

OCTOBER 2016

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# Straight<sub>+</sub> from the street

A newsletter for friends of Inner City Pastoral Ministry

**“With what shall I come before the Lord?...He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”**

—Micah 6:6-8

## COMMUNITY BBQ AT CHRIST CHURCH

### AN INTERCULTURAL AND COMMUNITY EVENT

Summer BBQs are always a great way for communities to gather, joining together for fellowship and fun. On Saturday July 16, the Inner City Pastoral Ministry partnered with the Anglican Parish of Christ Church and the St. Theresa Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to host a Community Festival,

inviting the inner city and city centre communities to a sumptuous feast of burgers and hot dogs.

St Theresa’s well-practiced team of volunteers served up burgers, hot dogs, desserts and fruit. Highlights of the day included bluegrass gospel music, Indigenous singers and dancers from the ICPM Community of Emmanuel, an adult colouring book table, and children’s fun—Rev. Nick, from Christ Church, made ice cream by bouncing an ice cream maker ball with the children. The event

ended with a community round dance hosted by Carol Powder and her family of Indigenous dancers and singers. Little seven-year-old Noah offered his favourite song in Cree—Little Wolf—with his famous song ending: Grrrr!!

The BBQ was a great ecumenical, intercultural and community event, with over 200 people attending. Pass me a hot dog please! And where’s the mustard?

*Rick Chapman +  
Pastor, ICPM*



**Little Noah singing his famous song “Grrr!”**



**St Theresa’s RC Burgers are served up**



**Salvos Prelentzos  
Peace Award**

## BOB McKEON RECEIVES LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD

Officer of the Catholic Archdiocese, summed up Dr. McKeon's career and contributions in these words:

*"Bob is a social justice animator, educator and community organizer of the highest order. He holds a PhD in theology from the University of St. Michael's College at the University of Toronto, and has taught courses in theology and social ethics for many years at Newman Theological College and St. Joseph's College at the University of Alberta. He has been involved for over 35 years in board leadership positions with community and church organizations in the inner city of Edmonton, addressing issues of poverty, health, hunger, housing, and community and economic development."*

As a representative of the Roman Catholic community, Bob McKeon offered a significant leadership role in the founding and development of the Inner City Pastoral Ministry. Prior to his retirement, he served

both as a Member and as Chair of the Board of ICPM. The members of the Board offer Bob thanks for his continuous work and ministry on ICPM's behalf over the years, and heartfelt congratulations upon receiving the Polovnikoff-Mokry Lifetime Service Award.

This Award is presented by the Edmonton Chapter of Project Ploughshares, the Ecumenical Peace Agency of the Canadian Council of Churches, which works with churches, governments and civil society, in Canada and abroad, to advance policies and actions to prevent war and armed violence and build peace. The award presented to Bob McKeon on September 29 is made possible by bequests received in 2008 from the estates of Mary Polovnikoff and Antony Mokry.

*Jim Whittle  
Volunteer, ICPM*

## BANNOCK AND STONES WITH GLORY LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 7 was a beautiful fall evening on the land, as Glory Lutheran Church in Sherwood Park hosted a fireside event for their community and guests. About 60 people attended, both from the Church community and the surrounding area. The land that the church sits on certainly lives up to its name! We were surrounded by Creator's glory, from the amazing landscape to the beautiful sky view. It was a perfect spot to host the Standing Stones worship service.

The church invited Native Delights, a local Indigenous catering company, to this event, so everyone got to enjoy a bannock burger! After fellowship and feasting on the burgers and other delicious potluck dishes, we all congregated around the campfire for the Standing Stones worship service.

