



February 2014

Time for Liturgical Refreshing

First of all on behalf of ICPM I would like to thank the many faith communities that donated the frontals that were used for Sunday Worship in the Community of Emmanuel for many years.

In 2010, after speaking with Pastor Rick, I took over the preparation of the altar on Sundays. As a result of my reflection and my extensive experience in needlecraft, I wished to present the community with frontal and stoles that would have meaning to the members. The objective of giving the community a better understanding of the liturgical seasons was also part of the purpose.

Following brainstorming sessions with people from the community, volunteers and staff I created a series of 5 liturgical themes plus a banner. They are as follows: Christmas/Easter (white), Lent (purple), Passion/Pentecost (Red), Advent (Blue), Ordinary time (green). Pastor Rick's particular favorite is Advent where four paths to a Star represent the Sunday themes of the Four Sundays of Advent leading to Christ.

This project encompassed many aspects. Sewing was not the only skill that was engaged. There was the planning and design, shopping for just the right fabrics, and the dialog with the community as the projects unfolded. This journey with the community definitely had its God Moments.



Faith and Pastor Rick with Advent Frontal

The project was presented in detail to the board at their February meeting and was well received. I would like to thank the board and community again for their support in this project and I hope that the community will enjoy that frontals and stoles for many years. It has been a joy to be able to make this contribution. I hope that my connection with the community will last for many years.

Faith Paul
ICPM volunteer

Emmanuel Christmas Gift Sack Ministry – December 2013

The Emmanuel Christmas Gift Sack Ministry was once again blessed to receive 700+ Christmas sacks. There were also many gifts of jackets, grocery gift cards, bus tickets, Tim Horton’s cards, toiletries and personal items, and items such as toques, gloves, vests and scarves to share with Emmanuel Community and those coming into the drop-in for the Bissell Winter Warming program. These latter items will continue to offer help in the winter months. As Pastor Rick says, “It may not seem like much to receive a \$5 Tim Horton’s card but what it does is offer an individual without a home a place to sit and rest and enjoy a coffee and donut;” a small way to warm the heart and soul at any time.

Rev. Rick Chapman and the Inner City Pastoral Ministry Board wish to thank all for their contributions for the 2013 Christmas Gift Sack ministry: Annunciation Roman Catholic, Ascension Lutheran, Assumption Parish, Dr. Cathy Flood, Donna Forester, First United Church, Glory Lutheran, Hope Lutheran, Mount Olivet Lutheran, OLPH Roman Catholic Parish, Strathcona Child Development Centre, St. Columba, Stewart family, St. George’s Anglican, St. Mary’s Anglican, St. Matthias Anglican, St. Augustine’s Anglican, St. Peter’s Anglican, St Philip’s Anglican, Stollery Hospital, Terry Wittkoff, the Lion’s Breakfast Club and The Stitchery.

Once more, we offer a special thanks to the Bissell Centre for their assistance and for sharing storage space prior to distribution of the gift sacks.

The gift sacks and items were distributed on the Sunday before Christmas to the Community of Emmanuel and shared with other inner city agencies (Bissell Centre, WEAC, CEASE and Kindred House) who offer help to those in need. The many individuals who receive these gifts offered their thanks to the ICPM volunteers who gave out the Gift Sacks on behalf of the participating groups, individuals and churches.

Again, we extend our sincere thanks and blessings to all for the generosity of spirit and support.

May God continue this good work in your lives throughout 2014.



Rev Kevin + Pastor Rick - St Matthias Christmas Gift Sacks

Sue - Coordinator
Inner City Pastoral Ministry Board

Pastor Rick's Reflections

In this time of reflection, let's put the spot light on the ministry of Standing Stones and the Men's Spirituality Group! Standing Stones is a worship service, a circle of healing that incorporates both Christian and Indigenous ceremony, spirituality and tradition. Offered within a sacred circle and the "four directions" of the Medicine Wheel, there is the gathering of the community, wisdom teaching, prayers of healing, and the sharing of hospitality in two traditions. Each tradition is represented in its own right and where the two traditions "kiss" reconciliation and healing happens. Within the inner city where two central cultures meet, that is, Aboriginal and non aboriginal peoples, Standing Stones is a unique ceremony seeking to honor equally the two spiritual traditions.



