



## October, 2017 Newsletter



**Immanuel United Church**  
755 Golspie Street  
Winnipeg MB R2K 2V4  
Ph# 204-669-0220/204-669-0221  
Fax# 204-669-2374  
Email: [iuchurch@mymts.net](mailto:iuchurch@mymts.net)  
Website: [immanuelunitedchurch.net](http://immanuelunitedchurch.net)  
Facebook (Enter [fb.me/iuchurch](https://fb.me/iuchurch))

### Staff

Ha Na Park, Minister  
Email: [minister.iuc@gmail.com](mailto:minister.iuc@gmail.com) Cell# 204-218-3946  
Sharon Vandenberg, Office Administrator  
Jim Goldrup, Caretaker  
Eileen Metcalfe, Choir Director  
Peter Fyne, Organist  
William Hickerson, Minister Emeritus



## Minister's Message

Some of you have already met me at church and worshiped with our amazing Immanuel folks in September. If we haven't met yet, greetings!

My first month with you was wonderful, especially as I've come to find that *each person* in this community is so alive with their beautiful, strong, passionate character, like new leaves freshly sprouting from a rose bush's stems in the Spring! (I love roses.) What has amazed me most so far is that everyone *fits* in this inclusive congregation, fully and freely expressing their passion for new learning, social justice ministry and spiritual growth! Here at Immanuel, you don't have to "edit" yourself to fit in and feel safe. It is a safe, **brave space** for us to find ourselves in the world and in each other's presence, on a journey together, the only journey God has in mind for us – "becoming." I love this quote from Luce Irigaray:



"The only thing God forces us to do is to become."

Here in this newsletter - a wonderful way to reach you - I want to tell you a little more about myself...

While I was moving into my new office, last month, I found an old article in which Louise Rolston interviewed me for the ecumenical feminist journal, Making Waves. Seeing the journal gave me instant delight because reading my story again let me see some of my progress on the journey of becoming since I arrived in Canada. In 2007, my family found our first home, our small "nest", in Burnaby, BC. My older son, Peace, was 7 months old. My younger son, Jah-bi, born in Ladysmith, Vancouver Island, is 6. The past ten years have been so busy, they've left me with little time for reflection on who I was when we first came to Canada.

This interview took place when I was a first-year student at Vancouver School of Theology. In this interview, I talk about my Korean background and heritage, my experience in several faith traditions, and my more recent experiences in Canada. If the interview makes you curious about my journey since then, ask me, and I'll tell you a story! Let's find each other in telling our stories; our lives are often inspired by surprises. Let's build friendship on our spiritual pilgrimage, an ever-evolving, transforming journey.

# Rediscovering our inner voice

by Ha Na Park

**What does “feminism” mean to you? Why?**

**What has been your story/experience of feminism?**

I have come to appreciate feminism especially in the time that I have been in Canada. As a child I was brought up as a Roman Catholic, and then later I became a Korean Presbyterian. Patriarchy was strong in both of these situations, especially in my time in the Korean Presbyterian Church in Korea. There was a very traditional and very conservative congregation who expected me to be very feminine in the traditional Korean way, but not feminist! I was young and I felt somewhat abused by their treatment of me. They saw me as the silent smiling angel, who was expected only to admire my husband, who was great and wonderful, and at the core of their admiration, but I was not to speak my own thoughts and hopes.

**Do you call yourself a feminist? How would you describe yourself?**

No, I do not usually call myself a feminist, even though I have a feminist perspective. I am living both ways, trying to be in harmony with what is expected of me. I reveal my feminist side only when I am with those who I think will understand what feminism is. In Korea the Korean Presbyterian Church - and also the other Protestant denominations like Methodist - are very conservative. But there is also another wing of the church called the Presbyterian Church of the Republic of Korea which is much more progressive. The younger generation of Korean ministers do understand feminism and have studied at more progressive seminaries.

**What are the positive and/or negative aspects of feminism?**

**Is feminism important and/or relevant to you? How?**

Unfortunately, lots of people in Korea think feminism is too angry, too aggressive and therefore it is wrong. They even think that it is the opposite of Christianity. If I were to say that I am a feminist, in their minds it would be as if I were to say, “I am a warrior!”

