



Union Gospel Mission

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Businesses/Volunteers/Groups/
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 Social Media
for daily updates



Listen to a program of hymns
Monday-Friday 3:00-4:00 pm

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:
204-943-9904 Ext. 237.

VICTORY IN JESUS

By Frank Ulrich – Executive Director

“For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.” – Ephesians 6:12 (NKJV)

As we provide Christ-centered programs to the addicted and poor men, women and children in Manitoba, we are well aware of the spiritual realm around us. For example, a volunteer named Dennis recently shared that while meeting with a woman through our street ministry, she told him she was picking at the ends of her fingers because there were worms coming out of them. Dennis offered to pray for this lady, to which the individual said that he was going to have to pray to Satan as he has his angels around her. Dennis informed this dear

soul that God is more powerful than the devil, and that she can be freed from his control.

Further along in Ephesians 6, we're told to put on the whole armor of God including truth, righteousness, the gospel, faith, salvation, the Word of God, and prayer. I'm so thankful that throughout each of our seven ministries we know that we have victory in Jesus. Jesus has won the battle over sin, addiction and death.

Please remember to pray for the Mission as we're in the trenches where people's eternal destinies are at stake!

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL Faith Academy

THANK YOU JESUS!

By Gilbert Plante, Family Ministries Manager

Recently I had the privilege of visiting the Faith Academy campuses to help take student pictures. These pictures are given to donors so they can put a face to their adopted student. They also include a prayer request from each child.

It was heartwarming to see the children, but seeing the grade five students brought a tear to my eye. This is their first year outside of the Pritchard campus. The two multi-grade classrooms tucked away on Pritchard Avenue seem somewhat secluded. I frequently walk the halls, so I have grown to know each child personally. From time to time, I've had the privilege of entering their classrooms to encourage and pray for them. Seeing some of these students for the first time since last school year brought back memories. I was encouraged to see how each student has matured physically, and more importantly matured spiritually.

I am thankful to all our sponsors that pray for each student they adopt. The Christian School Program gives some of these students the fighting chance of becoming successful after graduation, if they graduate at all.



Scripture tells us that children have a very special place in the heart of our Lord (Matthew 19:14). I'm grateful that the Faith Academy administration has the same vision of ministering to the less fortunate that Union Gospel Mission has had for the last 28 years. Part of the blessing for these students is receiving something that they normally couldn't receive—a private school education!

A special thank you to all who are part of this invaluable ministry, and a great big thank you Jesus!

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

“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” – Proverbs 22:6 (KJV)



CHILDREN & YOUTH Family Life Centre

TEACHING THE GOSPEL WITH LOVE

By Ron Albo, Children's Ministry Leader

Teddy Roosevelt is credited with coining the phrase, "People won't care how much you know until they know how much you care." This is especially true when dealing with the North End children here at the Family Life Centre. The boys and girls who attend our drop-in program crave attention. They want hugs. They enjoy a pat on the back or ruffling of the hair. They need to know they are loved and cared for and it has to be genuine.

Demonstrating the love of Christ goes a long way in helping to convey the message of Christ. These fragile children will certainly receive the Gospel with a different set of "ears" if it comes from someone they know loves them and cares for them. As much as they are loved here at the Family Life Centre, there is a God who loves and cares for them far more deeply than a mere human ever can. The kids must know and understand this, otherwise the Gospel might fall on deaf ears.

Hearts and minds are directly connected. If we want the children to take in the message of salvation through Jesus, it helps if they know we love them and want what's best for them. Salvation is the absolute best thing that we can hope and pray happens for these kids. It's doubtful that the kids will care how much we know about Jesus until they know how much we care for them.

"And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love," – 1 Corinthians 13:13 (NIV)

WOMEN'S ADDICTIONS HEART Recovery Program Charis Centre

BEAUTIFUL LIKE A BUTTERFLY!

By Arlene Klassen,
Recovery Counsellor

Before Garnet arrived at the Charis Centre, she felt as if her life had unraveled and she had fallen into a pit. She felt let down by friends and family who were not there for her. She wondered if her life had value and meaning. She wondered if anyone would even miss her if she wasn't around.

Garnet's outlook on life became hopeless. Life was overwhelming, so Garnet began to find ways to numb her pain. Then her addictions began. She began to self-harm and was left with scars on her arms.

One day, Garnet decided to attend a Bible study at her church at South Indian Lake. Garnet was sketching a butterfly when a lady at the study began to talk about the analogy of the butterfly and transformation in Christ.

Something inside Garnet gave her a glimmer of hope.

Garnet slowly began to take steps to get treatment at Charis Centre. On her first day in treatment, Garnet went to meet her worker and found a butterfly on her door. Then she attended a class and the teacher talked about a butterfly—again Garnet had been sketching a butterfly. Garnet connected the dots and realized this was a sign from God. He was telling her of the hope He brings. Like a cocoon which transforms into a butterfly, she was transforming from a life in a pit into a life of freedom in Christ.

God has given us stories from the Bible of people who literally were rescued from pits. Joseph was thrown into a pit by his own brothers; Daniel was put into a lion's den; Paul & Silas were thrown into jail; Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were bound and thrown into a fiery furnace. God rescued all of them, and He continues to do so today.



Garnet has surrendered her life to God and feels inner peace and joy that only He can bring. She feels beautiful inside like a butterfly. She plans to complete the one-year program. She has a new grateful heart to God and to all the people encouraging her at Charis Centre.

