



Union Gospel Mission

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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 Radio 950 Altona

AM 1250 Steinbach

CJRB Radio 1220 Bissevain



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.

THANK YOU JESUS

"For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulders. And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." — Isaiah 9:6 (NKJV)

Jesus truly is the reason for the season. He is our hope in this world and our free gift of salvation. Thank you Jesus!

Without Jesus coming into our world, Union Gospel Mission would not exist. Jesus is, in fact, embedded into our mission statement. Our mission is to provide Christ-centred programs to the addicted and poor men, women and children in Manitoba. In all seven of our ministries, Jesus is the focal point.

At Christmas, many people gather with family and friends to celebrate that Jesus came into

the world. But this time of the year is hard for the people we're working with, as they find themselves without healthy relationships with loved ones. Please pray that God would comfort them and, most importantly, that they would invite Jesus into their hearts.

Praise God! As of September this year, over 350 people have invited Jesus into their hearts or recommitted their lives to Jesus through the ministries of Union Gospel Mission. Our prayer is that Jesus would fill your hearts and minds in a very real way as you celebrate Jesus' birth this Christmas.

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL *Faith Academy*

REACHING THE LEAST, THE LAST AND THE LOST

As I work on preparing our next Prayer Warrior List, I notice that the police are again across the street at one of our sponsored student's home. I frequently see the police there. I also hear the yelling coming from the house.

The dad suffers immensely from fibromyalgia and has spent a lot of time just trying to get out of bed. The mom has become tired of doing all the work of raising the family on a very small budget. Dad has turned to smoking marijuana to relieve his pain and mom insists that this is a terrible influence on the children. Dad does not hide the pot smoking because he sometimes can't get out of bed because of the severe pain. I have regularly been in the house trying to encourage both mom and dad. Dad wants little to do with a God that would allow so much pain and mom agrees with him.



It's hard to explain to the parents that it all goes back to the fall of man in the garden. I look for wisdom from my Heavenly Father to explain why bad things happen to good people. I explain that our Christian faith is based on belief. We believe that Jesus died on the cross for our sins. We believe in a God that we cannot see and a place called Heaven that we have never been to. Through all the pain, suffering and turmoil of their life, they are at least still open to me telling them about our Lord and Saviour. I constantly tell them there is hope and His name is Jesus

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

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." — Matthew 6:33 (KJV)



CHILDREN & YOUTH *Family Life Centre*

REAL CHANGE

I pray for the children who come to the Family Life Centre drop-in program. I pray especially for the kids who I know don't have a good home life. That would be most of them. I feel bad for the kids who aren't loved enough, who aren't valued enough and who are neglected in so many ways. I feel a certain righteous indignation for kids that grow up with parents who are dependent on alcohol or drugs. Often their kids don't receive enough food because the household money is spent on feeding an addiction. I feel the same indignation for kids who are subjected to violence from their parents.

As bad as things may be now for these children, the Family Life Centre offers hope—the hope found in Christ Jesus. We offer a safe place where they can just be carefree kids at play. We also offer them an alternative to the negative life choices so many adults in this area have embraced. The kids who come here are prayed for, taught the Gospel and loved. If these little ones welcome Jesus into their hearts, it will change their lives. Real change only arrives through belief and commitment to Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 4:22-24 expresses this very change: **“You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.”** (NIV)

WOMEN'S ADDICTIONS *HEART Recovery Program Charis Centre*

REASONS TO CELEBRATE

Working in the field of addiction can be very disheartening at times. When we see “revolving door syndrome”, we sometimes feel like things are hopeless and that there is no light at the end of the tunnel. But God always brings hope when we need it.

During my first four months at the Charis Centre, I have seen where God has blessed us! During all of the hustle and bustle that comes with settling into a new position, God



has sent many celebrations our way. He has shown that He is here and walking alongside during the good times and the not-so-good times.

In July we had three women confirm their commitment to Christ through baptism. Staff and the residents from the Centre piled into our bus and headed to Birds Hill Beach. There we met staff from the Family Life Centre and many family, friends and church supporters to celebrate this event. Gilbert (the pastor at Family Life Centre) spoke and each of the ladies shared how God had changed their lives. Gilbert then led them to the water and baptized them. What a beautiful event!

At the same time as the baptism, we had another resident in the hospital bringing her beautiful baby into the world. Despite involvement from Child and Family Services, it was decided that she was doing well and she was able to bring baby home to the Charis Centre. Mom and her beautiful baby girl are thriving.

In July and September, two of our residents graduated from the HEART Program. That means they have completed one year and one month of the program and remained sober. That's definitely something to celebrate! Staff who've worked with these ladies since coming to Charis Centre speak of the transformation that's taken place. One of these ladies had her family reunified before graduation, and all of her children were there to share in her celebration.

CAN YOU HELP WITH CHRISTMAS GIFT BAGS?



These are our 'Christmas gifts' to the needy of our area. Based on past history, we require about 300 for men, 100 for ladies and 50 for children for our various programs. These can be filled with things like:

FOR CHILDREN:

- new unwrapped toy
- new teddy bear
- Bible
- winter mitts/hat
- Christian book or CD

FOR ADULTS:

- razors
- shaving cream
- shampoo
- socks
- winter gloves/hat
- tooth paste/brush
- hair brush
- deodorant
- Bible
- Christian book or CD

Please label the bag to indicate if it is for a MAN, WOMAN or CHILD.

God is truly blessing us and allowing us to see that the seeds that we've sown are now blooming. Lives are being changed and families are being reunified. God is putting the pieces of broken lives back together.

Jeremiah 29:11 – “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future” (NIV).

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

FAMILY MINISTRY

Family Life Centre

NO CONDEMNATION

“Neither do I condemn you,” John 8:11 (NKJV)

Our ladies' Bible study was from John 8:1-11—the woman caught in adultery brought to Jesus. She was publicly shamed for her actions by religious leaders. We discussed the motives of the religious leaders. They didn't care about the woman. To them she was a worthless piece of trash. They were just using her to trap Jesus with a trick question and were hoping to build a case against Him.



NEW YEAR'S DAY (CHRISTMAS) STREET MEAL – TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2019

We will be serving over 300 guests a full Turkey Dinner. We need your help in putting on this event:

- Volunteering (we need 40 to help greet, serve and pray)
- Donating food (turkeys, potatoes, mixed vegetables, pies and juice)
- Donating gift bags (see information to the left)



OUR NEEDS FOR WINTER:

- hats, mitts/gloves, scarfs, boots, jackets, ski pants
- long johns/underwear
- sweaters, hoodies, sweatshirts
- canned goods
- toilet paper
- laundry detergent or pods

If you can help with any of these needs please contact Rosanne at 204-943-9904 Ext. 226

In response, Jesus stooped down and wrote in the dirt with His finger. We don't know what Jesus was wrote, but we do know that Jesus knew their motives and every shameful thing they'd ever done. We also know that after He said, “He who is without sin among you, let him be the first to throw a stone at her,” the accusers walked away.

Then Jesus turned to the woman and said, “I do not condemn you, either. Go, and sin no more.”

Many of the women that come to Family Life Centre carry sin and shame that keeps them from believing that they're worthy of forgiveness. We were able to share as a group about our shame and challenges in life, and that Christ died on the cross so we could be forgiven and set free.

Jesus loves and cares about you. Christ shed His blood so you could be in a relationship with God. Trust Jesus and accept the forgiveness of sins.

“There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,”
Romans 8:1 (NASB)

MEN'S ADDICTIONS

New Life in Christ Recovery Program



SURRENDERING EVERYTHING

Mario had spent years struggling with substance abuse. He'd lived on the streets periodically. He'd been living a rough life and was tired of this destructive path he'd been on most of his life.

One day he reached the bottom and realized that he could not overcome the temptations of drugs, alcohol and other vices on his own. He knew he needed to surrender to a higher power to help him.

Mario heard about Union Gospel Mission and how UGM's men's recovery program focuses on surrendering everything to Christ and trusting Jesus for full recovery. Mario decided to come into the UGM recovery program. Mario has been in the program for months now and he has found that the more he surrenders to Christ, the more peace he has in his life. Mario wants more of that peace and as a result, more of Jesus.

Mario has found that what Jesus said to Paul in 2 Corinthians 12:9 is true:

“My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”

(NIV) Recognizing our weaknesses and letting Christ transform them for His glory brings peace and freedom beyond our imagination. Give your weaknesses to Him today.

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

ADULT EDUCATION

Faith Learning Centre

FAITH

Hebrews 11:1 – “Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.” (NIV)

As we do devotions in our school, we encounter the need to teach our students more about faith. Perhaps the first time that some students hear the word “faith” is when they read our school name: Faith Learning Centre. Teaching them about faith and to have faith takes time. In previous years, once students have learned about faith, they’ve testified about what it does in their lives as they walk with Jesus.

We have new students in our school this year. We know it’s important to teach about faith, so we have taken the time to respond to the students’ curiosity. We pray and expect that the Holy Spirit will grow their learning and experiences in faith like a seed that is sown in the ground.

As a result, one student has given his life to the Lord and is excited! The same day, he called the people close to him and told them about his salvation experience. We’re happy that our students find salvation in our school. To God be the glory!

Pray for us. Pray that more students enroll in our school, that they learn and continue to grow in the Lord.



STREET MINISTRY

*Drop-in – Chapel
Soup-line – Meals*

GOD BLESS YOU

Peter came to the drop-in for about a year. He was quiet and kept to himself for the most part. Then he started to help with cleaning up little messes in the drop-in. He would give those serving in the drop-in more of a smile and say, “God bless you”. One day he asked if he could stick around and help clean up the drop-in. I asked him why.

He said he finally got the point of all the sermons he’d heard in the chapel services and why we were serving others. He said that he’d found more and more of the peace of Christ at

the Mission. He’d felt the love of Christ in how people served in the drop-in and in the meals after the chapel services. He was grateful we were here and grateful that he was introduced to Jesus through UGM. Helping in the drop-in was his way of saying “thank you” to the Mission and his way of sharing the love of Christ that he was finally experiencing.

Sometimes the Lord changes hearts in ways that are like the “gentle whisper” Elijah received from God in 1 Kings 19:12. God does not always reveal Himself in spectacular ways, but in humble ways through humble people like Peter.

1 Kings 19:12 – “After the earthquake came the fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper” (NIV).

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

