



STRAIGHT

FROM THE STREET

Pastor: Rev. Rick Chapman
Pastoral Associate: Sister Marion Garneau
Pastoral Associate: Ms. Linda Winski

A NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS OF INNER CITY PASTORAL MINISTRY

February 2009

Reflections of 2008

By Pastor Rick Chapman+



The Happy Crowd: ICPM Emmanuel Christmas Lunch

Let me share with you some highlights of 2008 since the last Annual General Meeting of the Inner City Pastoral Ministry March 27, 2008, hosted by Christ Church Anglican.

Highlights began at the AGM meeting with the theological reflection of the Rev. Kathy Hogman, President of the Edmonton United Church Presbytery. Kathy spoke of the plight of Aboriginal people in regards to Residential Schools. Kathy shared some of her experience of dealing with persons affected by this schooling

while serving the United Church in Port Alberni, BC. Kathy shared that “resurrection” in the context of healing and reconciliation is not a theological construct but a living action of God’s spirit bringing wholeness to harmed individuals and a return to right relations within the community.

Sunday Lunch Ministry

Sunday by Sunday, 52 weeks of the year, the ICPM Worship and Sunday Lunch Ministry continues within the Emmanuel Community Church. Churches and faith community

members continue to offer their resources and service to enable this ministry amongst the inner city community; food for the body, food for the spirit. Thank you for your cheerful and willing support.

During the Christmas Season, members of Edmonton’s synagogues and the Arab Jewish Women’s Peace Coalition assist ICPM with the lunch at a time when the churches are very busy with the season’s celebrations. I thank Netta Phillet of the Edmonton Interfaith Centre for being the organizer of this wonderful support.

Before leaving the mention of the Sunday Lunch Ministry, I cannot but be very, very thankful for the work and ministry of Sharon Webb, St. Matthew’s Anglican Church, for being the Sunday Lunch coordinator. Sharon lines up the churches for the

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Mayor Mandel helps serve lunch.

Reflections continued...

year, assists in the Fall Contact Workshop and is a loyal ICPM Board member. Thank you Sharon.

Move to a New Office

In September 2008, ICPM moved its office to the newly renovated Bissell Centre East. We were given a real welcome and tremendous support at Bissell by Shelley Williams, the Director, and Marilyn Fleger and Judy Waselenchuk, Managers. We already feel very much at home at the Bissell Centre as we share with Bissell staff and Aboriginal Elders the work and ministry within the inner city community and amongst the homeless.

Anniversary Celebrations

30th Anniversary celebrations in 2008 need highlighting! Celebrations began at the AGM with prayer and worship; celebration continued through the year. Fall events included a special service of celebration that included a sit down lunch and a clown with special skills at twisting balloons. Later in the year we held a "30th Anniversary Tea" for Bissell and agency staff. Thank you Sister Marion and the 30th Anniversary Committee for working out all the celebration details!

Educational Conferences Planned

During 2008 preliminary planning set the platform for two educational conferences planned for 2009, entitled: Gathering 2 "Kanata / Canada" hosted by the United Church, April 23, 24, and a "Homelessness Conference" - Key note Speaker - Dr. Murray Mac Adam, Social Justice Consultant, Diocese of Toronto, October 15-17. The "Gathering" is designed to engage spiritual and community leaders of Aboriginal and "Canada" heritage in

what is being described as "a return to right relations."

The "Homelessness Conference" is designed to educate faith leaders regarding the continuing concerns regarding homelessness and to explore ways that enable the faith community to advocate for change. I am excited about these conferences as ICPM partners with Aboriginal leadership and the faith community to bring about these events!

Appeal for Support

In 2008, three appeals were made to supporting churches, church organizations and individuals.

The first was the request for financial support to purchase ICPM 30th Anniversary crosses. Through contributing churches and individuals we were able to purchase 1500 crosses of which over 1200 were given out within the community in 2008. Thank you!



Grateful Community Member.