**How do you see women’s roles in church and society?**

**What changes would you like to see in the future?**

I was very strong and active before I was married, but once I married my husband, who is a minister, I was expected to say nothing except to admire my husband and to share in the delight the congregation took in him. I was influenced in my thinking by the book *To Struggle to Be the Sun Again* by Hyun Kyung who is a professor at Union Seminary. When I read it I realized that I had been deprived of my voice. No one took it away violently, but subtly, without my noticing. The title is important because it is taken from poetry of a Japanese woman, in the 1900’s.

“Originally woman was the Sun.

She was an authentic person.

But now woman is the moon.

She lives by depending on another,  
and she shines by reflecting another’s light.

Her face has a sickly pallor.

We must now regain our hidden Sun.”

Just as the sun shines with its own passion, and the moon is merely a reflection of the brightness of the sun, those who are patriarchal believe that women should be only a mirror reflection of the man. When I read this book I realized that I had been like the sun, but now was only the moon. I knew also that feminism can give women back their inner voice or at least help them in the struggle to find their own voice. And this gave me hope. (...)

I’m pleased to be asked to participate in discussions for a magazine that connects ecumenism and feminism as I am really interested in the practices for ecumenism which would involve and would be challenged by women’s experiences.

This is the end of the interview. And you know what? After a decade of living in Canada - living, learning, embracing ministry... Now I say, out loud, for all to hear, *I am a feminist!* I am passionate for gender, sexual, racial justice in church and in the world. What are you passionate for? Tell me your stories - I can’t wait to hear them!

#### A Room with a View



I had a wonderful summer and now fall is upon us and I am back into the swing of things. I welcome Ha Na to Immanuel and have enjoyed working with her and continuing to do so. I have been busy in the office and look forward to the Fall Supper. Any questions/ concerns please don’t hesitate to let me know.

*Sharon Vandenberg, Office Administrator*

## Immanuel United Church Welcomes The Reverend Ha Na Park

Immanuel United Church extends a warm welcome to its new minister, The Reverend Ha Na Park. For the past three years Ha Na has been serving as one of two ministers at Meadowood United Church. Prior to that she worked with the lay leaders and elders at Chemainus United Church on Vancouver Island. Rev. Ha Na Park was ordained in the British Columbia Conference in May of 2014. She has a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts in Comparative Religious Studies with Harvard graduate international scholars; and a Master of Divinity from the Vancouver School of Theology.

We are excited to begin a new era at Immanuel with Ha Na as our spiritual leader. Ha Na emigrated to Canada from South Korea in 2007 with her family. She is the mother of two boys, Peace (age 11) and Jah-Bi (age 6). Her husband, Min-Goo Kang is also a minister at Fort Garry United. Ha Na brings energy and excitement and, with that, an opportunity for us to build on what we do well and to think about what we would like to do differently. We welcome her into our congregation and look forward to getting to know her, and working together with her at Immanuel.



Ha Na Park, Immanuel's new minister, made her debut Sunday September 10th to the joy of all who attended worship. As guiding elders for worship, Leslie Donnelly and Lynne Strome welcome Ha Na knowing that her vibrant energy and loving spirit will help guide us through this time of change into a bright and meaningful future.

We welcome also Tammy Bleue, who, on a part time/temporary basis, will assist transitioning. In particular, Tammy will demonstrate her compassionate and creative skills working with with our children in Sunday School.

We know God is with us all. Thanks be to God.



Many , many THANKS to all who came to the cleaning-bee on Sept 30th, signed up and did their jobs prior to the “bee” and to all who will do their jobs in these following days! Well done!

A child’s car booster seat was found in the kitchen. If it belongs to you, please pick it up. If you know where it was intended to go, please let us know.

There were a few dishes also found in the kitchen. They are now on a table near the Amen corner for pickup. If dishes and car seat are not picked up fairly soon, we will find a new home for them! It’s CLEAN UP and CLEAN OUT time before the Fowl Supper.

Caring for our Faith Community Elders, Jim Ross, Eileen Metcalfe, Muriel Kenyon

### **Fowl Supper**

Yes, it’s our opportunity to invite our friends, neighbours and family in for dinner. This year, we are preparing for 500 guests. That’s the number we’ve served the last couple of years.

We are available for sign up in the Amen corner after worship or contact me at **204-793-1286** or by email [afryza@msn.com](mailto:afryza@msn.com) . We can always use young legs to serve! Do you know any “young-older” grandchildren, nieces, nephews or friends who would like to join in the fun and give us a hand.

Mark it on your calendar, invite folks by telephone, or through your e-mail list. We’ll be ready to provide hospitality for our guests who want to enjoy a delicious dinner.

