to my heart. December 8th, my birthday, was a challenge. So was Christmas. But I was scared of New Years'. I didn't know if I was strong enough for it.

"God saved you by His grace when you believed and you can't take credit for this, it is a gift from God," Ephesians 2:8. I didn't crave alcohol or drugs any more. I don't know how or why, but the desire was all gone.

I now know there is someone bigger than me in this world, a path is being laid out before me. I've been through a life of pain, hardship, loss and misunderstanding, but it wasn't for nothing. This was life lessons, God was building a soldier.

Now I can look back on my adventures and find the positive out of the negatives. In this short time here at Union Gospel Mission, I will take what's taught me and grow. I am thankful to the place that gave me so much love, understanding, patience, guidance and growth.

"And my message and preaching were very plain, rather than using clever and persuasive speeches. I relied only on the power of the Holy Spirit," 1 Corinthians 2:4.

That is what the Scriptures mean when they say "no eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined, what God has prepared for those who love Him," 1 Corinthians 2:9.

I can't thank you enough for what you all have done—the chaplains, workers, volunteers and my brothers with whom I've shared my time at UGM. My new mission is to populate heaven with as many people as I can reach.

**NEW LIFE IN CHRIST:  
\$100/MONTH OR \$1200/YEAR**



- Food: canned goods, canned meats (tuna, etc.) bottled water, government inspected or store bought eggs, government inspected or store bought beef, pork and chicken
- Household items: all-purpose cleaner (Mr. Clean, etc.), toilet paper, laundry pods
- Female hygiene products, diapers, baby wipes



### CLOTHING TOSS BOX PROGRAM

Toss Box Locations now can be found in:

- Anola
- Lowe Farm
- Mitchell
- Morris
- New Bothwell
- Oakbank
- Pine Ridge
- Rosenort
- Selkirk
- Steinbach
- Stuartburn
- Teulon
- Vita
- Winnipeg
- Stonewall



## RE-ENCOUNTER

By Nelson Gonzalez, Principal

**“Having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth - in Him.”**

— Ephesians 1:9-10 (NKJV)

The word ‘re-encounter’ may have many contexts. It may mean you are seeing someone again after a long time. Our school has graduated many students over the past years. Their pictures are on the hallway wall and some of them we haven’t seen in years.

Recently, a lady came to inquire about our program. She happened to be one of our former graduates. What a delight it was to see that she remembered our school and came back to advance her knowledge in an area of her interest.

We know that there are no coincidences with God and we celebrate this student’s success in having graduated from our program years ago. We give all glory to Jesus for His faithfulness. Also, we celebrate that we are still relevant as a program, even to our former students. May the Lord receive all the glory.

Most of all, it is the Christian outlook of the school that appeals to current and former students through the Union Gospel Mission. Continue to pray for us, that we may remain steady to our call.

## I SAW MY FAMILY SELF DESTRUCT

By Dennis Siemens, Volunteer Chaplain

**“If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king.”**  
— Daniel 3:17 (NKJV)

One reason why some people live lives gripped with chronic anxiety, pain and addictions is because they were not raised in loving, nurturing homes. Such was the case when “Andy,” a middle-aged man, came into the prayer room. Andy often came in when he needed encouragement and prayer. He had a troubled life but was friendly and easy to talk to. Andy said that during early childhood, his family would have drinking parties on the weekends. He’d be up all night watching everything that entailed. He talked about how his family would self destruct.

Andy remembered the fear that gripped him. He wanted to protect his family from their dangerous lifestyle but didn’t know how. When he was older, he became addicted to drugs. He struggled to overcome his addiction, but the internal pain was severe. To make matters worse he became involved in gangs. They became his new family instead of his dysfunctional birth family. The gangs promise a better life, but members end up with more problems than before. Hatred and threats compound with a life filled with violence, crime and drugs.

Now that Andy was older, he wanted “out” which is easier said than done. As he sat in the prayer room, he was trembling with fear. “I want out but the gangs won’t let me,” he said. “They are stalking me and watching every move that I make. I don’t know how to escape.”

I had given Andy a Bible and Scripture hand outs to take home. I also read the story of Shadrach, Meshack and Abed-nego. King Nebuchadnezzar told them when the music played,

they must bow down and worship the huge statue he had built. If they would not, he would throw them into a fiery furnace. In Daniel 3:17 they replied, “If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O King.”

Shadrach, Meshack and Abed-nego refused to bow. King Nebuchadnezzar became furious and had them thrown into the flames. When Nebuchadnezzar looked into the furnace, he was astonished because he saw four people walking around inside. God was with them in the fire. In the end, King Nebuchadnezzar set Shadrach, Meshack and Abed-nego free.

I told Andy that God is able to set him free and God would be with him if he did not bow down to the wishes of the gang members. I told him that God loves him and desires to have a relationship with him. I asked him if he wanted to give his life completely over to Jesus Christ. He said yes and prayed to receive salvation. He asked God to take complete control of his life and I prayed that God would protect and guide him throughout his future.

Three weeks later, the phone rang. A person whose voice I didn’t recognize asked, “Do you know Andy?” When I said I did, he told me Andy had died. Some time after Andy’s funeral, a woman came to the prayer room. She said she was Andy’s girlfriend. I explained to her that because Andy had given his life to Christ, I believed that Andy was now in heaven, free from addiction. He’s no longer feeling pain but is experiencing such love, such joy and such peace as he has never experienced before. Then I asked her if she would like to make the same commitment to Jesus Christ as Andy had done. She too bowed her head and asked Jesus into her life.

There are many people like Andy and his girlfriend in the inner city who don’t know from one day to the next what will become of them. They live in fear, uncertainty, hopelessness and addictions with no knowledge that there’s a God who loves them. By showing them the same love that God has given us, by His grace we can offer them hope to last for eternity.