Christmas Sack Appeal

Second, our annual Emmanuel Christmas Sack appeal, received over 1000 lovely gifts sacks for distribution within the inner city. Mitts, scarves, toques, toiletries and seasonal treats

filled the sacks to overflowing. Sue, a new ICPM Board member, from Mt. Olivet, Lutheran, eased greatly the workload involved in the "2008 Christmas Sack Campaign" by taking on the job of Christmas Sack Coordinator. Thank you Sue! The Christmas Sacks were distributed to the community during our Christmas services, through the various agencies we visit and continue to be distributed to the many who visit us in the office.

Thirdly, financial contributions to ICPM in response to our newsletter, E-file news, and our annual Christmas appeal were heartening. Your donations, financial or in kind, are essential in support of the ICPM "ministry of presence" amongst the people suffering homelessness and poverty within the inner city of Edmonton. Thank you!

The ICPM continues into 2009 as "an interdenominational Christian ministry of presence. In partnership with community, and guided by the Spirit of God, we walk with the people of the Inner City of Edmonton." The pastoral team builds solid pastoral relations with the people of the inner city. We visit and minister amongst the people of the inner city through our presence in agencies, drop ins, shelters, transition houses, Remand Centres, Federal Prisons, the city's hospitals, on the streets and in the home. We thank you for your prayerful support for the Ministry Team and the ICPM Board that enables this ministry in the coming year! Thank you!

Sunday Lunch Program

Having taken up the position of Sunday Lunch Program Coordinator, I must say that 2008 has been a very interesting year, somewhat challenging at times, but overall a great experience.

Some statistics regarding the lunches served at the ICPM Sunday Lunch at the Bissell Centre this past year:

- Ninety one (91) different churches have participated this past year and we have ninety three (93) booked already for 2009.



Dorothy & Christine—Long time Friends

- Of these churches, there are twenty (20) Anglican, eighteen (18) Lutheran, ten (10) Roman Catholic and twenty five (25) United Churches. Also included in the total, one (1) Mennonite, one (1) Christian Reform, one (1) Baptist congregation and two (2) Jewish /Arab Faith Communities who participate during the Christmas Season.
- Twelve of the churches provide and serve the lunch by themselves, the other churches teamed together, usually two churches sharing in the lunch ministry most Sundays.
- We had an educational session for the Sunday Lunch contact people, church volunteers, along with



Netta Phillet: Arab Jewish Women's Peace Coalition

outreach and social justice committee representatives. The yearly event is called "After the Lunch is Over." Held at the Bissell Centre on Saturday October 4, 2008, 62 people attended.

- Shared feelings, thoughts, experiences and input from the congregations and the ICPM volunteers that are there for pre set up every Sunday, enabled us to determine how things could be improved and how to better share information.
- We even had two people from the community share their thoughts and experiences with us. Hearing of the experience of people who live in the community and frequent the lunch program was very enlightening, as most of us come to the inner city only occasionally and are not there through the week.



Volunteers in Action!

Arab Jewish Women's Peace Coalition

As the Christian church is busily celebrating the Christmas Season, the Jewish community and the Arab Jewish Women's Peace Coalition provide and serve the ICPM lunch at the Bissell Centre. Netta Phillet, who works for the "Edmonton Interchurch Interfaith Centre for Education and Action" is the Sunday Lunch Contact Person for these lunches.

As Pastor, I think the presence of the Jewish and Arab community sharing together in our common concern for those of the inner city is exceptional! Netta agreed to write a brief article for this newsletter, her comments are as follows ...

The Arab Jewish Women's Peace Coalition has been meeting since 1991 when we met at a rally against the first Gulf War. We are a dialogue group,

Continued on next page...

- On October 5, 2008, ICPM celebrated our 30th anniversary with a special service of celebration that included a sit down lunch for the regular Emmanuel community members. "Emmanuel" is the name chosen by the community for the ICPM Sunday Worship time.

Scheduling for the new year, 2009, is a learning curve for me, but the challenges work themselves out within a supportive and enthusiastic church and interfaith community. I look forward to working with a great, dedicated bunch of people again this year.