*Alison Fryza*



## ***Fowl Supper***

**Saturday, October 28, 2017  
4:00 to 7:00 pm**

**\$15.00 per person  
\$8.00/children 14 years of age and under  
Children age 7 and under Free**

**\$40.00/Family  
Includes 2 Adults with children (under 14 years of age)  
Immanuel United Church 755 Golspie Street 669-0220**





## **Immanuel's Winnipeg Harvest Food Bank**

We operated twice in July and in August. Thank you to the folks who filled in when the regular volunteers were on holidays. Many thanks to George Stevens who built shelving in our storage area. What a difference for our food bank. September Ha Na joined us for a visit and we welcome her anytime. Please continue to save plastic grocery bags, large shopping bags, bags the Free Press use, bags from fruit and veggies. Our clients continue to enjoy a cup of coffee and cookies and friendly conversation provided by some ladies from the congregation while they are waiting for groceries to be packed.

Thanks to everyone supporting the sharing basket.

Joyce Smyth



## **Habitat for Humanity Build July 10-14, 2017**

This was our biggest coffee break, providing for 250 volunteers. Thanks to Immanuel folks we made it happen. My son Glen and I purchased the fruit and set up the work stations for Wednesday AM. While we were filling the bags we chanted "We are working on a chain gang". Thanks to the folks that contributed money to buy the fresh fruit and the bakers for their muffins and cookies. Thanks to Ron Metcalfe for driving Eileen and myself to the building site where 22 houses were in various stages of construction. There were also 2 houses built in Steinbach and 1 in Portage La Prairie. Everyone was waiting for Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter to arrive. Past president Carter was rushed to St. Boniface Hospital suffering from dehydration. He was back working at the site the next day. Money collected was \$255.00 and for fruit \$287.57. My personal thanks to everyone for making the 2017 Build here in Winnipeg as part of celebrating Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday such a success.

Joyce Smyth



## **River Elm School Breakfast Program**

Immanuel United Church Congregation supports the River Elm Elementary School Breakfast Program on Wednesdays during the school year. Our responsibility for this worthwhile program is to support both financially and to ensure we can provide volunteers.

Thank you to the Congregation for your past and ongoing support.

Respectfully, Linda Gibson



## **BACK FORTY**

We now have a date for the Public Meeting at City Hall.

**November 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm~Council Chamber**

We have 10 minutes to present our case. The City has received all the documents they required with no hurdles, so the remaining hurdle is any opposition to the project. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Hope to see you there!

*Bob Kenyon*

### **JIGG UNITED NEWS**

**JOHN BLACK+IMMANUEL+GREY ST +GORDON KING MEMORIAL**

JIGG United summer BBQ July 5 was a huge success! This joint effort from each JIGG member provided joyous fellowship, fine music and excellent food for body and spirit. It was agreed the offering would go to support One Just City and they heartily thanked all for the \$505.90. raised.

Gordon King Memorial United Church invites you to drop in:

**Gordie's Coffee House is held in the church every Thursday evening 7 pm to 10 pm**

Local musicians lead the way in a fun filled, neighbourly atmosphere.

Grey Street United Thanks those who came to support the Muslim speaker, Asian supper, with proceeds going to The United Church of Canada Mission and Service Fund

**Dinner Theatre is their next main event Friday November 24, Saturday November 25**

**Sunday matinee November 26<sup>th</sup>.** A poster with details will be put on our bulletin board.

John Black United Graciously hosted the JIGG meeting on September 26. It was agreed that the summer services, which were shared by each church, were well received and much fellowship enjoyed.

**Saturday, December 2,** John Black hosts it's annual Christmas Tea and Bazaar. Highlights include a shopping area for children and activities. Plus, John Black famous pies will be on sale among other baking and crafts.





**IMMANUEL**

**From**  
**United Church of Canada Mission and Service Fund**  
**Join in the good work**

**Support to the M & S** portion of offering is both appreciated and an essential part of stewardship . This unified fund pools United Church gifts from across Canada and distributes them to a wide variety of **projects and programs in Canada and overseas**. Requests for funding are brought to conferences, which consult with regions to make funding decisions. Policy guidelines set up the framework used annually to review requests/needs and allocate the donations received. Your regular donations to the United Church M & S Fund make it possible to administer and process services throughout the year. That is why we need your annual commitment in order to make the budget work best.

