

## MISSION MINUTES 2017

December 10, 2017

Global Mission & Service

### Conflict Resolution in the Midst of Violence

Our gifts for Mission & Service support the work of resolution in places of conflict. Let us hear a story from Palestine.

In Bethlehem, the largely Christian-Palestinian city of Jesus' birth, Wi'am strives to build a just society through mediation, conflict resolution, and non-violence. Its premises are bordered on one side by Israel's controversial separation wall (deemed illegal by the International Court of Justice in 2005) and on another side by a street that often sees confrontations between Palestinian protestors and Israeli soldiers. Rocks, tear gas canisters, rubber bullets, and live ammunition sometimes land in Wi'am's garden. "Simply being present here is an act of non-violence," Programme Manager Imad Nassar says.

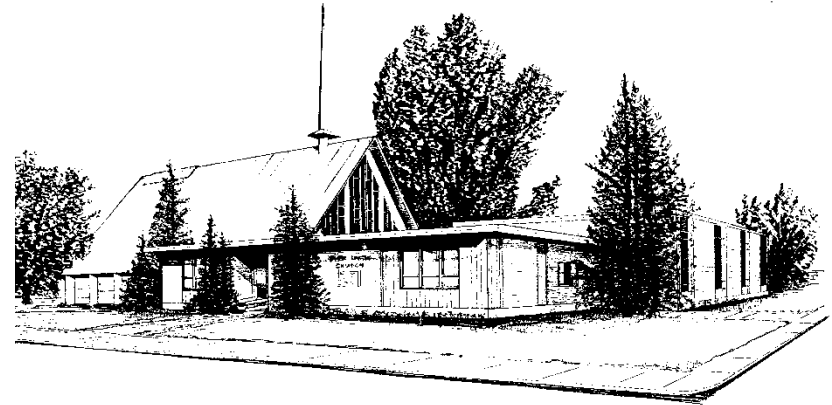
Wi'am, a Mission & Service partner, works with all sectors of Palestinian society, Christian and Muslim, women and men, from schoolchildren to the elderly, addressing issues such as domestic violence, economic empowerment, peer relationships, and living under occupation.

In its work with schools, Wi'am teaches children and young adults the skills they need to mediate conflict in non-violent ways and how to live and work in a society under the constant stresses of occupation. Since starting its workshops, there has been a significant decrease in violence in the schools it has been working in. Former students talk about how Wi'am changed their lives, gave them confidence, and put them in situations where they met Israeli students like them on neutral ground— often the first time they'd met Israelis who weren't soldiers.

We sing thanksgiving for the conflict resolution and mediation of Wi'am supported through Mission & Service.

If Mission & Service is already a regular part of your giving, thank you so much! If you have not given for Mission & Service, please join me in making Mission & Service a regular part of your life of faith. In all our Mission & Service giving, with a willing heart, we sing thanksgiving to God!

# Covenant United Church



"We are Covenant United Church; an inviting Christian community who embrace change and reach out to make a local and a global difference."

#### PASTORAL TEAM

Minister: Rev. Cindy Désilets  
Music: Tim Tonkin  
Secretary: Jacqueline Girard

#### OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Thursday  
9:30 am to 12:30 pm

#### CHURCH

230 Eighth Avenue  
Timmins, ON P4N 5S1

#### WORSHIP

Sunday: 10:30 am  
Sunday School: Sept-May

Tel.: 264-5518

Fax: 264-5517

Email: [covenanttimmins@ntl.sympatico.ca](mailto:covenanttimmins@ntl.sympatico.ca)

Website: <http://www.covenantunitedtimmins.ca>

## **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2017**

Welcome newcomers and visitors to the care and fellowship of Covenant United Church. Please introduce yourself to the minister or one of the ushers so that we may help you feel at home.

### **MANITOU PRAYER LIST**

*Trinity United – Iroquois Falls*

*St. Andrew's United – Matheson*

Laura Hutchison (LMA)

*Spirit Dancing Presbytery*

*Retired/Retained/in Special Ministries*

Bruce Thomson (OM), Retained, *North Bay Presbytery*

### **The Offering Boxes for 2018**

are in the foyer ready for pick up.

### **COVENANT ADVENT GIFT**

Join Covenant United in celebrating Advent through donations for a Solar Panel to provide power to a rural household in the Philippines. Many areas of the Philippines have had no power since Typhoon Haiyan in 2013. Through Gifts with Vision sponsored by the United Church of Canada we can collectively donate a SOLAR POWER KIT to provide power for home lighting, a radio, and charge a cellphone and portable flashlight. The cost is \$350. White envelopes are available for those wishing to donate to the Solar Power Kit in the Philippines. Thank you!

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL & OUTREACH BAKE SALE**

Thank you to everyone for the baking donations and buying the wonderful baking. Over \$200 was raised for the YoMobile.



Coffee this morning is brought to you by:

*Pat's Group*

Please stay and enjoy

## **Stewardship seconds**

Stewards trust that God will replenish what has been given freely, and so dare to be wellsprings for others.

### **M&S SNIPPETS**

Our Mission & Service partner Wi'am works with all sectors of Palestinian society, striving to build a just society through mediation, conflict resolution, and non-violence. We sing thanksgiving for their work with Christians and Muslims, women and men, and people of all ages.

### **TIMMINS AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL GROUP**

**This morning**, Covenant United is invited along with the public to participate with the Timmins Amnesty International Group in a *Write – a- Thon* to be held at Covenant United in the South Room after the church service. The cases being focused on this year are posted on the bulletin board in the foyer. Let's show the world is watching.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS**

December 10: Pageant practice this morning

December 19: Children's Christmas Pageant at 10:30 am

### **Lost and found**

A ring was found at the backdoor of the church on Sunday, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Call the office to arrange a time for pick up.

### **Christmas Worship Schedule**

- **Longest Night**  
Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, at 7:00 pm
- **Christmas Eve Service**  
Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm