

Voices & Prayer Warriors









Great is thy Faithfulness

BY FRANK ULRICH, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"Therefore know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments." Deuteronomy 7:9 (NKJV)

I am thankful to God that He has been faithful to Union Gospel Mission for 89 years as we just celebrated our anniversary on October 1st. I am so thankful that we have the privilege of sharing the gospel message with men, women and children through our seven ministries. I pray that people struggling with poverty and addiction will come to know Jesus and spend eternity with Him.

Thank you to our Corporation members, Board members, Missionaries, Volunteers and Donors who are all in integral part of the Lord's work.



Divine Appointment

BY ED BULLER

It was a cold and rainy October evening. The day was done for me and it was quitting time. I was exhausted and looking forward to snack and my warm bed. As I walked out of the Mission I literally bumped into a young man. He was barefoot and wearing nothing but shorts and a muscle shirt. Had I left work 5 minutes earlier or later I would have missed this man entirely. I believe in something called divine appointments. This encounter was no accident.

I invited the man (let's call him Ron) inside to warm up for a few minutes and we provided him with a bowl of hot soup. Ron had just moved from Regina to Winnipeg and had no idea where any of Winnipeg's social services were located. That night I listened as Ron told his story of a cross country journey always looking for a home, always looking for hope,

but never finding it before he moved on. Together we joked that he was like the character from "The Littlest Hobo," a TV show we both watched as children.

That night we fed Ron, we allowed Ron to shower, we clothed Ron. We brought him up to speed on what Winnipeg had to offer a young man in his situation. In short, as Jesus commands, we took care of him physically. However, at the same time, because Ron saw our genuine desire to care for him physically, he allowed us to care for him spiritually. As I shared the hope of the gospel with him I saw his eyes grow HUGE!!! "How come no one has ever shared this with me before?" he asked. "I'm sharing it with you now," I said.

That divine appointment and the physical care that you provided by supporting UGM led to a spiritual victory. Ron will join us in Heaven. Thank God for His perfect timing.

Joe

Joe had tried the recovery program at UGM a number of times, but giving his life to the Lord Jesus Christ was something that he struggled with. The thought of trusting his life to God and surrendering everything to Jesus was something he would hold back on every time. He did not want to lose control of his life too much. But then a tragic loss came into his life and he was desperate for peace in the midst of all the grief he was feeling at the death of someone close to him. As a result, all the resistance he had to the gospel fell away and he finally surrendered his life to Jesus. Ever since then. Joe has found the peace he has been looking for all his life and the joy of salvation that on Christ can provide.

Today, Joe has made it through the recovery program and is serving at the Mission. He wants others to know about Jesus and how Christ can bring peace and hope into even the darkest of circumstances. Many of the street guests who come to

the Mission are in seemingly hopeless situations and need the hope that only Jesus can provide. Joe knows through personal experience that this hope is real. One of the passages from the Bible that Joe cherishes is from Hebrews 13:5 where the Lord says, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." After giving his life to Jesus, Joe knows now that Jesus is faithful to this promise and he will never be

alone again.

Breaking the Cycle

BY LORIANN TULK

She works so hard to keep it together. Day after day, the struggle is real and she is not sure where to turn. She knows God loves her, but she does not always feel it. She is not even sure why He would love her because she always feels she is not good enough. Why does this recovery journey keep getting more difficult? Why does she keep slipping? She knows that there are people who want to help but they feel so far from her grasp! The words "I need help" just can't seem to roll off of her tongue when she needs to say those words the most. Who is she? She's a mom, a daughter, a friend. She loves her children so much, she wants better. But she just can't....

Her workers see her struggle. They try to reach out, but she denies that she needs it. "Everything is fine", she says. They know it is not. Her attitude is slipping, she is missing



classes and she looks depressed. They know she is not doing well. They pray for her. They remind her that they are there and that she has support; she just needs to accept the help. They tell her to start to talk about the trauma, because without dealing with it, she cannot heal. She denies the trauma. Everything is fine! Until that day when she can no longer hold it together. Once again, she relapses. The drugs have taken over and once again the addiction is controlling her life. Once again, she is at the bottom looking up, knowing that she's starting over.