**Overseas, the United Church** works in long-term ecumenical relationships with partner churches and agencies whose goals and objectives support our own. **In Canada** your gifts sustain everything from educational and ministry training to congregational support, to refugees, to local mission work like 1Just City ministry work and much more.

A portion of the M & S Fund is also annually allocated for **emergency response** to allow an immediate and initial response to crisis as they erupt. The United Church also belongs to ACT (**Action by Churches Together**), a global alliance of **faith-based agencies** associated with the World Council of Churches. ACT has the ongoing capacity to quickly assess and intervene in emergency disaster situations and is renowned for its skills at quickly networking and mobilizing personnel and supplies in the most effective ways.

**Disasters and emergencies** require funding **over and above** the regular commitments, however. Your **M & S emergency relief donation** is the amount you label and enter in the “other” space on your offering envelope. Some examples are: Haiti, Cuba and other hurricane crisis. **Many emergencies in the world** can be relieved by your contributing a gift in addition to your regular M & S pledge. Your donation automatically becomes **tax refundable**.

We are called by faith to “do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God”. We can do this well by supporting the Mission and Service work of the United Church of Canada.

Thanks for joining in.

Lynne Strome  
M & S Enthusiast

Ps – Any questions???

**“JUST” CHRISTMAS NOV.5, 1:30-4PM**

**AT TRANSCONA UNITED CHURCH**



**“JUST SUSTAINABLE SHOPPING”**

“Just” Christmas is a cooperative justice project, for people to experience an alternative to “consumerism Christmas” shopping and at the same time support non-profit vendors to provide funding to worthwhile projects locally and globally, organized by the United Churches in the Northeast corner of the city. The location of the Market rotates to all the churches. Last year we, at Immanuel were the hosts, this year it will be at Transcona U.C. at 209 Yale Ave. W.

The gift items are attractive and varied. An example of the merchandise is aprons, bags, bird houses, knitted articles, greeting cards, jewelry, woven scarves, placemats, some clothing, delicious baking and many novel gift items, to name a few. Shopper’s will support Grandmothers in Africa raising their orphaned grandchildren, initiating small businesses in Senegal, an orphanage in Swaziland, Winnipeg Harvest, Christmas L.I.T.E., L’Arche in Winnipeg, Rossbrook House and more.

Come to support these projects, enjoy a cup of tea, coffee and a cookie, and to meet the community. ( By the way if you are able to donate a couple of dozen cookies for the refreshments, there is a signup sheet in the AMEN corner at the church. Thank you in advance!)

Hope to see you there! Any questions, contact Cindy Smyth or Muriel Kenyon

# *White Gift*

*November 26<sup>th</sup> 2017*

**This United Church Tradition brings an annual advent opportunity to prepare the way for Christmas and reach out to our community.**

- Gifts to bring:** money,  
non perishable food items  
infant supplies  
children gifts and clothing  
hygiene products
- Recipients:** **LITE**  
(as we are able) **Winnipeg Harvest**  
**Interfaith Immigration**  
**1Just City**  
**Mission and Service/Food Grains Bank**  
**Agape Table**
- Volunteers:** bring various gifts  
children to present gifts at offering  
helpers to sort and pack  
drivers to deliver gifts
- Inquiries:** **Lynne Strome**



## REPORT

Our financial picture as of the end of August is looking much better than at the same time last year.

Here is a comparison of our operational numbers to August 2016

	August 2016	August 2017	Difference
Income	\$30,957.57	\$29,951.78	Down \$1005.79
Expenses	\$33,061.79	\$21,764.01	Down \$11,897.78
Deficit	\$2704.22	+\$8187.77	Down \$10,891.99

Our overall income is down slightly from the same time last year. Within this amount, our envelope givings (which form the bulk of our income) are down over \$1900 but this has been offset somewhat by an increase of over \$630.00 in open plate offering. Our expenses are down mainly due to not having a minister for 2 months.

We are grateful for the gifts of the people of Immanuel towards the local operations of the congregation.

Our M&S givings are slightly higher than the same time last year. In 2016 they were \$6721.56, this year they are \$6881.56; an increase of \$160.00.

Just a reminder that Immanuel's Red River Co-Op number is 193228 and can be used at any Red River Co-Op gas bar or grocery store.

Should you require envelopes or have any questions regarding your givings to Immanuel, they can be directed to a member of your finance team of Pat Schulz, Connie Kryschuk and Debbie Bilous.

Yours in Faithful Stewardship

Your Finance Team: Pat Schulz, Connie Kryschuk, Debbie Bilous