This fireside event began with an acknowledgement of Treaty 6 territory, a gift to Pastor Markus Wilhelm for the invitation to be with their community, and a drum song. Then followed the

Standing Stones Liturgy, which connects worship in the Western Christian tradition with Indigenous religious traditions, and is now used by several congregations in the Edmonton area, including ICPM's Community of Emmanuel. Its name derives from Cree culture, in which stones serve as location markers for food caches, graves, and other ceremonial sites. Honouring Cree traditions and teachings, the service is conducted in the four directions: to the East, the prayer circle; to the South, the wisdom circle; to the West, the healing circle; and to the North, the thanksgiving circle. There was smudging with prayer, drum songs, story telling,

and a time for reflection, during which a couple of the participants volunteered to share! It was a rich time of fellowship and worship together in the midst of God's creation.

ICPM Board Member Sue Pasker attended, and commented that "it was a glorious evening at Glory Lutheran Church, as Michelle took us on her personal journey, and introduced us to the Standing Stones worship service. We shared a wonderful time of reflection, truly a blessing from above!"

*Michelle Nieviadomy  
Oskapewis, ICPM*



**Michelle Lighting the Christ Candle**



*“You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity.”*

— 2 Corinthians 9:11

**D**o you consider yourself a generous person? Do you want to be a more generous person? What holds you back? What is God calling you to be?

Practising generosity is like practising to be a great runner or a great golfer. It takes time, patience and persistence. It takes planning, requiring us to review who we are, and the direction of our life. Importantly, practising generosity involves prayer; it asks us to recognize that this is God’s world, and that we are given opportunities to make it better for those who have less. Practising generosity also involves critical thinking. For example, when we give in a manner that is haphazard, reactive, and minimalist, we miss out on the joy of being generous.

We can be extravagant givers. Extravagant givers change their lives in order to become even more generous, because of the joy that this brings them. Extravagant givers do not wait to be asked, but respond when they see a need. They are the good Samaritans who live amongst us. People who practise extravagant generosity change lives.

What should we do if we wish to be more generous, if we wish to become

extravagant givers? We can practise. We can learn. We can examine our pattern of giving, to increase its impact for those who have much less. We can learn to enjoy giving. We can set priorities. For many of us, our churches come first, because it is

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*“Merciful God, take from our eyes the dust that blinds us, that we may treat one another by the light of your compassion, and in the Spirit of Jesus Christ who is the light of the world.”*

~ Jim Cotter ~

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there that we’ve experienced the Spirit at work. But we know too that the Spirit is profoundly active at ICPM, sometimes in

very dramatic ways, and certainly in lives more damaged and uncertain than our own.

Recently ICPM introduced a monthly giving program to assist donors who wish to give consistently throughout the year. For those who use it, the plan makes it possible to budget one’s giving over the year, and to top it up when the annual Advent letter arrives. Canada Helps also offers a monthly giving program. Please find more information about monthly giving on the ICPM web site; scan the accompanying QR code, or go to [www.icpmmedmonton.ca](http://www.icpmmedmonton.ca).

David Barnum  
Board Member, ICPM



This QR code to the ICPM’s website can be scanned by a smartphone app.



## SOBEYS GIFT CARDS

**Purchase Sobeys gift cards and support the Inner City Pastoral Ministry!**

Buy your gift cards from ICPM in denominations of \$25, \$50, or \$100. You get the full face value when using them at Sobeys, and ICPM receives 8% of the face value. It’s a true win-win: we all need to buy food, using the grocery cards doesn’t cost anything extra, and ICPM benefits!

Coby Veeken  
Board Member, ICPM

## ICPM Mission Statement

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



## A MESSAGE FROM THE "CHAIR"

One Sunday this past summer I came to the Bissell Centre to take part in the weekly worship service of the Community of Emmanuel, and the lunch that follows. I had been to these programs before, but I felt a need to renew my connection with our Sunday ministry. I arrived early, when the hall was empty and quiet. But the stirrings of activity from our food coordinators, Linda and Annie, getting ready for the volunteers from the serving churches, and the setting up of our new sound system by Pastor Rick, Michelle and Farley, were evidence that things would soon get much busier. Between 8:30 and 9:00 there was a steady stream of volunteers arriving from St. Matthew's Anglican in St. Albert and Highlands United in Edmonton, bringing with them bags and boxes of food, along with their enthusiasm and commitment.