This is the reality of many of the women that enter into our program. Despite their best efforts, they become overwhelmed with life and find themselves at the bottom again. As we care for these ladies and invest in them, this process is difficult to watch. We see their potential; we hear about the demons they face every day; we hear the hurt and the pain; we know of the nightmare that they have lived.

The answer to the struggle is Jesus. No matter what the circumstances that we face in life, no matter the difficulty, Jesus is there to walk beside us, to go before us and to defend! He is our strength. We pray that the residents at Charis learn to give Jesus the brokenness and allow Him into the process of healing.

Psalms 147:3-4 says, "He heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds. He determines the number of stars and calls them each by name" (NIV)

Please Pray for Charis Centre:

- Our residents recovery process
- Wisdom and discernment for staff
- A growing relationship with Christ for our residents
- Children of our residents who are in care and healing from trauma that they've experienced
- List of residents:

 Nicole, Angela, Angelica,
 Martha, Mandy, Danielle, Holly,
 Taryn, Daphne, Darlene, Raven,
 Mikki, Natalie, Amber, Kathy,
 Carly, Tara, Victoria, Ashley,
 Melanie

christian school program Adopt-a-Student

BY GILBERT PLANTE, FAMILY MINISTRIES MANAGER

I was entering the Family Life Centre the other day when the Pritchard School students happened to be walking by. I'm not sure as to where they were off to, however, my heart was filled with joy as I watched these little image bearers of our Lord walk by. As each student came closer, they called me by name, and some ran over to give me a hug. I reminded each one how much Jesus loves them.

I hope the teachers and the aids were not annoyed with me taking up so much valuable time loving on these little ones. When I finally made it to my office, my thoughts went to where these children would be in 20 or 30 years from now? If the rapture doesn't come first, sadly, the reality is that some could be incarcerated, some may die violently, while prayerfully, many will lead a productive Christian life.

For some of these little ones, the Christian School Program is the only Godly influence they will ever receive. Over the 12 years of service, I have done many home visits and there have been occasional times that I have left the homes asking our Lord for a divine intervention. There have been other times I have left home visits. thanking the Lord for the beautiful work He is doing in the entire family. Since the implementation of this ministry, countless visits have been made, many students have come and gone, and numerous lives have been changed dramatically and eternally. I have said many times that I believe that I have the best job in the world! To God be all the glory!!

"I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live."

Deuteronomy 30:19 (NKJV)

Following are prayer requests from the teachers for some of the sponsored students. You will notice a lot of similarity in the requests; it seems the common theme in one of the classrooms is that the children are struggling with not getting their way.

- Kadence having a very difficult time adjusting to school, everything is difficult for him.
- Holden having trouble adjusting to not getting his way.
- Dominic having trouble adjusting to not getting his way, prayer for a better family environment at home.
- José having trouble adjusting to not getting his way.
- Emily for her to be healthy, to be able to come to school every day and to have the desire to learn.
- Memphis that he will be able to regulate his moods and for his parents to have to have wisdom in parenting.
- Jerome for his parents to spend quality family time with him and that he will get the help he needs.
- Princess after two years of school online, she is struggling being in a classroom environment for the first time; she has a lot to catch up on.



Faithful Volunteer

BY DANIEL GLAWATZKI, OPERATIONS MANAGER

I would like to recognize our faithful volunteer, Dave Fleck.

Dave is in his 70's. He is a peaceful soul. He comes to the Mission very early every morning and faithfully volunteers 5 days a week. For years, he drove our big truck for hours to collect clothing from our donation bins, covering areas such as Winkler, Morden, Grunthal, Gladstone, Steinbach, and Riverton. His heart for the Lord has blessed so many people!

