



UGM SPRING BANQUETS

Blumenort - Friday, April 16, 6:30 pm, at Blumenort Evangelical Mennonite Church
Winkler - Friday, April 30, 6:30 pm, at Winkler Maranatha Community Church

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This year our AGM will be held on Saturday, February 27, at the new Women's Addiction Centre, 271 Archibald St. Breakfast will be served at 9 am, followed by a tour at 10 am, and the meeting at 10:30 am.

EASTER DINNER - Saturday, April 3

Needs: ham, potatoes, pasta, mixed frozen vegetables, raisins and **VOLUNTEERS**.

CANNING HUNGER

Canning hunger is truly amazing. It serves a twofold purpose. First, it gives churches a simple yet powerful way to reach their neighbours for Christ. Second, it gives UGM a supply of food. Every church can benefit greatly from this program. Please call Len McKelvey or Don Amell, at 943-9904, to explore the possibilities.



You can read all about it at... <http://neighborhoodconnections.info>

NOTE FOR INVESTORS: Union Gospel Mission has opened an investment account to receive donations of securities at a national investment firm. UGM issues the charitable receipt for the value of the investment when it is received, then sells the investment and realizes the proceeds. If you would like to pursue this stewardship opportunity further, please feel free to contact us. Thank you.

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

Listen to "Unshackled" Sunday at 5:00 pm



Altona



Steinbach



Boissevain

Union Gospel Mission
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Family Life Centre
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Christian Education Centre
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Women's Addiction Centre
271 Archibald St. R2J 0W5

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Join us on Facebook & Twitter for daily updates

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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.



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

Voices FROM THE STREET WINTER 2010

Being a Friend of Jesus

by Nelson Gonzalez
Principal-Faith Learning Centre

"There is a Friend who sticks closer than a brother."

A YOUNG MAN had attended our adult education program at Faith Learning Centre a few years ago. He knew that there would be devotionals, Bible reading, prayer and the like in our school. He wanted an education, but not a relationship with Jesus. It came to our attention that this student was having problems outside of school. As time went by he started missing classes, and finally dropped out of school. He recently contacted me because he wanted to once again enroll in our school. As I met with him, and discussed the program for him to finish high school, he started sharing how in the past two years he came to know Jesus as his Lord and Saviour. He

added that his relationship with his relatives has improved. He also mentioned that he just happened to hear from a cousin whom he had wanted to see for many months to discuss some issues. When his cousin came to visit him, his cousin shared how he too had found Jesus. Now this young man wants to participate in everything that we do as Christian people at Faith Learning Centre.

Adult Education Principal Nelson



ADULT EDUCATION



A happy student with her Christmas gift.

The Gift of Giving

by Ron Robertson,
FLC Ministries Manager

EVERYONE LOVES A PRESENT and Christmas is a time of giving. A time when we get together to exchange gifts with family and friends. It is also the time when God gave to us His greatest gift, the Lord Jesus Christ. We accept and exchange that gift when we, as the Macedonians did in 2 Cor. 8:5, first give ourselves to the Lord. It is all about giving.

One day, 3 years ago, I received a call from a lady inquiring to the need of children's Christmas gifts. We eventually decided on gifts for the children in the Pritchard School, and the gifts were delivered on time for the class parties.

The next year about the same time the phone rang, and the question was asked, "Are you in need of children's gifts?" I couldn't believe my ears. One year had passed with no contact, and then the phone call. Once again the gifts were delivered just in time for the class parties.

A number of years ago, God had blessed this young lady with a daughter of her own. This year the phone rang with the same question, and the gifts again were delivered. This time the mother and daughter were the delivery team. She shared that her daughter had entered into the joy of giving. Each year as the gifts were exchanged, that joy was transferred to the faces of the children. This family had found the truth of Jesus' words, "It is more blessed to give than to receive".

"Thanks be to God for His indescribable Gift!"

"... let the little children come to me ..."

by Jordan Penner
Children and Youth Ministry Leader

IN A WORLD FULL OF UNCERTAINTY and instability, it is comforting to know that there is an ever-faithful God, who loves and cares for us. Just before our annual Christmas Celebration that we put on for our Explore! club kids and their families, I was reminded of that faithfulness. The temperature had dropped below -30 and it was time to hand deliver the invitations. I thought, "Who's going to leave their warm house to come to our celebration?" Despite the cold, we handed out the invites. Suddenly, the day of the event, the weather warmed up to what was quite warm for December. We had a number of families show up, and had a great time celebrating the birth of our Savior.

Unfortunately, I find it too easy to forget the faithfulness of God. I begin to think that the effectiveness of our ministry is dependent on how well things are planned and

SUMMER CAMPING
Last year, 60 Winnipeg churches located underprivileged children in their area that UGM sponsored to Bible camps. We invite even more churches to join with us this year. Please call Whitney at 586-7790. Thank you!



Explore Club Kids

performed. What anxiety and stress accompanies such foolish thinking. God simply asks for our presence. If we are present in the lives of hurting families, demonstrating the Gospel, we have done what God has asked.

Perhaps God is asking you to be present in Winnipeg's north end. We are always in need of volunteers. You may feel that you are the wrong person for this ministry, under-experienced and unskilled, but it is only your presence that God requires. In 1 Cor.3:5, we are reminded, it is "God who gives the increase."

The Gift of Giving

by Cyril DeCoursey
Acting Senior Chaplain

NEW YEAR'S DAY was bitterly cold. No sitting on the grass waiting for the Lord to multiply the loaves and fishes. A turkey dinner, and all the fixings had been advertised, and so it should be.

