

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

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Bethany Pastoral Charge
7171 Clinton Ave
Halifax NS B3L 3Y8

You shall love your neighbour as yourself.

Mark 12:31 (NRSV)

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you for all you do to live out Jesus' teachings of loving one another. God's compassionate presence is made real by the generosity of our lives. Today, we are especially thankful for your generosity for Mission & Service in 2018. We are grateful to the people of **Bethany Pastoral Charge** for giving a total of **\$20,968** for Mission & Service. We recognize the United Church Women of **Bethany Pastoral Charge** who have given **\$500** of this amount.

Mission & Service giving means that families needing food and care are welcomed and fed; people in the hospital are visited and accompanied; people seeking justice are supported in their call for rights, people needing housing find shelter and security; students receive bursaries for their journey to becoming ministers; churches testing innovative ministry ideas get funding and coaching; people from the margins find a welcome and a home; and searchers find belonging.

The enclosed Mission & Service resources show what our gifts for Mission & Service do in the church and in the world. These resources, alongside *Minutes for Mission*, provide so much Mission & Service inspiration.

In addition to the Mission & Service resources in this package, we're including the guide to our congregational giving program *Called to Be the Church: Loving Our Neighbours*. This program is grounded in stewardship practices that place mission at the heart of the church's life.

You make great things happen through Mission & Service and through the ministry of your local church. You are truly an example of what it means to love one another! On behalf of our neighbours whose lives are changed by your generosity, thank you for your vital Mission & Service ministry.

Blessings,

David Armour
Director of Philanthropy