



Urban Christian Outreach (Ottawa)

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Charitable Registration #13776 1938 RR0001

Update #84

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Dear Friends-in-Christ,

“When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field, or gather the gleanings of your harvest; you shall leave them for the poor and for the alien: I am the Lord your God.”

Leviticus 23:22

Recently, during a daily telephone Bible Study with UCO's artist, M.C., I asked her to reflect on the passage above. With a faith that comes from knowing and loving Jesus, she said,

“God provides for everybody!”

“Yes!”, I replied, in awe of her wisdom. He does, indeed, provide for everyone, for the rich and for the poor. Even in times such as these, as we persevere in the midst of a pandemic, God continues to provide for all of us. His promises are new every morning. COVID-19 affects us all, no matter our financial circumstance.

It is an equalizer to some extent, and yet in many ways, further displays the suffering of the poor among us.

God is providing for those in need through your generosity and through your prayers. As a community serving the poor, Urban Christian Outreach is able to reach out to those in our midst who are struggling to survive, especially during these difficult times. He does this by providing for you, and for putting it on your heart to share your blessings with the poor. Thank you, dear friends, for your heart for Jesus and for his poor. You encourage us!

David said further to his son Solomon, “Be strong and of good courage, and act. Do not be afraid or dismayed; for the Lord God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you, until all the work for the service of the house of the Lords is finished.” 1 Chronicles 28:20

It is out of God's unending love for us, his magnificent generosity, his unfailing grace, that we receive, with thanks. Through your sacrificial offerings, together we are feeding the poor and homeless, and are coming alongside the lonely and marginalized, with a listening ear.



We continue to prepare and deliver care bags, in which we include sandwiches, water, juice, fresh fruit, a treat, sanitizing wipes, facial masks, and a Bible. For those on government assistance, the latter part of the month is especially difficult, as money has often run out. We receive phone calls from people desperate for food. Many are weary from waiting in long line-ups for food and services. Perhaps you can relate.

Paul (not his real name) relies on our help each month. He visits the food bank, where he receives 3 bags of food, once a month. This is intended to last 3 to 4 days. His government cheque pays for rent, a bus pass, hydro, and some food. Paul relies on the generosity of others to make it until the end of the month. He is lonely, as the gathering place where he spends much of his time is closed due to the pandemic. Like many others, Paul misses his social contacts. With Thanksgiving upon us, many will be without family and friends, but for the poor, there is often the added stress of seeking out a meal. This Thanksgiving, instead of enjoying a public meal, Paul will head out on the bus, line up to get his meal, and then with nowhere to sit to eat it, he will wait for the next bus home. Once there, he will re-heat his meal, (or not), and eat alone. He is grateful for everything that our Lord provides. Please pray for Paul and for the many like him who may feel lonely this year. Pray that they will know that the Father is with them and that in Jesus, they may have peace.

Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe? The hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each one to his home, and you will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone because the Father is with me. I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!"
John 16:31-33



The one thing that I have consistently noticed is that when we come alongside the poor to help them, and to provide food and fellowship, whether in person or over the telephone, those who receive are overwhelmingly grateful. They are always giving thanks. When I tell them that there are many faithful Christians praying for them and who give financial gifts to us so that we in turn, can pass them along to them, they are often in disbelief.

I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving.

Psalm 69:30

I often hear, “Wow!”, and, “Please pass along my thanks!”, and so on behalf of all of us at UCO, our faithful Board of Directors, our loving volunteers, and the poor whom it is always a privilege to befriend, “Thank You”, dear supporters and friends of UCO. Thank you, that during these unusual times of trial, when many of you might be struggling, as well, you think of us. We are putting our trust in Jesus, and we pray that you will be blessed this Thanksgiving, not only with fellowship, a warm meal, and good health, but with a fresh infilling of The Holy Spirit. Thanks be to God!

With Gratitude, and Love in Christ,
Jill

How to Donate: I have been asked to share the ways in which one can make a donation to UCO, as the Lord leads. Thanks be to God!

Option #1 is new!

1. By **Interac e-transfer** to: donate@urbanchristianoutreach.ca
2. **By mail**, send a cheque to:
Urban Christian Outreach (Ottawa)
P.O. Box 77033
Ottawa, ON K1S 5N2
3. **By Credit Card:** by following the links on our website at www.uco-ottawa.ca
4. **By Credit Card** through **Canada Helps** at www.canadahelps.ca
5. By payroll deductions: through **The United Way** at www.theunitedway.ca