In no time at all, the hall was full of activity, as many hands organized the food for lunch and set out the chairs and tables. Community members began to arrive as well, anxious to be present for the worship service scheduled to start at 11:00. Gradually the hall filled up, and then Pastor Rick began to speak to a

room full of attentive ears and eyes that were deeply engaged with the flow of the service.

I noticed that a lineup was starting to form outside, members of the community who did not wish to be part of the worship service, but who wanted to receive the blessing of the meal available for lunch. I decided to step outside to view the line, and get a feel for how it was functioning. The lineup stretched down the block, and it was growing quickly. There were small groups of two or three people who quietly chatted with one another. Others, by themselves, read books taken from their knapsacks, or drank from their water bottles. Still others reached out their hands to greet old friends as they joined the line. There was no pushing, no raised voices wanting to get inside, no complaining.

I had never imagined that being part of a lineup could be a spiritual experience. I suspect you never have either! But that was what I felt myself sensing that Sunday morning as I watched the community members gather on the sidewalk outside the Bissell Centre. Just as surely as God's spirit was moving

during the worship service inside the Centre, it was also tangible amongst those present outside. It was for me a visceral reminder that God does indeed walk with all of us on our journeys, wherever we have come from and wherever we are going.

Please feel free to come down to the Bissell Centre any Sunday morning. You are always welcome, even though you may not be part of a serving contingent from a church or group. Linda and Annie will be sure to find something for you to do! You will not regret the time you spend in community with those who gather for worship and for lunch.

Thank you to all of you for your interest, for your support, and for your prayers. Everything that you do plays an important part in our ministry. May God's peace and blessings be with you as we continue to answer our common calling.

*John Campbell  
Chair, Board of Directors, ICPM*



## NEW FACES AT ICPM!

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### BILLY ISENER, PASTORAL ASSOCIATE



**B**illy Isenor is from British Columbia, but for the past ten years has made his home in Edmonton, where he attends the Anglican Parishes of St. Stephen the Martyr

and St. Faith. His spiritual background was formed by the spirit of St. Francis. After coming to Edmonton, he pursued his Master of Theological Studies at Newman Theological College, graduating in 2010. He has served in various ministerial roles, which include chaplain at the Edmonton Institution for Women, and at Alberta Hospital Edmonton. In addition, he has preached at parish missions, written articles concerning Franciscan spirituality, and worked both at Hope Mission and the Boyle McCauley Health Centre. When not busy with ministry, he likes to keep his former professional cooking skills sharp by

preparing feasts for his family and friends. Billy is very excited to join the ministry team at Inner City Pastoral Ministry as Pastoral Associate. His first volunteer ministry experience took place at ICPM in 2004. It was then that he experienced first-hand the light and spirit of this faith community, which instilled in his heart a desire to serve in ministry.

*Billy Isenor  
Pastoral Associate, ICPM*

### GORDON HOLUB, INDIGENOUS HELPER



**G**ordon, or Gord as everyone knows him, is ICPM's Indigenous Helper. He works with Michelle, supporting the Ministry of the Oskapewis, and he assists Pastor Rick with the Men's Ministry.

Gord worked in the oil fields and in the manufacturing industry for many years. He is now enrolled in academic upgrading at Norquest College, preparing himself to enter a Social Work Program. Gord's career dream is to become a certified Addictions Counsellor.

For many years, Gord struggled with addictions. I met him at the McCullough Centre, an addictions recovery and care facility located west of Edmonton near the town of Gunn. During the Standing Stones ceremony that ICPM conducted at the Centre, Gord offered the smudge and prayers, giving thanks to the Creator. When the Ministry Team entered into

dialogue with the men regarding the nature of recovery and the need for spiritual life, Gord shared very insightful reflections on his own spiritual journey. His spirituality is centred in the Indigenous way, a journey that includes the teachings of Indigenous Elders and the ceremonial life of his people.

