



# MISSION & SERVICE



**GOD'S MISSION**  
**OUR GIFTS**

# **New Minutes For Mission 2021**

**COVID-19 has changed everything!**

- ❖ **Before the pandemic, we sent Minute For Mission stories to print nearly a year ahead of when you read them.**
- ❖ **Many of these stories centered on ways we help people face-to-face or described large in-person gatherings.**



# **New Minutes For Mission 2021**

- ❖ **When the pandemic hit, the stories seemed out of touch. Our materials, so much geared to hour-long in-person worship didn't work for everyone anymore either.**
- ❖ **We want to share how your support helps transform and save lives right now, especially as the pandemic makes Canadians and people around the world even more vulnerable. So...**



# New Minutes For Mission 2021

- ✓ 8 “evergreen” stories in print form and online
- ✓ Accompanying devotions to use in meetings or for personal reflection
- ✓ Videos and slides that can be adapted for a variety of screens and shorter synopses well-suited for social media and bulletins are available online.





# New Minutes For Mission 2021

+ Special Thanksgiving, Christmas & Easter stories available in multiple formats

+ News features published all year long to describe up-to-the-minute ways your gifts are making a difference

= **timely, relevant** stories of good news about what your gifts are doing right now.



# **New Minutes For Mission 2021**

**Where can I get these incredible stories?**

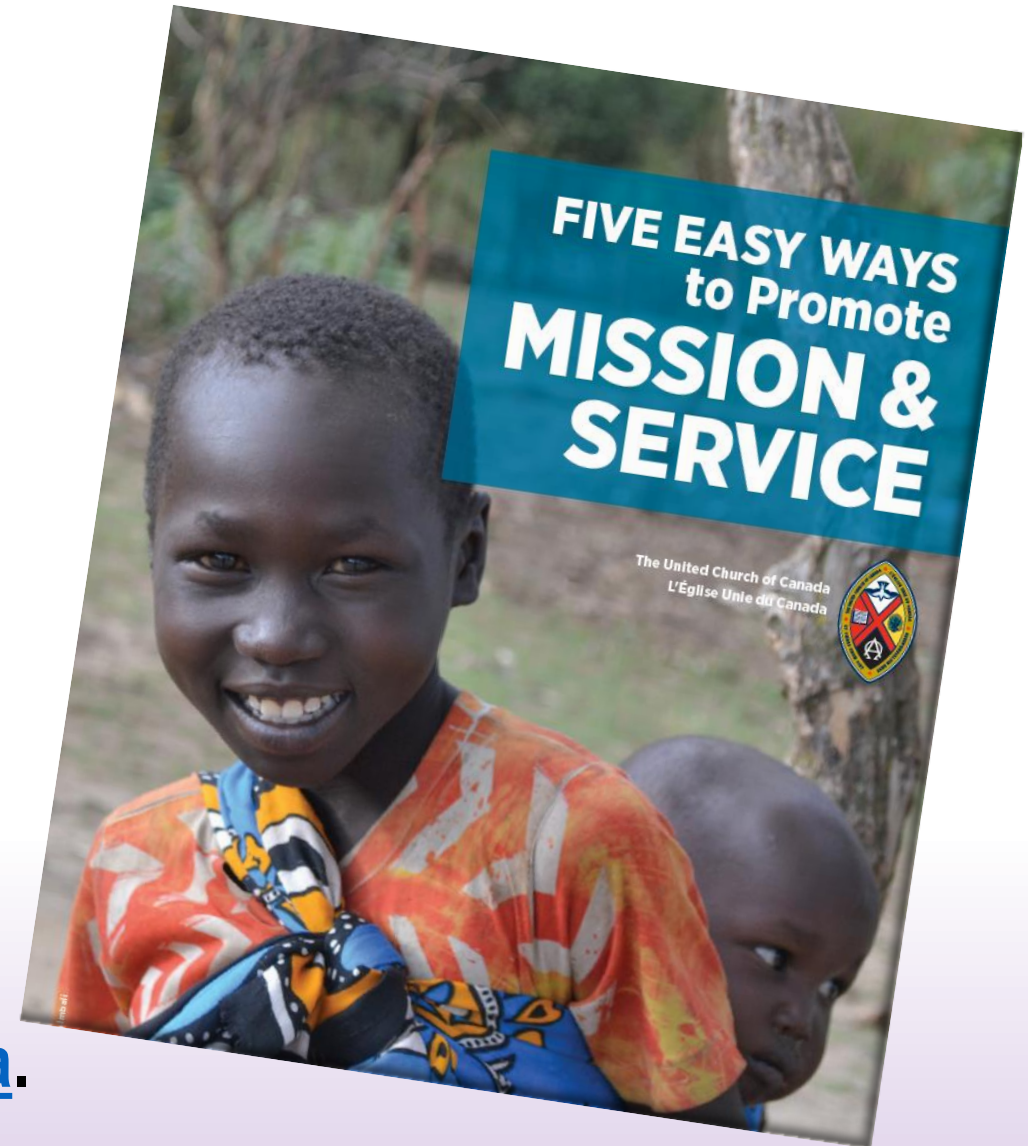
- ❖ **Access all of the stories online at [www.united-church.ca](http://www.united-church.ca).  
Click on Mission & Service on the homepage.**
- ❖ **Or subscribe to the newsletter God's Mission-Our Gifts and have all of the current stories delivered right to your inbox every month.  
Email [ms@united-church.ca](mailto:ms@united-church.ca) to subscribe.**