The Bible talks about discipling others and that is exactly what he did with one of our young missionaries. Yes, it talks about spiritual discipleship and it can easily be brushed off that 'training' someone else to drive the truck is not considered "spiritual", BUT IT IS in the Lord's eye! Enabling and training someone else to collect clothing and food, where faithful

supporters give to the Mission, is discipleship, training and love in action!

We are thankful for Dave and the many years he has served and still serves at the Mission! Please pray for Dave and his health.

FLC WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Come, Let us Return

BY MARLENE WIEBE

Rose was born on the trap line in northern Ontario. She had to leave her home to go to school and ended up in a foster care. She was not allowed to go back to her people until she became an adult. When she did go back at age 19, she says, "No one remembered me." Being separated from her family was a very painful experience

After much relational and financial hardship, she came to Winnipeg and got work here.

Rose used alcohol to cope with life. Rose first came to Family Life Centre in 1978.

In 1985 she was tired of the turmoil of life and wanted to end her life. In her despair she prayed, "Jesus, if You are real, I want to know." She fell asleep and awoke in peace without the after effects alcohol usually had on her. Her life was changed. In 2001 she sought out her husband who abandoned her and told him, "I forgive you."

Rose attends FLC faithfully. She is getting older and experiencing the discomfort and pain that comes with aging. Her back has been very painful lately, along with other joints, especially her hip/knee are ailing her. She graduated from a cane to a Cadillac (walker).

One day we had a chat about going to church. We all know that the government forced churches to close during the pandemic and Rose had not been attending.

She said, "The Lord brought Hosea 6:1 to my mind. I thought Hosea only had 3 chapters, but I better check it out. After I did, I thought I better get back to church."

Hosea 6:1 says, "Come, let us return to the Lord; for He has torn, but He will heal us; He has stricken, but He will bind us up."

What a wonderful promise from our loving Heavenly Father. He remained faithful to the people of Israel and He is faithful to His children who trust in the Lord as Savior. All glory and praise to the LORD God Almighty!

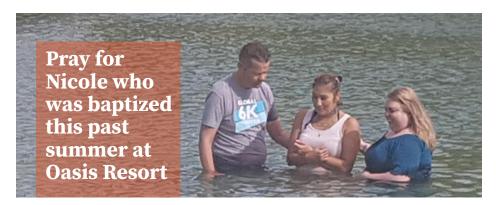
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Secure Trust

BY RON ALBO, CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

When children first attend Kid's Club, a question is posed to them. "Do you believe in God?" In all but a few cases, the answer is a resounding "yes." That is a wonderful and overwhelming majority. Believing in God is essential in the introduction of these voung ones to Jesus Christ. After all. many of the kids who attend here have only heard the name of Jesus when someone becomes angry, or sustains a minor injury. They need to know the magnitude of who Jesus really is and the importance of the grace He offers. It's up to us to give them the greatest news the universe has ever known; Jesus came to save us. Jesus died for our sins!

For some children it is essential to gain their trust before they can trust what we teach. They have to know we love and care for them. The other day a very young girl



spilled her snack. It was obvious she was in fear of possible dreadful consequences. Even after being assured it was okay and being offered a new snack, the girl was still shaken and on the verge of tears. (You have to wonder what goes on in her home when even minor mistakes are made.) But, it became an opportunity to show genuine compassion to her. This can be a big step in gaining her trust. After all, if she can trust us with all our flaws, when we tell her about Jesus, then she will know she can trust in Jesus. who is perfect. She can believe the greatest news of all time.

"And those who know Your name will put their trust in You. For you, Lord, have not forsaken those who seek you." Psalm 9:10

"....the word of the Lord endures forever. Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you." 1 Peter 1:25

Please pray for these children coming to Kid's Clubs:

- Please pray that the following children will obtain a desire to learn more about Jesus, and the love He has for them: Delila....Alyza....Angelica.... Telicia....Violet....Arielle.... Sophia....Cora.
- Pray as well for both Sophia and Cora, for increased patience and listening during the daily Bible lesson.

Prayer requests from Family Life Centre Ladies

- Anni has a new baby, dealing with addiction and housing issues
- Cheri, Desie, Jenny, Linda, Lori, Marcie, Natalie, Rean - for victory over addiction to drugs and alcohol through surrender to the Lord Jesus Christ and the power of His might.
- Jane for safety in her home and healing of injuries.
- Jeri for the Lord to take care of the child I will never meet and to take the pain I went through away.
- For the family of Pelagie who passed away this summer, her daughters and granddaughters attend Family Life Centre and are grieving.
- Glena in need of a home that is safe and secure.

"Is that all you got?" - A Challenge, not a Criticism

Is it okay to be vulnerable to you and share a little of how we interact with one another when we find circumstances so sad and moving?

There are times, many times when we feel inadequate. We want to meet the needs we see but we not always can.

One such Monday morning, a missionary was attending the office at the door, we call the 'Bubble'.

The experience of serving those who came to our front door on Princess Street is herewith shared. It is a copy of an email sent and the desire that we pray into the lives of those named.

The question (see subject) posed me when looking at what I was handing out at the door, resonated with me, when I went to 'meet' the needs of those who rang the bell.

When, independent of one another, Christina, Deborah and Tracey asked for women's underwear and socks, I wanted to have some in the Bubble to give them. Instead I had to say "we should be able to help you at 2 p.m. Drop in." I would like to think that in their discomfort in asking, UGM could meet that need from within the office? Instead they went away empty handed. (We don't get it right every time.)

When 'Ermius' came to the door with hands outstretched, he revealed a hand with 4 fingers missing. Frostbite? (Oh, that our Lord will have mercy on him and restore his hand, and save his soul.) Brought me to tears. (Is that all I got...!?)

When Bradley came to the door, I felt he should have been invited in, and prayed for.

Garth (1 leg) I have seen before, with his friend (wife?), Sandy . Always want bread... thin, gaunt.

Austin, Kelly (again and again), James, Alfred, lost souls.

Clifton, looked like he hadn't bathed in months.

"Is this all you got?"

NO—we have Jesus. ALL we got is JESUS...He is ALL. How do we better serve? Our ALL is theirs and our-EVERYTHING. There is no question, we have ALL....His name is Jesus"

We are Family

Every year we receive many notes from our beautiful supporters. Some are written on scraps of paper, some are written in very shaky hand, but all convey the love of Jesus.

We care and reciprocate prayers for all of you. Here follows a sampling of what is said:

- 1) "From the time I moved to Steinbach in 1961 I have called myself a home missionary. I started to support people around the whole world for at least a dozen countries, but I am going to have to stop, as I am 98 years old soon, and my heart will stop sometime. I will KEEP ON PRAYING. I will still send \$25 a little bit now yet but maybe soon I will rest in heaven."
- 2) From Ontario: "My parents pass along their copy of Voices from the Street and I recently read your spring issue. What a blessing to read the reports. To be a little more connected, I'm enclosing a gift"

towards the "life changing programs of UGM."

- 3) "I thank God for your ministry and PRAY for God's continued blessing. May He give wisdom and guide you in these increasingly difficult days. A few months ago, my dear wife passed away. My soul mate and PRAYER Warrior. Trying to adjust to a new chapter. I want to continue to PRAY for your ministry, trusting that God will use this work to bring a bountiful harvest."
- 4) From Morden: "We keep PRAYING for you all that you will stay healthy as you serve the lost and needy."
- 5) "I gave what I can. I PRAY for your family at UGM. I am 89, my husband 91. We are not well but we love the Lord. Thank you."
- 6) From 2020: "As a senior I recently received a \$200 cheque from the province of MB. Premier Pallister suggested that anyone who has no real need of it should donate it to a charity.....so here it is!"
- 7) "I have been reading your mail outs for years. We have a little boy in our home through the foster care system. He came to us when he was 4 weeks old and he turns 5 this spring. Praise the Lord for the opportunity to pour the love of Jesus into his life. Your ministry tugs at my heart strings because there are so many that have not heard the gospel. Life has left them in unfortunate circumstances. I PRAY your ministry will successfully give that 'leg up' that they need."