Standing Stones

Standing Stones as a mid week service is a "circle of healing" that engages both the Christian and Indigenous spiritual traditions. The Ministry Team includes: Pastor Rick, Mary Anne- Pastoral Associate, Della Lizotte -Aboriginal Chaplain, Mustard Seed, Doug Krefting and Farley Magee-music.

Standing Stones on 5th Sundays and is offered mid week, mid month at the Bissell Center Drop In and at the McCullough Centre, Onoway. These agencies recognizing the need for healing and the spiritual care of the community support Standing Stones because the traditions of both Christian and 1st Nations are represented. Many of the people who participate + assist in this time of sharing and healing are of Aboriginal Heritage.

When offered at the Bissell Drop In, the Ministry Team opens the service in the midst of the 85+ participants who frequent the Drop In drawing their attention with the smudge, story, song and prayer. At the McCullough Centre, 6- 10 participants gather in a more intimate sharing circle.

Doug Krefting, Pastoral Ministry Volunteer and Men's Spirituality Leader comments, "In the last half of 2012 we responded to a request to provide some spiritual support to the men in the McCullough Centre at Gunn with a pilot project. The Standing Stones Aboriginal /Christian spirituality ritual was adapted and done once a month at the Centre. Feedback from participants at the annual Christmas dinner and staff was good and this activity will continue in 2014. One man of Aboriginal heritage, who participated regularly and has now returned to Edmonton, will help support us in making the ceremony more meaningful."

Men's Spirituality Group

Over several years Doug Krefting and I have sought to offer to the men of the inner city a more reflective environment to journey deeper into spiritual life. Needless to say, this ministry has been a "tough," and we have persisted. A small group of men, the group emphasizing quality not quantity of numbers, have met regularly over a two and a half year period. Many of the men now serve as volunteers within the Community of Emmanuel. Our hopes are to continue and expand this group in 2013 ... plans are under way to offer a Retreat in May, "Negotiating the Male Journey" which includes 7 bimonthly lead up sessions in preparation for the weekend Retreat. *continued on page 4*



continued... Men's Spirituality Group

Doug Krefting comments, "In 2013 the men's group expanded to include Community of Emmanuel participants. Regular weekly sessions were held in a variety of Bissell Centre locations: Spirit Room, downstairs board room, upstairs board room, and most frequently, when nothing else was available, in the ICPM office which resulted in close encounters! Lack of proper facilities has hampered a set time and place for this activity. However, encouraged by the increased participation of the group members in the Community of Emmanuel and frequent requests for a continuation of group activities, we sought another location for the sessions. In the spring of 2014, in partnership with the Marian Centre and Archbishop Sylvain, Star of the North Retreat Centre, we will begin sessions at the Marian Centre in February. Seven pre retreat sessions will focus on the male journey and will lead the group towards participation in a weekend retreat at the Star of the North in May 2014."

Mary-Anne Miskolzie - Pastoral Associate

Sunday Worship and Sunday Lunch Program

With the warming program in effect at Bissell Center pre-worship with volunteers had to undergo changes for the preparation of the lunch. This was accomplished with ease with the team of ICPM working together for the best, including Bissell Center and the parishioners of Emmanuel. Offering the reflection every 4th Sunday is gift to me and communicates to the parish my commitment to their spiritual well-being. Christmas was well celebrated with a special service and with the support of various churches approximately 300 gift care packages were distributed to our parishioners.



Women's Spiritual Wellness

We were nine present at our Christmas gathering where Tammy engaged us all in making angel decorations. We enjoyed music, prayer and a Chinese meal. Gift bags were distributed to all including Fay, our youngest parishioner whose mother was present.

Community Outreach- CEASE

In the name of Community of Emmanuel I brought 25 back packs filled with care packages.

WEAC + Kindred House

In the name of Community of Emmanuel Linda Heywood and I delivered 70 gifted care packages.

The ladies were thankful. We enjoyed a singsong and treats with them.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the board for the time and effort given for our less fortunate to experience God's unconditional Love.

