



Spring Banquets

Our spring banquets are coming soon. This is a time to enjoy a complimentary meal, with great music, warm fellowship, and an exciting report of how God is working through Union Gospel Mission. Please join us and bring along a friend. Tickets are available at your church or by calling the Mission at 943-9904. Locations and dates are as follows:

Blumenort Evangelical Mennonite Church

326-1644
Friday, April 17th at 6:30pm

Winkler Maranatha Community Church

325-0892
Friday, April 24th at 6:30pm

CFAM
Radio 950
Altona

AM 1250
Steinbach

CJRB
Radio 1220
Boissevain

Listen to Program of Hymns, Monday - Friday from 3:00 -4:00 PM

UGM is sponsoring **"The Story Teller"**, a 15 minute radio program of testimonies by Native Christians. We want Native people all over Manitoba to hear about hope in Jesus. The program is on the secular Native radio network (NCI) which covers 97% of Manitoba. Three of the radio stations are Selkirk (105.5 FM), Swan Lake (90.5 FM) and Minnedosa (91.5 FM).

Please encourage your Native friends to listen on Sundays at 9:15 am. And your heart would also be blessed.

HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

Every Sunday afternoon a dramatized story of redemption called 'Unshackled' is broadcast twice in Manitoba.

Hear it at 1pm on CKJS and at 5pm on Steinbach, Altona and Boissevain.

Please pray that God would provide a corporate sponsor to help us continue to bring this exciting radio drama to Manitoba.

Union Gospel Mission
PHONE 204-943-9904
EMAIL rescue@gospelmission.ca
MAILING ADDRESS: PO Box 1073
Stn. Main, Winnipeg, MB R3C 2X4
LOCATED AT: 320 Princess

Gregory Stetski
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Tina LaBelle
VOLUNTEERS COORDINATOR

Ron Robertson
MINISTRIES MANAGER

Family Life Centre
PH: 204-586-7790
240 PRITCHARD AVE. R2W 2J1

Len McKelvey
PUBLIC RELATIONS
MANAGER & EDITOR
204-998-5528

Christian Education Centre
220 PRITCHARD AVE. R2W 2J1

Don Amell
PUBLIC RELATIONS
204-338-2881

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.



"To open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, in order that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me." Acts 26:18

Voices From the Street

SPRING 2009

My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?



As He hung dying on the cross, this was Christ's anguished cry to His Father. How could God turn his back on His own Son at such a time of agony? The penalty for sin had to be paid, and Jesus paid the price. **"He made Him who knew no sin to become sin on our behalf."** On the third day Christ rose from the grave. **"Death has been swallowed up in victory."**

Salvation through faith in Christ is the message we present

to the lonely, tired and neglected people in the core area of the city.

On Saturday, April 11th, we will be serving an **Easter Dinner** at the Mission, and expect 400 guests to attend. Along with the meal, we will be providing each guest with a special **Easter Message**, delivered through a half hour Easter Service. We are in need of volunteers to help make this possible. If you feel led to help, please call Tina at 943-9904.

God's Persisting Love—

“I will not leave you or forsake you.”

by **Vida Bend**



I WAS AT the corner of Selkirk Avenue and Main Street, waiting for a bus, when I spotted one of our women with

in her home, usually bringing with me one of our own ladies who spoke her language. We would sing, read Scriptures and have prayer together. On Joan's birthday I rounded up a birthday cake, and two of my visitation partners, and we went to her home and blessed her.

A few weeks later I was shocked to hear the news that her daughter had come and moved her to another province. There had been no indication of this at our last visit.

Through a series of “God” happenings over a number of months, I was able to reach her by phone. When she realized who was calling, her voice started breaking up and she said, “Vida, you never did give up on me.” Joan is still struggling with alcohol, but was touched that someone was concerned about her. She is now attending a Bible study on her home reserve, and is visited on a regular basis by a local pastor and his wife.

her purchase from a nearby liquor store. When Joan (not her real name) saw me, she tried to maneuver her wheelchair as fast as she could in the opposite direction. Embarrassed and discouraged, she said, “Vida, just give up on me,” to which I replied, “God won't give up on you and neither will we. We'll never give up on you.” Joan had met God many years before this, and had been nurtured over the years through the different ministries of Union Gospel Mission, but had become enslaved again with alcohol. After her mobility became more limited, I had continued to visit

A Growth Journey

“...but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”

by **Ramona Lee**



I FIRST MET Pamela, (not her real name), over four years ago, in my early months as the Administrative Assistant, at

UGM's Adult Education Centre, where she was a student.

I now see how God has used this relationship for each of us to grow in our walk with Him.

She was a new Christian who had come out of a lifestyle of drugs and crime, and most of the people that she had previously associated with were hardened criminals. I did not look forward to our daily encounters at the school, as she was bossy, pushy,

and insensitive to the feelings of others. I gradually got to know Pamela on a personal level.

It did not happen over night, but in the course of time over four years. The Lord began to knit our hearts in love, and in His Spirit. I have witnessed her take leaps of faith with decisions, and choosing to do what would please the Lord, and having a concern for those who did not know Christ. I have observed her suffer tragic loss, and find strength in the Saviour.

I have told my husband a few times, “This is not the girl I met four years ago”, and she and I laugh about it now. I can't express how much joy it brings to my heart to have Pamela join a small group Bible study in our home.

LITTLE MIRACLE

We had a little 'miracle' as we reserved air tickets for two of our missionaries going to a training meeting. Someone had just merged their air miles account into UGM's, and we received over ten thousand air miles. We used half of them and saved one thousand dollars! Please call Diana at 943-9904 to discover how to merge your air miles to UGM. Thank you.

Change in our Women's Ministry

FOR THE PAST six years we have been blessed at the Family Life Centre to have Vida Bend as our Women's Ministry Leader. Vida is now retiring so she can move back to Alberta, and spend more time with her children and grandchildren. Vida is much loved by all



the staff and volunteers, and the women she has ministered to over the years. May the Lord bless her richly, as she continues to serve Him.

Ramona Lee will be our new Women's Ministry Leader at the Family Life Centre.

Ramona worked four years as the Administrative Assistant at our Adult Education Centre, and after a six month leave, she is returning to help minister to the area women. Ramona and her husband have two sons and live in the north end.

WINDOW ON WOMEN'S WORK

We explored the option of leasing a building to begin the Women's Addiction Centre. A businessman was willing to buy the building we want and lease it to us. However, our Board Executive has concluded we must own the building. We do not want to pay monthly lease costs.

Please keep praying as we wait for God to provide the funds to purchase the building. The wait is much harder for the women and children caught in addictions. The bottle of tears is growing.