Respectfully submitted
Sharon Webb – Sunday
Lunch Program Coordinator

Arab Jewish Women...

and that is what we do. We talk. We laugh. We cry. We try to keep our hearts open to each other. Women of the Arab and Jewish heritage gather to listen with respect to one another and to seek to understand how two peoples can look at the same event, (or the same action) ... with one seeing black, and with one seeing white, and both being right!

Pastor Rick talked the morning we served the ICPM Sunday lunch at the Bissell Centre about the transformative power of revelation, and that is what this process, this dialogue creates for us as Arabic and Jewish women. We believe that there will never be a military solution to the conflict in Gaza, or the many other terrible wars raging as we speak!

So thank you. Peace to you all.
Shalom in Hebrew!
Salaam in Arabic!
Netta Phillet



Lighting the Christmas Candle.

E-Mail Newsletter:

Want to get the news via Email?

Please follow the instructions below:

1. Send an email to newsletter-subscribe@icpmedmonton.ca
2. Confirm email will be sent to your email address.
3. Reply to the confirmation email.
4. If all goes well, you should receive an email informing you that you have been added to the ICPM email list.

A Blessing to Many!

Inner City Emmanuel Christmas Sacks 2008 –

It was wonderful to see the response to the request for the Christmas sacks this past year. When initial calls were made the first week in November, some churches had already seen the Fall Newsletter and were about to begin. Others were meeting over the following weeks and would bring the request to their outreach committee meetings.

From many of our supporters, suggestions were shared from their past involvement. One group purchases the extra large Ziploc bags and places a photocopy of the “wish list” inside for individual donators to pick up and fill. I tested this at our Church and at another location and found the response to exceed my expectations. I also learned where one of the most reasonable places is to purchase the waterproof mitts - Army & Navy. Many individuals added decorative items such as colorful stockings, bows, ornaments and/or a Christmas card, inside the sacks.

We at ICPM are most thankful for the receipt of 1049 sacks during the 2008 Christmas Season. The Bissell Centre graciously offered space to store them for the week prior to their sharing with the Community of Emmanuel and other Inner City agencies. Sincere thanks goes to the Bissell Centre staff for sharing the space and helping with intake and to Glory Lutheran Church volunteers from Sherwood Park, who sorted and organized these gifts for distribution. Most of all, it is with our heartfelt thanks that Inner City Pastoral Ministry team acknowledges the work of the contacts and their respective groups to fill the sacks, as a group, as an individual, or as a family. May they know the joy they have given to our brothers and sisters in the Inner City, who gratefully welcome these gifts.

Blessings to all,
Sue Pasker, Christmas Sack Contact



Glory Lutheran volunteers sort Christmas Sacks.



L'Arche community members deliver their Christmas Sacks donations.

Board News

The Rev Lynn Elliot

It is with regret that we received the resignation of the Rev. Lynn Elliott, United Church. Rev. Lynn has moved on to a new position of “Animator” within the United Church Presbytery. This position enables Rev. Lynn’s talents in regard to congregational development and fundraising to be widely utilized.

The Board of ICPM is most grateful to Rev. Lynn’s assistance and support of the ministry of ICPM throughout her two-year tenure. She structured for us the foundational elements of a much needed approach to fundraising and gave guidance to the overall direction of the ministry of ICPM. Thank you Rev Lynn Elliott for your support and for your shared expertise.

Jose Gonzalez

Jose, Roman Catholic Church, Our Lady of Guadalupe, assisted and supported the ministry of ICPM as a Board member for three years. Jose regretfully offered his resignation from the Board late in 2008 due to expanding career, community and family responsibilities. Jose brought to the Board his intense interest and insights into areas of Social Justice within our city and from his home country of El Salvador. Jose served on the Education and Communication Committee and sought to develop more fully the education of our Church and community regarding the real effects of social justice on migrant populations and workers. Thank you Jose for your passion and knowledge of those immersed in poverty and change.