Once Gord had resettled in Edmonton, ICPM invited him to enter into the inner city ministry, where he offers support in spiritual recovery within the life of the community. Welcome Gord!

*Rick Chapman +  
Pastor, ICPM*

### BRUCE THOMPSON, ARTIST IN RESIDENCE



**B**ruce Thompson is a landscape artist and environmental scientist living in the Edmonton area. As a scientist, he has worked throughout Canada and in

many other parts of the world, including Africa, Southeast Asia and Latin America. For the last 20 years, he has been active in providing environmental training and technical support to First Nations and Métis communities in northern Alberta and British Columbia, as well as in planning urban spaces. He began painting after moving to Alberta, where he was greatly inspired by the wide open spaces and beautiful skies. He combines his love of the outdoors in both his art and his environmental work. Bruce has been active in teaching art, particularly at the Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital in Edmonton.

As an ICPM volunteer, Bruce is giving a series of eight workshops that provide an introduction to painting with watercolours, beginning September 20 and continuing with weekly sessions until mid-November. Held at the Bissell Centre, the workshops are for anyone who has an interest in art and painting, and will introduce participants to the methods, materials and process of painting with watercolours. No experience is necessary.

*Bruce Thompson  
Artist in Residence, ICPM*

# EMMANUEL CHRISTMAS SACKS

## 2016

Looking ahead, we are thinking about the 2016 Christmas celebrations in the inner city. Once again, ICPM anticipates distributing the Emmanuel Christmas Gift Sacks to the homeless and those in need. As you may be aware, many churches and caring individuals support the annual Emmanuel Christmas Gift Sack appeal, and we are very grateful to all those who have contributed in previous years.

The Sacks are stuffed with useful and festively seasonal items. The gift bags that have proved most satisfactory in the past are Ziploc 2 Gallon / XL freezer or storage bags, 33 cm x 38.1 cm (13 x 15 5/8 in.). The Emmanuel Christmas Gift

Sacks are filled with the following items:

### Standard:

- Waterproof ski gloves (Med. for women, Lg. for men)
- toque and scarf
- cotton socks
- comb and/or brush
- shampoo (small)
- hand lotion (small)
- Kleenex (small)
- deodorant
- toothbrush/toothpaste (small)
- washcloth (white in color, as color bleaches into clothing upon washing)

### Also...Christmas treats and small gifts such as...

- candy cane and/or chocolate bar
- crossword or 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 (for women)
- note pad and pencil
- hot shots (hand warmers)
- package of hot chocolate or cup of soup

### Other items needed for the Community Cupboard (not included in the Gift Sacks):

- underwear and long johns (male M & L; female S, M, & L)
- bus tickets
- hoodies

### DELIVERY:

We welcome donations of filled bags, and of items to be included in the bags. All donations should be marked for ICPM, and delivered during the week of December 12 - 16 (Monday to Friday) to:

**Bissell Centre East**  
**10527 - 96 Street NW**

during the hours of the Bissell Centre Reception Desk, 9:30 am - 4 pm.

**DISTRIBUTION** will take place on Sunday December 25, during the Community of Emmanuel Worship Service and the lunch that follows.