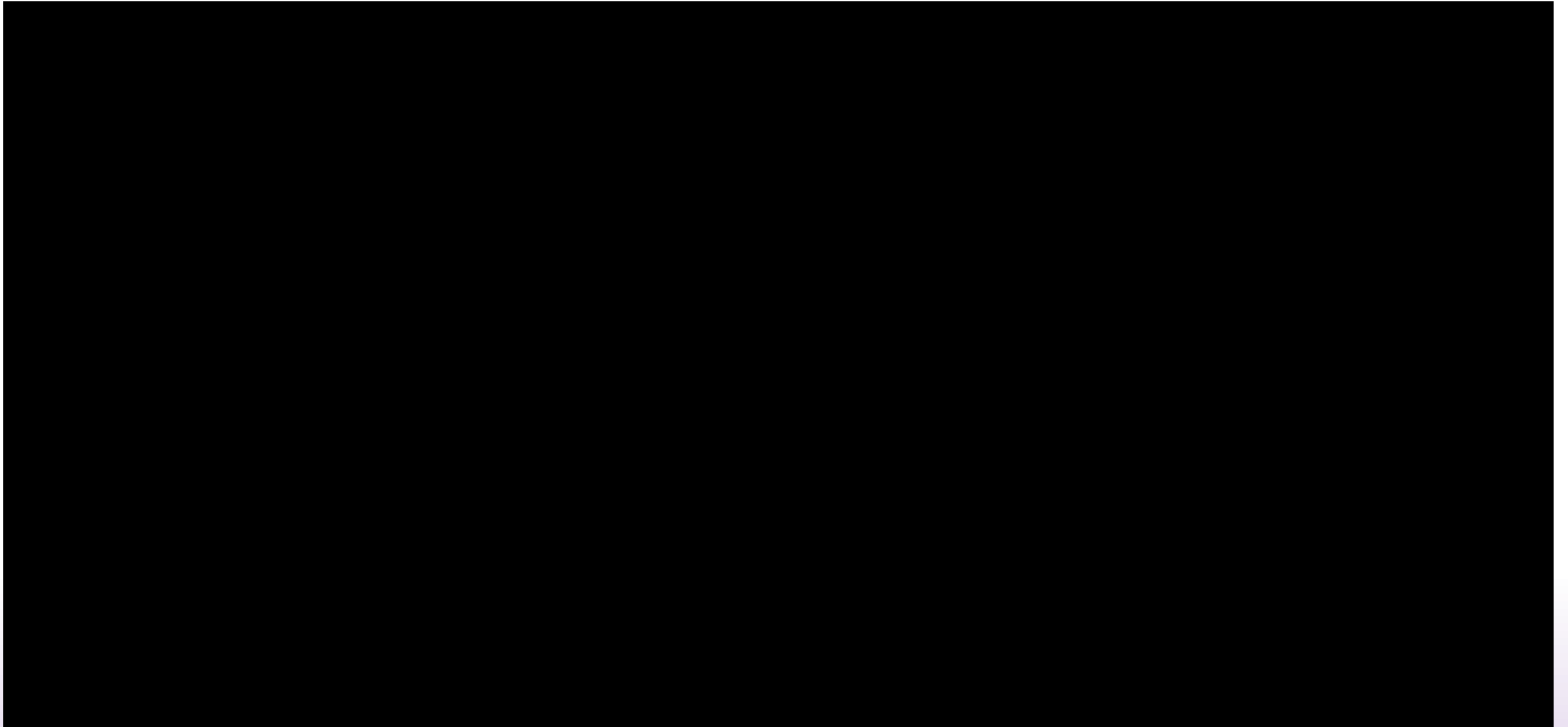
# New Guide To Help You Promote Mission & Service

- ❖ Describes the focus and impact of Mission & Service
- ❖ Gives practical tips to inspire, invite and thank your church members for their gifts
- ❖ Shares an easy Mission & Service Sunday plan

Ask your regional stewardship staff to send you the PDF. Or find it at [www.united-church.ca](http://www.united-church.ca).