Calendar of upcoming Educational Events:

★ Good Friday Outdoor Way of the Cross

Boyle Community League, 9515 - 104 Avenue
Friday, April 10, 2009 — 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

★ Kanata : Canada – Returning to Good Relations

Aboriginal communities are healing themselves internally

How can we, the faith community, the church, develop an awareness, become supportive and meaningfully involved with developments within 1st Nations, Métis, Inuit communities within our city.

Robertson Wesley United Church, 10209 123 St
April 23, 24, 2009 — 7:00 PM

★ Homelessness Symposium – From Dialogue to Action

To explore the growing concern of homelessness and inadequate housing within our community.

A Gospel Response - What are we, as a People of God, called to do?
Key Note Speaker: Dr. Murray MacAdam - Social Justice Consultant

All Saints Anglican Cathedral, 10035 103 St
October 15-17, 2009 — 7 pm - 9 pm & 9 am - 4:30 pm

★ After the Lunch is Over - Educating together, Sharing together

Discerning our call to ministry in regards to the continuing need to feed, cloth and to develop a ministry of presence amongst the disenfranchised and homeless of the inner city.

Bissell Centre, 10527 96 St
September 26, 2009 — 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Notice of the Annual General Meeting.

Inner City Pastoral Ministry – Annual General Meeting
March 19, 2009



Christ Church Anglican

12116 102 Ave

5:00 – Gathering, Supper + Worship

6:30 – Key Note Speaker TBA

7:00 – 8:00 AGM

Without You...

"If you are enjoying the shade of a tree someone else planted, plant a tree"

"If you are enjoying the water of a well someone else dug, dig a well"

Innar City Pastoral Ministry is thankful for all the generous supporters of this important ministry. We strive to make life a little bit better for those who live on the streets of Edmonton. Without you, giving your time and your money, we could not walk with those who need our love and support most. It is through your generous gifts that we continue to plant trees and dig wells for those who need them most.

We have many congregations and individuals who have supported our ministry for many years. Over 100 people have consistently given gifts over the last 10 years! We have others who have given as they are able. We are grateful for all who give financially and who enter into our community on Sunday mornings to serve food to the hungry. We are grateful for all you have done and will continue to do to sustain our work. We are also grateful for your prayers and constant encouragement of this ministry.

We need your ongoing support in order to continue our ministry. The needs among those living on the streets or in severe poverty have only increased as the economy begins to show the effects in Edmonton of the global downturn. We have been good stewards of the funds which have been provided to us and we want to do more. We want to be able to continue and we know that there is greater need.

The founder of our church, Jesus Christ, got lots of bad press because he insisted on being involved with "earthy" things. Not that he was particularly concerned with people's wealth, but he was very concerned about what people did with their wealth and power, with their time and talents. Most of all Jesus was concerned about our attitudes. "Where your treasure is," said Jesus, "there your heart will be also." When you consider your next gift to Inner City Pastoral Ministry (ICPM) please remember that you are participating in an act of expressing your faith. Stewardship is what you do after you say, "I believe".

We believe that together we can make a difference!

Thank you for considering your gifts to ICPM!

Enclosed is my gift for Inner City Pastoral Ministry

Amount of gift: \$ _____

Name _____
(Mr., Mrs., Ms, Dr. etc.)

Address _____

City/Town _____ Prov. _____ Postal Code _____

Phone No.: _____
(Home) (Work)

Send to: Inner City Pastoral Ministry
c/o Bissell Centre

10527 96 St NW, Edmonton AB T5H 2H6

Charitable Registration: BN107507378 RR001

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Sue PaskerLutheran
Christmas Sack Contact

Ministry Team as Members of the Board

Rick ChapmanPastor

Sister Marion Garneau
Pastoral Associate

Linda Winski
Pastoral Associate

MISSION STATEMENT

The Inner City Pastoral Ministry is an interdenominational Christian Ministry of presence. In partnership with community, and guided by the Spirit of God, we walk with the people of the Inner City of Edmonton.