

MISSION MINUTES 2019

Children Deserve to Be Children *March 24, 2019*

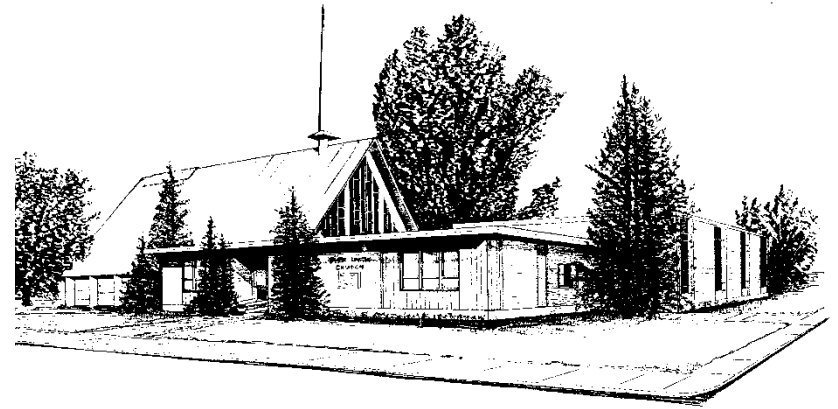
Our gifts for Mission & Service give children in war-torn countries a chance to be children in places like Palestine with the help of Defence for Children International. On a mural in Aida Refugee Camp inside Bethlehem are the words of Article 31 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The article states the right of the child to rest and leisure, to engage in play and recreational activities, and to participate freely in cultural life and the arts.

The refugee camp is less than one kilometer in size and holds more than 5,500 Palestinian refugees. Just around the corner from the mural is a playing field covered by netting. The netting is to protect children from tear gas canisters, rubber bullet capsules, and other debris that Israeli Defence Force soldiers use during their weekly raids on the camp. Children have been reprimanded for playing a game similar to, North American "Cowboys and Indians." The game is called "Palestinians and Settlers." The difference is that the game doesn't end with capture; once captured, the "Palestinian" is punched and kicked by the "Settlers." This is a disturbing normalization of the occupation.

According to the Director of the Accountability, Programme of Defence for Children International, Palestine (DCI-P), 150 to 200 Palestinian children are arrested and persecuted in the Israeli military system each year. Each child is exposed to torture, solitary confinement, physical assault, and interrogation to ensure confession to a crime (whether committed or not). DCI-P reports information gathered from its legal team to UN committees and special rapporteurs. Mission & Service supports children's rights in Palestine.

If Mission & Service giving is already a regular part of your life, thank you so much! If you have not given, please join me in making Mission & Service giving a regular part of your life of faith. Loving our neighbour is at the heart of our Mission & Service.

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

Wednesday
9:30 am to 12:00 pm

CHURCH

230 Eighth Avenue
Timmins, ON P4N 5S1

Tel.: 264-5518
Fax: 264-5517

WORSHIP

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

Email: covenanttimmins@ntl.sympatico.ca
Website: <http://www.covenantunitedtimmins.ca>

SUNDAY MARCH 24, 2019

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.

REFLECTIONS ON STEWARDSHIP

Lent 3 • Luke 13:1-9

The fig tree which bears no fruit is useless to its owner. However, the gardener sees value in it and wants to give it one more opportunity to produce. Are your gifts lying dormant or are you nurturing them into production?

LENTEN PRAYER

Creator God, we thank you for the love and care that you show for us all. Help us to grow in your love, and to share that love with others as we continue on our Lenten journey. Amen.



PANCAKE BRUNCH MARCH 24

Join us this morning for brunch: Pancakes, sausages, baked beans, dessert, tea & coffee. This is a great opportunity to socialize with fellow members. Hope to see you there!

SHARING OF FOOD

On the 1st Sunday of the month we will pray blessings both on the food and on those who share it.

Sunday, April 7, will go towards the **Timmins Food Bank**.
Thank you for your help in fighting to end hunger in our community.



Stewardship seconds

Do you always do just what you've always done?
Find ways to become a positive change in the world.

M&S SNIPPET

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UPCOMING EVENTS

March 26-April 4: 2019 Porcupine Music Festival at Covenant.
For program go to:
<http://www.porcupinemfm.org/english/>

April 14-April 21: Palm Sunday at 10:30 am
Good Friday Service (tba)
Easter Sunday Worship Celebration at 10:30
(Easter Egg Hunt)

"YOUR OLD EYE GLASSES CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE"

We are still collecting used eyeglasses needed for the poor in Third World countries. Thank you for your generosity.



Coffee this morning is brought to you by:

Pancake Brunch this morning

Please stay and enjoy