# **The latest Mission & Service video!**





A young boy with short dark hair, wearing a light green t-shirt, stands in a field of dry, yellowish-brown grass. He is looking slightly to the left of the camera with a neutral expression. The background is a clear blue sky with a soft gradient.

# Amazing News!

Together, as a United Church, we raised over **\$260,000** to help those around the world who are more vulnerable than ever because of COVID-19  
**Thank you!!!**



**How are your  
gifts through  
the COVID-19  
emergency  
appeal making  
a difference?**

# In Zimbabwe, pastors are among the most vulnerable.

Under lockdown, where church attendance is prohibited, ministers whose survival depends on weekly donations can no longer support themselves and their families. Overnight, many are going hungry.

Because of your gift to the Emergency Covid-19 Appeal, nearly a hundred pastors and their families now have food and masks.

By supporting leaders, your generosity reaches out even further.

Your gift means that these vital community leaders can get back to work on the front lines of the crisis, disseminating hygiene information, coordinating community efforts to combat the virus and providing counselling to families.







## **And that's the beginning of what your gifts make possible...**

At relief camps in India for example, hundreds are supported through your generosity, receiving safety kits consisting of masks, soaps, sanitizers and meal kits with staples like rice, oil, potatoes, milk and bread. Over 1900 marginalized people living in Angola, including seniors and people with disabilities, have received life-saving food, too.

**Your generosity is doing a world of good where it is needed most.**



# **transforms & saves lives**

- ✓ Food
- ✓ Water
- ✓ Health Care
- ✓ Education
- ✓ Human Rights





**MISSION&SERVICE**

# **inspires meaning & purpose**

- ✓ Ministry training
- ✓ Youth programs
- ✓ Innovative ministries
- ✓ Congregational support





**MISSION & SERVICE**

# **builds a better world**

- ✓ Indigenous justice
- ✓ Climate care
- ✓ LGBTQ+ advocacy
- ✓ Global emergencies



# Mary Joe's story



**While living on the streets in Edmonton, Mary Joe was robbed and nearly froze to death. The Bissell Centre which is supported by your Mission & Service gifts, helped her find safe housing.**

**Now, Mary Joe has a roof over her head, a job, and gives back to the Centre by volunteering.**

**Your Mission & Service gifts help give people like Mary Joe a fresh start.**



 **MISSION&SERVICE**

## **Robert's story**



**When he was 54 years old, Robert suffered a stroke. For the last 6 years, he has been recovering and unable to work. Disability payments get him through the month but only with a little help.**

**At Our Place, an organization that your Mission & Service gifts help sustain, Robert often enjoys lunches that help him stretch his dollars and give him an opportunity to socialize.**

**Robert says your help “makes the day go a little easier.” Thank you!**

# Asia's story



**Asia found herself pregnant when she was seventeen. An unstable home life made finishing studies impossible. Sadly, Asia had to leave home.**

**Your generosity was there for her when she needed help, providing safe housing and support through the Massey Centre. Asia has since graduated from university and is working on a master's degree.**

**Your gifts make all the difference.**





**MISSION&SERVICE**

# **Mambud's story**



**Mambud, a minister living in Sierra Leone, started a soccer league for amputees who lost limbs in the civil war.**

**Now, thanks to farming courses he took at the Asian Rural Institute, a Mission & Service partner, Mambud and his soccer players are converting fields into community gardens, sustaining themselves and feeding their neighbourhoods.**

**Your gifts transform lives. Thank you!**

## **Baby Bok Ryan's story**

**Baby Bok Ryan who lives in North Korea was hungry and malnourished. She was severely underweight and her growth was delayed. Then, she received a nutritional supplement supported by your Mission & Service gifts called "Sprinkles."**

**As soon as Bok Ryan began taking the supplements, she started gaining weight and growing. Today, she is a healthy one year old. Your support saves lives!**