"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." – Romans 12:2 (NKJV)

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

NEEDS LIST



CLOTHING:

- toques
- mittens
- scarves
- sweaters
- socks
- long-johns/long underwear
- boots
- winter jackets
- ski pants

FOOD

- ground beef
- other cuts of beef
- fruits & vegetables
- canned soups
- canned meats
- Kraft Dinner/boxed macaroni & cheese
- milk

Reminder: all meat products have to be from a store or licensed facility

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

GOD MEETS NEEDS

By Marlene Wiebe, Women's Ministry

“And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus. Now to our God and Father be the glory forever and ever. Amen.” – Philippians 4:19-20 (NASB)

Almost every day people come to the door of Family Life Centre with needs, normally for food and clothing. As the temperature gets colder, there are requests for warm clothing, jackets, blankets, pillows and a tarp.

We do our best to meet the needs of the homeless community. We're thankful for the donation of blue jean blankets lined with fuzzy material that provide protection and warmth from the cold at night. We're able to provide warm sweat pants and warm hoodies as donations come in. One man needed XXL size sweat pants and there was one pair waiting here for him. They had been provided through a donation and stored away until there was a request for that exact item—God provided!

We are privileged to be God's hands providing for the physical needs of the people that come to our door, but it is our passion to meet their spiritual needs. We offer love—God's love. A street worker comes by quite often, usually wanting a change of clothes. As I sat beside her asking what her needs were, she said, “You are so kind here.”

Our mandate is to spread God's love, to present the way of salvation through Christ, to share God's Word and to provide spiritual care by listening to and praying for people in need.

MEN'S ADDICTIONS *New Life in Christ Recovery Program*

THE PEACE OF GOD

By Mark Kelm, Senior Chaplain

Richard came into the Men's New Life in Christ Recovery Addictions Program last September. He'd been struggling with an addiction to crystal meth for years, and it had cost him his relationship with his little children

and their mother. When he first came into the program, he was struggling with withdrawal symptoms, which included paranoia and an overwhelming urge to leave the program and just run from everything. He didn't trust anyone and was angry and bitter with God for how his life had fallen apart.

Then a miracle began to happen. After being in the program for a few months, Richard realized, through Bible study classes and counseling from his chaplains, that the only way to real peace in his life was through giving his life to Jesus. He realized that he'd tried everything else this world had to offer and none of it worked. Why not give Jesus a try? Once he'd made this decision to follow Jesus, Richard became less and less selfish as Jesus began to bring peace into his soul. He began to care for the other men in the recovery program more, even advocating for them when they were struggling themselves. He also found comfort in Christ as he grieved over not being able to be with his children. Today Richard has discovered what the apostle Paul calls “the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding” in Philippians 4:7 (NKJV). This has made all the difference for him.

Today Richard is a different person. He has hope, peace and Christ-like love for others. Praise God for how He can change lives for the better!

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



- Missionfest – February 1st, 2nd & 3rd
- Missionfest Youth Night – February 1st
- Promise Keepers – March 8th & 9th
- 204 Youth Rally – March 15th
- MACHS Conference – March 22nd & 23rd
- Winkler Spring Dessert Night – TBA
- Rosenort Spring Dessert Night - TBA

THE RIGHTEOUS

By Nelson Gonzalez, Principal

“For a righteous man may fall seven times and rise again, but the wicked shall fall by calamity.”

— Proverbs 24:16 (NKJV)

As a school, we have witnessed the power of God to protect and restore. Recently one of our students was attacked in the North End, which is where we’re located. He survived a near death experience—an attempted assault, a stabbing, and later an assault which resulted in broken bones. God was there with our dear student and saved him. He fought for his life, but he did not fight alone. God fought for him.

This student has been with us on and off since 2007, trying to graduate from high school. Many things have happened to him in that time. Now he finally graduated in January. We praise God for His salvation, protection, patience and encouragement, which saw him through.

Life has not been easy for him but in God’s name, through Jesus Christ, this student is victorious. God promises that despite all odds, the righteous will live by faith.

We thank you for all your prayers for this school, the staff and students. To God be the glory!



STREET MINISTRY

Drop-in – Chapel
Soup-line – Meals

THE BREAD OF LIFE

By Mark Kelm, Senior Chaplain

John has been coming to the Mission for two years now. He started coming after having lost his wife and children to drug and alcohol addiction. When he first started coming to the chapel services at Union Gospel Mission, he was full of despair and bitterness. He needed a meal and knew he had to attend the chapel services before the meal, so he reluctantly sat through the chapel services. But God started to do something to his heart as time went by and he heard the Gospel being preached week after week. He started to realize that he could no longer trust himself with some of the issues he was facing in his life. He needed to surrender to God and trust Him to work things out for the best. He also realized this meant trying to live a better life by following the teachings of Jesus.

John still struggles with his addiction to drugs and alcohol, but the addictions are wreaking less havoc in his life now. He’s trying to stay away from the people who try to keep him addicted. Misery loves company, so his so-called “friends” want him to keep using drugs with them. The Gospel messages at Union Gospel Mission have helped him to stay away from the people who aren’t good for him and rather seek help from those who want to share the love of Christ with him. He is considering coming into the Men’s New Life in Christ Addiction Recovery Program at Union Gospel Mission so he can continue to find peace and recovery through Christ. May the Lord grant him the strength to do so and may many others follow in his path.

“And Jesus said to them, “I am the Bread of Life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.”
— John 6:35 (NKJV)

CLOTHING TOSS BOX PROGRAM

Toss Box Locations:

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



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