### CONTACTS:

Pastor Rick Chapman+  
 (780) 424-7652 or (780) 934-7144

Sue - Christmas Sack Coordinator  
 (780) 417-3906

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

## CHURCHES AND SYNAGOGUES PROVIDING SUNDAY LUNCH

### FALL 2016

#### October 2

Spirit West United Church  
 St. Albert Evangelical Lutheran Church

#### October 9: Thanksgiving

Synagogues of the Jewish Community

#### October 16

Lord of Life Lutheran Church  
 Grace Lutheran Church, Wetaskiwin

#### October 23: Homeless Connect Sunday at the Shaw Conference Centre

Bardo Lutheran Church, Tofield

#### October 30

Sherwood Park United Church

#### November 6

St. John's Lutheran Church, Ardrossan  
 Holy Trinity Anglican Church

#### November 13

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

#### November 20

Christ the King Anglican Church

#### November 27

Salem Mennonite Church, Tofield  
 Tofield Mennonite Church

#### December 4

St. Timothy's Anglican Church

#### December 11

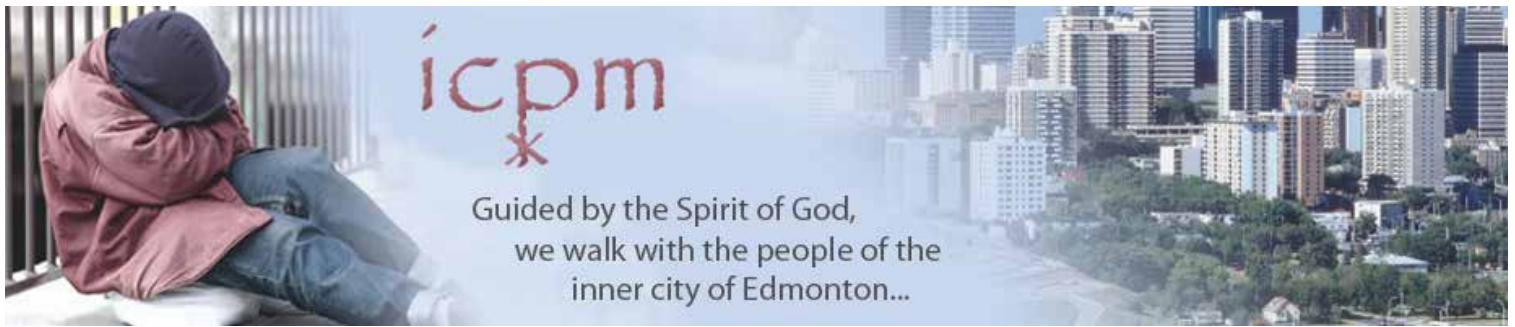
St. Thomas More Roman Catholic Church

#### December 18

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church,  
 Sherwood Park

#### December 25: Christmas Day

Synagogues of the Jewish Community



You can donate to ICPM quickly and easily online! Go to [www.CanadaHelps.org](http://www.CanadaHelps.org)  
Search for "Inner City Pastoral Ministry". All who donate \$10 or more receive a tax receipt.

**Enclosed is my gift for Inner City Pastoral Ministry**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_ Prov \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Ph \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**ICPM Board Members 2016**

- John Campbell .....Lutheran - Board Chair
- David Barnum.....Anglican - Board Vice-Chair
- Nancy Kerr.....United - Past Board Chair
- Ann Matheson .....Anglican - Treasurer
- Victoria Wynn.....United - Secretary
- Sue Pasker .....Lutheran - Emmanuel Christmas Sack Coordinator
- Sharon Webb.....Anglican - Sunday Lunch Coordinator

**Members at Large**

- Linda Boire .....Roman Catholic
- Rev. Nancy Steeves .....United
- Coby Veeken.....Roman Catholic
- Rev. Linda Whittle.....Anglican
- Pastor Philip Penrod .....Lutheran

**Ministry Team**

- Rev. Rick Chapman.....Anglican - Pastor
- Michelle Nieviadomy .....Indigenous - Oskapewis
- Billy Isenor .....Anglican - Pastoral Associate
- Bruce Thompson.....Anglican - Artist in Residence
- Gord Holub .....Indigenous Helper
- Linda Heywood.....Food Coordinator
- Ann-Marie Johnson .....Food Coordinator
- Tanya Eckenswiller .....United - Admin Assistant
- Nicole Wiebe .....Evangelical Free - Graphic Design
- Jim Whittle .....Anglican - Newsletter Copy Editor



## **INNER CITY PASTORAL MINISTRY**

Straight From The Street

c/o Bissell Centre

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