# MISSION & SERVICE

leadership

creating community

**saving lives**

development

Christian camping

food, shelter &

**sustaining ministry**

job training

creation care

clothing

equipping disciples

youth & young adult ministry

**mental health care**

advocacy

education

sparkling innovation

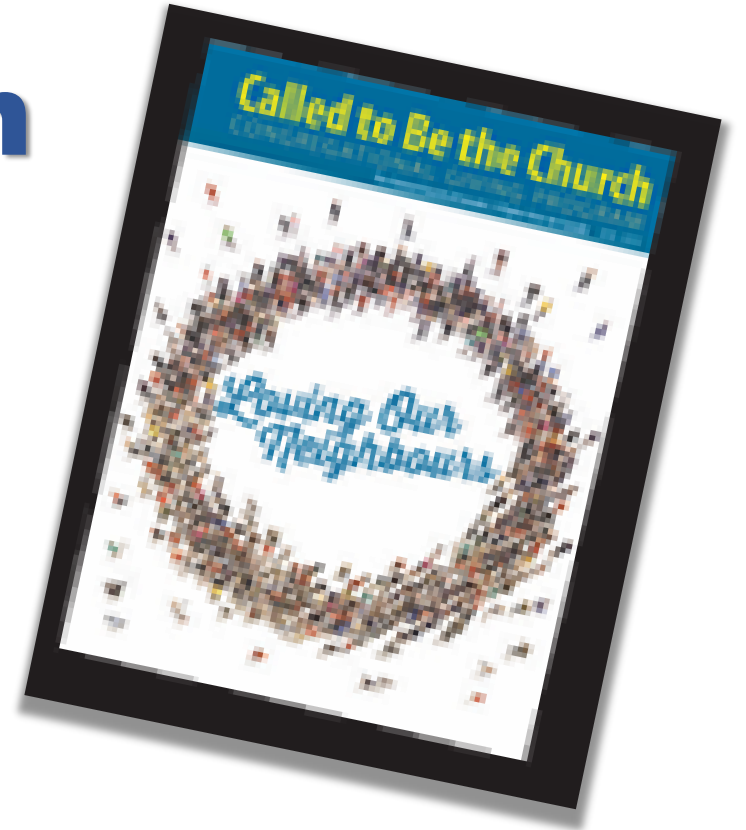
living into Right Relations

## How will you join God's Mission?

# Called To Be The Church

**3 weeks of this  
congregational giving program  
features Mission & Service**

[www.united-church.ca](http://www.united-church.ca)



“Our ministers and lay leaders love the kit. Keep up the good work.”

“Enjoyable experience. Very helpful. Lots of choices.”

“I love that it is a sound United Church approach.”

“Excellent program. It inspired us to do a stewardship campaign.”

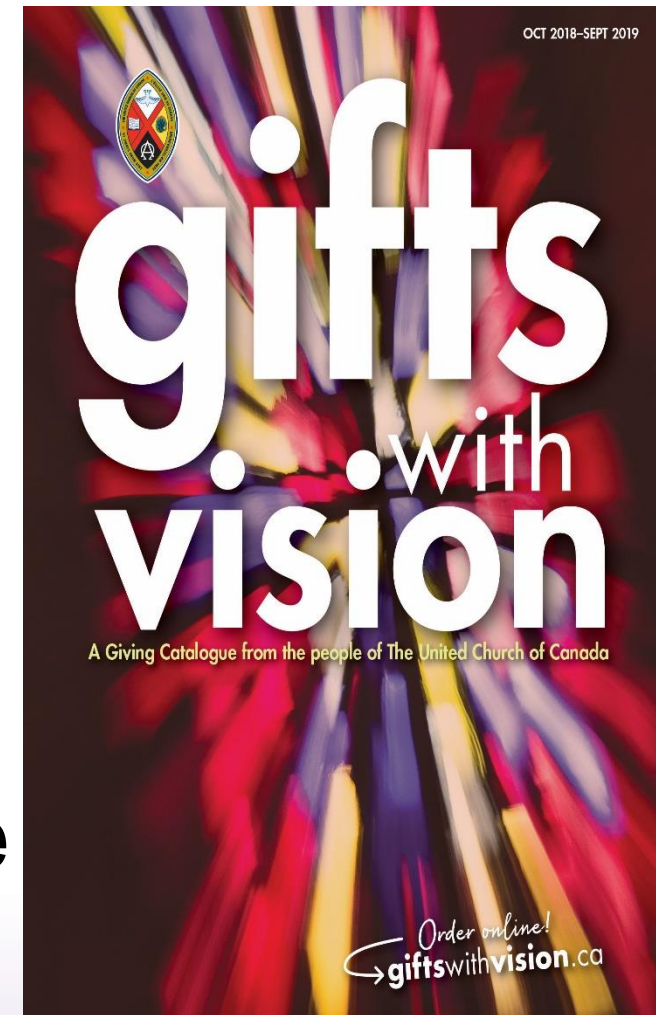


# Gifts With Vision

a difference-making giving catalogue,  
is your opportunity to change someone's life  
while honouring family and friends in any  
life occasion or season.

