



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

Fall 2010

A Ministry of Presence

Pastor Rick's Reflections

Recently, one of my tasks has been to fill out the many application forms that describe the ministry of Inner City Pastoral Ministry to the many Faith Community funders that support this ministry. I take opportunity in this reflection to share with you, Friends of ICPM, what was offered. I believe the content of this article lays out in broad brush strokes the daily practice of the ministry as related to the mission statement, goals and objectives of ICPM. Enjoy ...

Our Mission:

The Inner City Pastoral Ministry (ICPM) Mission Statement ...the 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.

Sunday Worship and Sunday Lunch Program

Central to the ministry of ICPM is the Community of Emmanuel that gathers each and every Sunday morning for worship. The Congregation of Emmanuel is drawn from the many people who live within the inner city of Edmonton. Many of our community are homeless or living in



shelters and supported housing and are often not comfortable in the more traditional church setting. The Community of Emmanuel is their church, a service to which you come as you are. Fifty percent of our congregation is Aboriginal that is 1st Nations, Métis and Inuit. The worship community gathers in the Bissell Centre Drop In space with an average attendance at the service of 110+.

After the worship service ICPM offers a hearty lunch, supplied and served by the 90+ churches that volunteer over the 52 Sundays of the year. Two hundred and fifty to three

hundred (250 to 300) people fill the hall for lunch. The lunch crowd is made up of members of the Community of Emmanuel and the people from the streets in need of a meal.

Vision for the Future

The ministry of ICPM has often been shaped by the changing demographics and dynamics of the inner city community. Most recently, ICPM has chosen to focus its ministry of presence in three particular areas of concern: the homeless and persons transitioning into supported housing,

A Ministry of Presence.....continued

the special needs of aboriginal people, and the women's wellness ministry.

Homelessness and Supported Housing

The ministry team of ICPM ministers amongst the homeless offering prayer and pastoral support. Partnering with



Operation Friendship Drop in 55+

agencies and the faith community we are in the process of exploring ways of encouraging and supporting individuals who have suffered chronic homelessness to cross the bridge into supported permanent housing. Many of the homeless are Aboriginal. ICPM is an active partner within the inner city seeking to open doors of support with the faith community to support the many individuals who are progressing to permanent supported housing by means of the Housing First initiative supported by the City of Edmonton's 10 Year Plan to end homelessness. This goal is an ongoing process.

Ministry Amongst Aboriginal People

The population of inner city of Edmonton has a high proportion of First Nations, Métis and Inuit people –

60%. The ministry team of ICPM has daily contact with the many aboriginal people of this community, both in our mid week pastoral care and Sunday worship. Special efforts have been made to connect with Aboriginal elders and community leaders. Working in partnership with these spiritual leaders, "Gatherings" have been designed that reflect Aboriginal life and thought. Local healing and reconciliation dialogues, events and group meetings both city wide and within the inner city community continue to be developed. This goal is an ongoing process.

Women's Wellness

Through the ministry of Sister Marion and Linda, Pastoral Associates, special emphasis has been placed on the pastoral care and support of women within the inner city. Many of the women are Aboriginal. Through visits to WEAC (Women's Emergency Accommodation Centre), the Bissell Drop In, contacts within the



Mustard Seed's Community Garden
"Peas Be With You"

Community of Emmanuel (Sunday Service), the monthly Women's Program and referrals, the women of

the inner city, often homeless, are finding spiritual support. In partnership with the many agencies of the inner city, within the CSC Women's Institution's mentorship program, and with the Star of the North's Women's Wellness Retreat, ICPM offers spiritual care. This goal is an ongoing process.

Where are grant monies directed ?

- Supporting the worship of the Community of Emmanuel and the Sunday Lunch Program
- Offering one on one pastoral and personal care to individuals within the inner city community
- Opening "space" for dialogue amongst the spiritual leaders of the Aboriginal, Christian and wider Faith community to seek understanding, healing and reconciliation with the two communities
- The support of women, particularly the care of Aboriginal women, within the community living on the streets, in shelters and transition houses, and within hospitals and prisons.
- Supporting individuals and couples as they progress from homelessness to supported housing.