The doors were opened at 11:00 am, and all were greeted with hot chocolate or coffee, served by an army of volunteers. Those coming for the dinner were first invited to the chapel to be fed on God's Word, and to leave their needs and petitions for our volunteer warriors to pray over. Three times this scene took place: 3 services, 3 offerings for prayer requests, and 3 invitations for people to commit or recommit their lives to Christ.

Each chapel service was followed by a sumptuous meal.

"That service was one of the best I've attended."

Guests at the New Years Day Dinner



"I enjoyed that speaker. He makes me think. He tells it like it is."

"You can tell he's sincere, and that he cares."

"I felt God was in that service."

All these comments came from different people as they left.

Nor were there any complaints about the food. It was hot, on time, and hit the spot. As each person left they were presented with a gift bag, with most including a New Testament. All this was possible because "you and you" each know your part in bringing the love of God to those 300 plus people who attended UGM on New Year's Day.

There were the many volunteers who were part of the kitchen staff, clean-up crew, prayer group and crowd control. Many of you sent incredible gift bags and boxes of gifts, donations of money, turkeys, and everything else that goes into sharing Christ with others.

God bless you all. Continue to pray for the 14 people who accepted the Lord on New Year's Day.

"Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

"He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit, and fire."

by Susan Kukkonen, Case Worker
Women's Addiction Recovery Centre

FIRE ... Doesn't that word ignite something in your soul? Maybe the thought of a crackling fire with a cup of hot chocolate warms your spirit?

In my case, one aspect of my job includes putting out fires. My residence 40 hours a week is the new Women's Addiction Recovery Centre, and it is here that I am actively involved in quenching the fires that erupt because of heartache and pain.

I have the privilege of working with 6 beautiful women, who come from a variety of pasts, but who present as individuals desiring God's intervention in their lives. It is a testimony to me of the human spirit and the knowledge that there is something better ahead-God's healing and restoration.

We know that God, who created them, has something wonderful for these women. He has brought them to us in their pain,

and asked us to love, encourage, pray, uplift, and more often than not, "help put out the fires".

The next few weeks will tell a new tale. We are expecting 6 more women to come into the center, and then there will be even more fires to put out. But we have God's Holy Spirit resting on this place, within these walls, and on those who work here.

This is the fire that we hope to ignite in each woman's soul. A fire that can't be quenched, and will grow stronger each day, as God Himself becomes a clearer reality to each woman that finds herself here.

We invite you to pray that each of our precious women receives that all consuming fire, Jesus Himself, and that she will receive the power she needs to extinguish all the fires that threaten her life.

Case Worker Susan with resident.



CONTEST

We are looking for a name for our new women's addiction program/building. Please send your suggestion to contest@gospelmission.ca, or to our mailing address. There will be a prize, and the name will be announced at our Grand Opening on May 1st.

VAN/BUS
We now are in need of a 15 passenger van or small bus. Please call Jeff at 943-9904, if you can help.



Marc leading Overcomers In Christ Meeting

“He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

by Marc Soucy
Casual Supervisor

I'M A FORMER RESIDENT

from the Addictions Recovery Program at UGM. I now work and volunteer at the Mission. I have the great privilege to explain how the OverComers in Christ meetings work at UGM. Every Tuesday & Thursday at 6 pm the men gather downstairs in the classroom to study one of the 12 OverComers goals. Each goal leads us into God's Word, where we can start replacing the lies we have believed with the Truth. Christ's victory over sin on the cross provides the foundation for recovery. Sinful behavior is simply an attempt to meet our needs elsewhere other than in Christ. We overcome life-controlling habits to the extent that we find our deepest needs met in Him. Recovery begins when we become God's child, but it does not end there. Genuine recovery is only possible

as we allow Christ on the throne in our lives. Surrendering to the Lord gives Him His rightful place at the center of all we think and do. Anything less holds us back from the purpose for which God created us. These recovery meetings are a safe place to come and talk about our problems.

In the past I believed that drugs, alcohol and gambling were my problem, but they were only the temporary solution to my problem. My main problem is sin, and our Savior Jesus is the only one that can take care of that problem for me. So running to the drugs, alcohol and gambling was not the solution. It just temporarily numbed the sin, which was in control of my life.

Now as I continue to yield to the Holy Spirit on a daily basis, and work the goals into my life, Jesus continues to deliver freedom from the temporary solutions in my life. We gratefully reach out by sharing the message of victory through Christ.

“Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who delights greatly in His commandments. His descendants will be mighty on earth; the generation of the upright will be blessed.”

by Ramona Lee
Women's Ministry Leader

EVERY YEAR IN DECEMBER, Faith Academy Pritchard School puts on a Christmas program. The staff of the Family Life Centre always commits to attend. It's an opportunity for us to connect with the parents we may not have met.

I was so fascinated with many aspects of the Christmas Program! The children were excited with their commitment to a part in the program. The school has students from kindergarten to grade 4. I sat there, impressed with their levels of reading, and wonderful display of confidence in what they were doing.

So why, you may be wondering, is the Women's Ministry Leader writing about Faith Academy Pritchard School? I am a mother with two sons who attended a Christian school most of their school years. Watching the Christmas program, my heart said AMEN! While looking at these little faces I thought “These children have a real opportunity at life! They could make it!” Walking with God, the possibilities are endless.

Thinking about a new year with the ladies' ministries, I am encouraged we can still raise children for God. His descendants will be mighty on the earth; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Ramona with two of the Grandmas