Gifts supporting projects of our Canadian,  
Indigenous Canadian, and global Mission & Service  
partners are available at various dollar amounts.

[www.giftswithvision.ca](http://www.giftswithvision.ca)



# there's room to make an even bigger difference

Nationally, 42% of people who give to the local church also give for Mission & Service.

Let's inspire & invite every person in our community of faith to make a meaningful annual gift for Mission & Service and thank them for doing so.








# Inspire!

- ✓ **Personal testimony**
- ✓ **Storytelling**
- ✓ **Narrative Budget**
- ✓ **Worship & Learning Opportunities**



# How would you fill in the blank?

A pair of hands is shown from a top-down perspective, cupping a small amount of dark soil. A tiny green seedling with three leaves is growing out of the soil. The background is a soft, out-of-focus grey.

**“I support  
Mission & Service  
(giving through  
PAR, or weekly,  
or.....) because...”**

**“Join me in  
supporting  
Mission &  
Service  
because...”**

# **Invite!**

- ✓ **Your invitation matters. Our Mission & Service saves lives. Through our Mission & Service, we are inviting people to create a better world.**
- ✓ **We are at our best when we are generous. We bring out the best in others when we invite them to be generous. Giving feels good.**
- ✓ **When we give to Mission & Service, we are joining God's mission and becoming more like Jesus. Giving to Mission & Service is responding to our call to discipleship.**



# invitation tips...

## → **face to face – peer to peer**

Be authentic. Talk about outcomes of Mission & Service or changed hearts or why you care about what the person cares about.

## → **small groups**

Gather in small groups for coffee and conversation about Mission & Service.

## → **repeat invitations**

Tell the stories of Mission & Service and invite people to make a meaningful gift for Mission & Service regularly.

# **you can invite...**

“Our Mission & Service is hope and love in action. Just as Jesus called his followers to a way of compassion and transformation in his time, we too are called to the same mission. By making Mission & Service a part of our giving, we are each answering God’s call for us to build a better world.

I invite you today to join me in giving generously for Mission & Service. I give to Mission & Service because (fill in the blank).

If you gave to Mission & Service last year, thank you. Your giving made a difference in people’s lives. I am inviting you to please give again now.

If you did not give to Mission & Service last year, please start right now. Make this the year you make giving to Mission & Service a regular part of your life of faith.”

# Thank!

✓ **Timely**

✓ **Personal**

✓ **Sincere**





# thanking tips

- **Acknowledge** the gift quickly & explicitly: What exactly was given, and for what? Describe the impact of the gift.
- **Connect** with givers. Send thank you cards or make phone calls to special and new givers. Say thank you often in communications like newsletters and social media
- **Share** the certificate of thanksgiving sent to your community of faith.
- **Give** United Church crest lapel pins as a thank you for special gifts.

# 4 easy ways to give...

✓ **through your community of faith:**

make a pledge, use envelopes,  
sign up for pre-authorized remittance

✓ **mail:** Mission & Service

The United Church of Canada,  
3250 Bloor Street West, Suite 200,  
Etobicoke ON,  
M8X 2Y4

✓ **online:** donate at [united-church.ca](http://united-church.ca)

✓ **phone:** 1-800-268-3781 ext. 2738



# stay in touch...

- 1** follow us on Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/GodsMissionOurGifts](http://www.facebook.com/GodsMissionOurGifts)  
Twitter @UCCanmission\_service
- 2** participate in webinars through [www.united-in-learning.com](http://www.united-in-learning.com)
- 3** subscribe to the monthly Philanthropy E-news: [www.united-church.ca/newsletters](http://www.united-church.ca/newsletters)
- 4** see [www.united-church.ca](http://www.united-church.ca) for Mission & Service info





# MISSION & SERVICE

*Thank you!*

**Every time I think of you,  
I give thanks to my God.**

**Phillipians 1:3**



**Your Title Here**

**Your regional information here**

**Your Title Here**

**Your regional information here**



**Your Title Here**

**Your regional information here**