Peace and Joy in the resurrected Jesus Christ

Mary-Anne Miskolzie

Sunday Food Coordinator

I have had the privilege of filling the Sunday Food Coordinator position since June 2, 2013 with Tammy Montpetit joining the Team August 4, 2013.

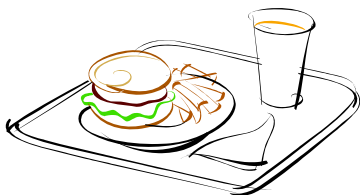
There have been many changes in the preparation and providing Lunch on Sunday's. The challenges arising from the Bissell Warming Centre continues to keep us on our toes as each week is different.

I am very grateful to have the opportunity of meeting and working along with the participating Church volunteers, the ICPM volunteers, staff and board members.

Spending Sunday's with the Community of Emmanuel is very rewarding as the community members are among the most Beautiful and accepting people in Edmonton.

Working with and for the Community continues to be a Blessing.

Linda Heywood
Sunday Food Coordinator



Sunday Lunch Coordinator

This past year has been a good one for Sunday Lunch bookings. Most groups are booking a year ahead so there is less pressure to fill slots. Also, we had a small increase in groups this passed year, up to 85 churches, synagogues and groups participating now. "After The Lunch is Over" was held in October and was attended by about twelve of the groups that come to serve. Good feedback was well received and will be implemented. Suggestions included such ideas as brochure update, which was done Dec, 2013. Other suggestions are under consideration also. Summer bookings especially July and August are harder to fill due to summer schedules, but for 2014 most Sundays are filled with are returnees from churches serving the summer of 2013.

A mail out was sent to all contacts for "The Hymn Festival" held at Hosanna Lutheran Church on Oct 27/13 in support of ICPM.

Sharon Webb
Sunday Lunch coordinator + Member of ICPM Board

ICPM STATS 2013

Total Sundays	52	
Total Congregants	5,983	Average per Sunday 116
Total Sunday Lunch	11,987	Average per Lunch 230
Funerals / Memorials	7	
Standing Stones	11	



Board Chair Update

We are now moving into the new year of 2014. Thanks to all our supporters who helped with holiday foods at Christmas and for those who made the abundant contributions towards the Emmanuel Christmas Sacks. You helped to make Christmas a special time for all those in the inner city who join with us at the Community of Emmanuel.

Special thanks also to all our financial contributors who responded generously to the end of year ICPM Stewardship Letter. While the year-end numbers have not been finalized, it appears that ICPM will end the year with a modest surplus. This puts us in an excellent situation for reaching out in new ways.

At the January board meeting, ICPM board members spent time learning about the upcoming Truth and Reconciliation Commission National Event to be held at the Shaw Conference Centre, March 27-30, 2014. This event is of special relevance to ICPM because many of the aboriginal people we encounter at ICPM attended Indian residential schools themselves or are the direct descendants of those who did. The board agreed to encourage members of ICPM's supporting congregations to attend the TRC event, and to contribute prayer shawls for school survivors at the TRC event.

Planning is underway for the upcoming ICPM Annual General Meeting to be held March 20 at St. Faith's Anglican Church. Everyone is invited. Please mark this date in your calendar,.

Bob McKeon
Chair ICPM

Inner City Pastoral Ministry Annual General Meeting

"Time of Celebration"

ICPM Board is inviting you to join with Friends of ICPM in a special time of meeting and celebration!

Keynote Speaker

The Rev Canon Travis Enright
Aboriginal Liaison - Diocese of Edmonton

"Reflections on the TRC Hearings"

St Faith's Prayer Hall
11725 93 Street

Thursday March 20, 2014

5:00 Gathering
5:30 Light supper
6:00 Keynote



RSVP: 780 424 7652

Good Friday 2014

Outdoor Ecumenical Way of the Cross

Good Friday, April 18 at 10:00 am.

The event will start and end at Hope Mission. ICPM continues as a co-sponsor and invites all our partners and supporters to join us on Good Friday morning for this annual event.