Ministry amongst the inner city community of Edmonton is demanding. Inner City Pastoral Ministry as a ministry of presence continues to meet the changing needs within the diverse community of the inner city.

Yours in Christ
Rick Chapman+
Pastor

After the Lunch is Over....2010

On Saturday, Oct. 2, 2010, 35 people attended the ICPM *After the Lunch is Over* gathering in Bissell West. This is the 4th year that ICPM has hosted this event. It is intended to bring together our contact people and volunteers in the various churches that provide the lunch after the worship service on Sundays throughout the year. As one of the participants said: "It helps to know we aren't doing this in a vacuum. We are a community!"

As in past years, we had two individuals from the community present. They shared from their experience of living in the inner city. This provides those from outside the city core a chance to meet members of the Community and perhaps carry away a small snapshot of some of the challenges



Lena, Bissell Drop Support Worker, chats with Denise

and circumstances of life in the inner city. This component of the morning

has always been very well received and we thank Farley and Denise for their contribution.

As the morning progressed Sharon Webb, the ICPM Sunday Lunch Coordinator, spoke to the volunteers about the food needs and supplies for the Sunday Lunch Program. Participants had an opportunity to



Dennis distributes Thanksgiving meal to 55+ Srs
Operation Friendship

share "tricks of the trade" for planning and organizing the lunch that they bring and we are grateful to those with several years experience who shared their wisdom with those who were new to the role.

Pastor Rick briefly re-emphasized ICPM's desire to have the volunteers communicate the experience of servicing the ICPM lunch at the Bissell Centre with their respective congregations, through prayer, bulletin insert notices, church newsletters and reporting. As a 'continuing education' piece to the complete the morning, Bob McKeon, ICPM Board Chairperson, spoke about and showed a video on the one year report regarding the City's 10 year plan to end Homelessness and the "Welcome Home" initiative

being formulated by the church community. There was a genuine interest expressed to learn more about this and people were invited to contact Bob through the ICPM for more information and watch for the Fall edition of "Straight from the Street", the ICPM Newsletter which will have more details.

Much was shared. Much was learned. We give thanks for the dedicated contact persons and volunteers from all the faith communities that keep the Sunday Lunch Ministry alive...fifty two Sundays of the year!

Quote from the Sunday lunch coordinator's desk: "I believe that the "After the lunch is Over"" get together in the fall helps our lunch program reach a higher level of communication between ICPM and the participating churches and groups. All feed back is constructive and that is what we achieve at this get together.



Life on the Street

Welcome Home: A Unique Opportunity for Service

– Bob McKeon

Through the Housing First program, men and women who were previously homeless are building new lives for themselves in housing in neighbourhoods throughout the city. Staff members from the Housing agencies are providing supportive social services for the Housing First clients as they move into their new homes. Moving from homelessness to home can be a challenging experience. Many of the Housing First clients experience loneliness and social isolation as they move into often unfamiliar surroundings.

Jay Freeman, the Executive Director of Edmonton's Homeless Commission in conversation with interfaith leaders, is developing a new program called "Welcome Home." In this program, volunteers from local faith congregations and other community groups in Edmonton will be invited to support the Housing First clients in their transition from homelessness to home. The volunteers will be invited to reach out to the Housing First clients settling in their neighbourhoods through supportive friendships and serving as mentors with the basic tasks associated with setting up and maintaining a new household. The faith community volunteers in Welcome Home will work in parallel with the professional housing and support services provided by the social service agencies. Some members of faith congregations have had the experience of serving in a somewhat similar role with international refugee sponsorships. The priority of the Welcome Home program will be about building mutually supportive human relationships, not about raising large sums of money. In Calgary, approximately 25 congregations have

joined together over the last two years in a similar program called "All Roads Lead Home."

Congregations who have joined with ICPM in providing the Sunday brunches and sharing a time of Sunday worship with the Community of Emmanuel can make a unique contribution to Welcome Home. Members of these congregations have already been introduced to some of Edmonton's homeless men and women in face to face encounters in the context of 96 Street in the inner city. "Welcome Home" provides the opportunity for providing a welcome

for these individuals in local neighbourhoods all across the city.

Details for the "Welcome Home" program will be made available in the next few months as the program develops.

