

**Mission**and**Service**—helping transform lives, inspire meaning and purpose, and build a better world.



### "Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart"

In a world so in need of healing, it is vital to know that God is with us. That the Spirit pours out upon us. That there will be dreamers, and that visions will come to the youth. Visions like the ones we heard at General Council 45 from our youth delegates.

**Ben Ryan (Quebec) said:** "My vision is one where we place the needs of the vulnerable before our own and put our money where our mouths are. It's one where we look to serve our neighbours who need our help. What use is money when we never spend it?"

**Madi Naude (Alberta) said:** "I want the church to care about the world and the people outside of its walls; to be a part of real change, and to not just talk about it."

Matthew Tyhurst (Ontario) said: "I dream of a church that is more than just buildings. I dream of a church that is committed to the work that we do, bold enough to adapt, and mindful of the plan God has for each of us."

These are our youth, our future for The United Church of Canada. They are sharing their visions, and we need to listen. To catch the spark of those visions and share the light with the world. This impact report offers you stories of work in Canada and globally that is made possible through our Mission and Service. We hope these stories, and the many others you can read on our website, will be the spark that inspires you to give and be part of these visions for the future church.

In\_Christ,

Sarah Charters

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### Every parent knows that sometimes you need

some help. Your gifts allow Mission and Service to give that help.

Becoming a new parent can be overwhelming, with the constant demands of caring for a newborn, sleepless nights, and the pressure to make the right choices for your child. The exhaustion of balancing daily responsibilities while navigating the unknowns of parenthood often leaves new parents feeling unsure and isolated. It's a time filled with great joy, but also uncertainty, as parents adjust to their new roles and work to create a safe and nurturing environment for their little one.

At Fairview Resource Centre in Halifax, Nova Scotia, the New Parents Support Group aims to walk with parents as they navigate the complexities of raising a newborn. From expectant parents to those with babies up to 18 months, the program provides resources for those who might not have access to in-person support or resources.

Parents connect not only with health professionals, but form deep bonds with each other. Many of us have heard that "it takes a village to raise a child," and Fairview Resource Centre is truly taking action to give a positive space for children in the community to flourish. Thank you for walking alongside our Mission and Service partners as they help children and communities grow.

Fairview Resource Centre's support group for new parents gives a positive space for children in the community to flourish. Your support of Mission and Service is vital to the continuation of incredible programs like these.



# Through prayer and ongoing support, your Mission and Service gifts provide hope in desperate situations.

Through Mission and Service, The United Church of Canada accompanies global partners bringing compassion and courage to some of the world's most difficult places. We hold in prayer our partners in Gaza, where the situation remains catastrophic.

Partners in the ACT Palestine Forum share that families are facing famine and shortages of clean water, medicine, and shelter. The cost of even the most basic items has risen far beyond reach. Many are forced to make painful choices simply to survive. Children are especially vulnerable as malnutrition and lack of medical care take a growing toll.

Even amid these overwhelming challenges, Mission and Service partners continue to serve with remarkable faith and perseverance. Through ACT Alliance, they distribute food parcels, clean water, and medical supplies. They offer hygiene kits and psychosocial support to children and families living through trauma. And they raise their voices for a just and lasting peace, humanitarian access, and the protection of human dignity.

Each month, the ACT Palestine Forum organizes a global prayer vigil for Palestine and Gaza. "It gives us strength," one representative says, "to know that people around the world are praying with us, for justice, peace, and human dignity."

Please continue to pray for all who are affected by this violence, and for peace rooted in justice to take root and grow.

Your gifts for Mission and Service make this work possible. They help contribute to efforts to provide food, health care, and hope to reach those in greatest need, and let our partners know they are not alone.



### Loving and wonderful God,

This year, as before, we light candles to prepare for your winter arrival. We look to little flames to shine a bright light.

Transform that little flame into a blaze, inviting us to live with hope, peace, joy, and love, and inspiring us to live with generosity.

Bright and blazing God, Thank you for your light.

Amen.

# Thank you!

**Mission and Service** provides clean water. food, shelter, medical aid, community of faith support, refugee programs, and emergency aid-both in Canada and around the world. Your decision to support Mission and Service makes you part of this work. Thank You!











## Thank you for helping build a better world.



### Three ways to make a gift!

Donate today at united-church.ca/donate/advent

Call 1-800-465-3771

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