Adult Education

Principal Gerald Dahl at Faith Learning Centre is thankful for the hard work of staff this last month.

- "Please pray for me as I assume full time Principal duties this October 12th.
- Please pray for staff and students as they teach/learn - that we might give the Lord thanks for all that He shows us."

N.B. For context, FLC began the school year with just one full time teacher, Leah. She was trying to cover for 3 roles after 2 unexpected departures; what a trooper. We were excited that God quickly provided us with Gerald as our new principal, and more recently, Lisa as math teacher. We also thank God for the interim contributions of Vanessa and Cassie as they dedicated time to FLC during a transitional period. Praise God!

Carel with our guest Suzie





Carel teaching class

"It's all about Him - Jesus"

Humbled wherever we turn. What a God we serve!

The fall has been an incredible blessing so far.

We got to serve Jesus, in person.

Whether it was a dessert evening in Altona, Gladstone or Winkler. Whether a first ever Youth Night, or a double banquet in Winnipeg, it was All About Him, Jesus.

What a blessing. Men and women shared the redemptive work God is doing in their lives. Prayers were said. The Word was shared. Songs of praise were sung.

Oh, how we desire to honour Jesus. How we desired to thank each one of you for your gracious support. Kind sponsors abounded. Generous donors funded matching dollars. Of a budget of approx. \$3.5 million, we have been blessed with a mighty 10% of that number. Thank you. Thank you each one who gave.

Then, simultaneously to all this, we launched our new video "It's all about Him - Jesus".

We are humbled. Beyond the giving, is the interest, the involvement, and the PRAYERS that each one of you brings to the feet of Jesus. How we covet the PRAYERS of the saints. No monetary value can be placed on that of PRAYER! Incalculable. Thank you all so very much. All glory be to God.

Please pray for recovering addicts who share the power of Jesus... the enemy doesn't like it: Shaun, Paul, Arthur, Rob, Joe (front page, top right), Danielle and Nicole specifically. Also pray as we seek to replace our wonderful day chaplain Carel, who has moved to Victoria. He was much loved by the street folk.



Carel with Paul, Arthur and Shaun



- See and hear evidence of lives impacted by our Saviour.
- Please reflect on scripture: Proverbs 19:17, Mark 10:21, 1 Samuel 12:26, John 12:26 "Whoever serves me must follow me:..."
- · Consider inviting others to share the viewing experience with you.

Link to YouTube at: www.gospelmission.ca

If you do not have internet access call 204-943-9904 ext. 226 to reserve a DVD copy.



Dedicating in prayer our new illuminating signage at the corner of Higgins and Princess. Here the word of God is shared on a revolving basis.

Can you help with **Christmas Gift Bags?**

We love to bless our guests who come to our Annual Community Christmas Dinner. If you would like to contribute, we are looking for gift bags for 250 men and 200 ladies.

Some ideas for filling these gift bags:

- Tooth paste/brush
- Brush/comb
- Razors/shaving cream Toques
- Deodorant
- Shampoo

- Socks
- Mitts/gloves
- - Bible
 - Christian book

Please label the bag to indicate if it is for a MAN or WOMAN. These gift bags can be dropped of at 320 Princess St. by Dec. 20.

Employment Opportunity

Faith Learning Centre (Adult Ed) requires a 0.25 Science Teacher.

This position is currently scheduled for 2:00-3:30 pm daily at 220 Pritchard Street.

For further details and to apply, go to: www.gospelmission.ca/ get-involved/ employment

Follow UGM on social media:



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Union Gospel Mission Winnipeg

Donations to Union Gospel Mission can be mailed to: P.O. Box 1073, STN Main, Winnipeg, MB R3C 2X4

Spending of funds is confined to Board Approved Programs and Purchases. Each gift that is 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 tax purposes.