Annual Board Retreat

– Bob McKeon

Each year in September, members of the ICPM board and pastoral team meet for a day-long retreat. We talk about important issues facing ICPM and take time for prayer and worship. This year, we met on September 11. In the morning, we were joined by Rev. Travis Enright, who is responsible for ministry with Aboriginal peoples for the Edmonton Anglican diocese. He spoke of different dimensions of aboriginal spirituality, and led a time of worship that drew from both Christian and aboriginal traditions.

In the afternoon, the ICPM Board discussed the implementation of Edmonton's Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness. Over 900 individuals who had experienced chronic homelessness have already moved into their own housing accommodation in different parts of the city. Many of these have been regulars at the inner city agencies, and known by the ICPM ministry team. This new situation presents both challenges and opportunities for ICPM and its supporting congregations.

The ICPM board also discussed how to increase education and outreach initiatives to churches in the Edmonton region, including presentations at the Sunday worship services of our supporting congregations.



Friends of ICPM



Bissell staff and volunteer break for a well-earned coffee



Emmanuel Christmas Gift Sacks – 2010

Looking ahead, we are thinking about the 2010 Christmas celebrations within the inner city. Once again ICPM anticipates distributing the Emmanuel Christmas Gift Sacks amongst the homeless and those in need within the inner city. As you may be aware, many churches and caring individuals support the annual Emmanuel Christmas Gift Sack appeal.

Standard:

- ski gloves (waterproof)
- toque and scarf
- cotton socks
- comb and/or brush
- small shampoo
- hand lotion (small)
- hand sanitizer (small)
- Kleenex (small)
- deodorant
- toothpaste (small)
- toothbrush
- washcloth – white (color bleaches into clothing upon washing)

Also ... Christmas treat and small gift ... such as...

- candy cane and / or chocolate bar
- crossword / Sudoku booklet
- little Bible and/or card of hope ...

Optional:

- dental floss
- halls cough drops
- animal treat, chew toy for pets
- nail clippers and / or nail file
- lip balm
- make up (female)
- note pad and pencil
- hot shots (hand warmers)
- pkg hot chocolate , cup of soup

"No one gets gifts around here, I look forward to getting one, they're a real surprise!" - Rose

Other items needed for the Community cupboard (not included in the Emmanuel Christmas Sacks)

- underwear (men's and women's all sizes)
- nylon / leotards (female)
- long johns (male)
- women's personal items
- bus tickets
- hoodies

Delivery	December 13-16 th to Inner City Pastoral Ministry Office Bissell Centre East 10527 96 St
Contact	Pastor Rick Chapman+ 780 424 7652 Sue – Christmas Sack Coordinator 780 417 3906

Community

Love your neighbour as yourself –
He said

Don't see colours of their skin
Dpn't see their style of dress
Don't think of their country of
origin

See instead what He sees

The kindness of heart

The value of an open mind

The beauty beneath the skin

The beauty of their soul

If we all see what He sees

We will be a part of the community
of Mankind

Anonymous

- taken from

"Songs of the Streets 1996"

Subscribe to the ICPM List Serve Online...

After many months of trying, we finally have the online List Serve functional. If you want to be on the ICPM electronic mailing list, please visit the ICPM website and subscribe to the online list serve. You will then be sent a notice as to when the next newsletter has been posted on the website and you may also receive notice, from time to time, of events of interest.



ICPM Board Members 2010 - 2011

Bob McKeon.....Roman Catholic
Board Chair

Nancy Kerr.....United
Past Chair

Sue PaskerLutheran
Secretary
Christmas Sack Contact

Fred Drummond.....Anglican
Treasurer

Sharon Webb.....Anglican
Lunch Ministry Coordinator

Members At Large:

David BarnumAnglican

The Rev. Steve Hallford.....Anglican

Karen PetersonLutheran

Coby VeekenRoman Catholic

Linda BoireRoman Catholic

Joy Berg Lutheran

The Rev. Bob Kimmerly.....United

Nick Ritson-Bennett.....Anglican

Ministry Team as Members of the Board

Rick ChapmanPastor

Sister Marion GarneauPastoral
Associate

Linda Winski.....Pastoral Associate

Impromptu Bike
Repair Clinic



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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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.