

Hello!

It seems we got an “amuse bouche” of spring to be followed by an unsavoury main of winter. It will be short lived, we have almost gotten through the cycle of short days.

Tax receipts will be available for pick up at the church office on Wednesday, February 10th. Receipts that are not picked up will be mailed at 4pm of the same day.

Rev. Lynn has prepared “Lent in a bag” packages. These packages contain objects and suggestions on weekly reflections and activities. Please come by the church and we will give you one!

A publication that may be of interest and generate ideas for Westminster:

Thriving Churches: Rural and Urban Successes

Lorraine MacKenzie Shepherd

“Thriving Churches identifies characteristics shared by successful churches and common spiritual attributes that connect to the early churches, as described in scripture. Filled with concrete examples from congregations of various sizes, this book will inspire other churches. Also included is an eight-page study guide on spiritual attributes of thriving churches.”

This book can be purchased at the United Church Bookstore:

<https://ucrdstore.ca/products/thriving-churches-rural-and-urban-successes>

Minutes for Mission: “Living the Dream”

“The sustainability goals are important because we are all interconnected...”



Mission & Service is one of the ways we work toward meeting the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

What are your dreams for the world? And if you could turn your dreams into concrete goals, what would they be? Surely, right now a quick end to the COVID-19 pandemic would top the list!

Did you know the United Nations made a list of 17 Sustainable Development Goals for the world? In 2015, the UN vowed to achieve these goals by 2030. The list includes eliminating poverty and hunger as well as making sure everyone has access to quality education and health care.

These are ambitious goals. In light of COVID-19, they are more necessary than ever. The first week of February is International Development Week (IDW). During this week, Global Affairs Canada encourages organizations across the country to celebrate the ways we are working to achieve the UN's goals.

Did you know your generosity through Mission & Service supports justice work in 19 countries around the world through 80 trusted organizational partnerships? In Canada, we support 81 life-changing ministries like food banks and shelters. These numbers aren't empty statistics; they reflect real people who, thanks to Mission & Service, receive the support they need. This support means they can

access crucial things the goals highlight, like clean water, food, education, and healthcare.

“The sustainability goals are important because we are all interconnected, and as people of faith, we are called to care about the world. What’s happening globally affects us here, and what happens here has a global impact,” says Thivan Hoang, Program Coordinator for Sustainable Development and Humanitarian Response at The United Church of Canada. “In the COVID-19 crisis we’ve seen, for example, how parts of the world that don’t have the means or governance to protect and vaccinate affects all of us. This crisis has really underlined that there is no us and them. We are one community. Keeping our eye on the goals reminds us of that.” Mission & Service is your church—our church—in action. Together, we work to achieve life-changing, indeed world-changing, goals.

Mission & Service is one of the ways we are living the dream—God’s dream of a world where no one goes hungry, no one lacks healthcare, and no one feels alone.

Thank you for your generosity.