“Come to me, all you who are struggling hard and carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Put on my yoke and learn from me. I am gentle and humble. And you will find rest for yourselves. My yoke is easy to bear, and my burden is light.”

Matthew 11: 28-30 (Common English Bible)

These words are known as words of comfort. However, many times when I hear and read these words during a worship service, I skip around them, not taking time to digest them spiritually. Yet if we listen and think, this is Jesus addressing us directly. He looks into our eyes, and says to us, you wanted to know something about God; here’s the answer.

The question is why we don’t take this invitation of Jesus to heart. We all know lots who struggle hard and carry heavy loads. Many can be our friends and family. When you go down at the Bissell buildings in the mornings, you will observe many who truly appear to be just holding on to life. Surely, the question of why some of us are heavy laden is not of money but of one’s inner spirit. Why do many of us forget there is a God who wants to help us learn how to handle life?

Our front-line people at ICPM serve because they know the ministry is help those who struggle hard, who are lost and abandoned to find refreshment of their inner spirits. This ministry exists because it gives action to Matthew’s words.

Far away from the downtown, we hear God’s call to us to give to those who need it. We can do this in many ways. We can be an active part of the Inner City Pastoral Ministry by giving in gratitude for the sake of the One who gives so generously to us. For some, gratitude comes naturally; for others it requires practicing until it becomes a habit and ultimately a way of being. When that happens, we will know the yoke is easy to bear and the burden light.

David Barnum for Stewardship

Coming Events

Justice Camp 2014: LAND – Through a program of directed immersion experiences, biblical + 7 sacred teachings reflection, worship and relationship building, participants will form friendships and develop skills to become effective social justice leaders within their own local communities.

Immersion experiences include: Oil and Gas Industry, Urban Poverty: Homelessness and Supported Housing, Reconciliation: Walking the Journey Together, National Parks: Ecology and Conservation, Food Ethics + Security, Interreligious Perspectives: LAND, Arts + Social Change.

Edmonton, Kings College University, **August 15-21, 2014** (www.justicecamp.ca) (Flyer enclosed)

Edmonton Committee for a Parliament of the World’s Religions Partner City Event – “Faith’s Coming Together,” Edmonton AB University of Alberta Campus Workshops and panels explore topics from an interfaith perspectives regarding such topics as: Aboriginal Women + their Stories, Eco Justice, Homelessness and Supported Housing, Issues facing New Immigrant, Temporary Workers + Refugees, to name a few. (www.facebook/ECPWR)
May 1-4, 2014.



Continued...Coming Events

Truth + Reconciliation Commission - 7th National Event,
“Wisdom,” Edmonton, Shaw Conference Centre 9797 Jasper
Ave, **March 27-30, 2014** (www.trc.ca)

ICPM supports the donation of Prayer Shawls, Lap Blankets and
5000 cup cakes needed for this event. (See: **Prayer Shawl + Lap
Blanket Request - attached**)

You can **donate to ICPM quickly and easily** online!

Go to www.CanadaHelps.org. Search for
“Inner City Pastoral Ministry”.

All donations are much appreciated and all who donate
\$10 or more receive a tax receipt.

Enclosed is my gift for Inner City Pastoral Ministry

Name _____
Mr. Mrs. Ms. Dr.

Address _____

Amount of gift: \$ _____

City/Town _____ Prov. _____ Postal Code _____

Phone No. _____
(Home)/Cell/Work

Email _____

ICPM Board Members 2013/13

Bob McKeon Roman Catholic
Board Chair
David Barnum Anglican
Vice Chair
Nancy Kerr United
Past Chair
Ann Matheson Anglican
Treasurer
Sue Pasker Evangelical Lutheran
Secretary
Sharon Webb Anglican
Lunch Ministry Coordinator
Emmanuel Christmas Sacks

Members at Large:

Joy Berg Lutheran
Linda Boire Roman Catholic
John Campbell Lutheran
Rev. Nancy Steeves United
Coby Veeken Roman Catholic
Rev. Linda Whittle Anglican

Ministry Team

Rick Chapman Pastor
Mary Anne Miskolzie... Pastoral Associate
Linda Heywood Food Coordinator
Tammy Montpetit..... Food Coordinator

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