

## STEWARDSHIP



This QR code will take you to a digital filing cabinet of [stewardship resources](#)



I am delighted once again to bring news from the stewardship support team, Mission & Service, and the United Church Foundation to the good people of the Canadian Shield Region.

Over the past year I have had the honour of meeting with many of you, whether as participants in a *Called to be the Church: The Journey* program, at the last in person meeting in Sault Ste. Marie, or through a phone conversation, town halls, or stewardship learning events. If we haven't yet met, my role is to provide resources and support to individuals, communities of faith, and other ministries in the areas of generosity, congregational giving, Mission & Service, and the work of the United Church Foundation. If you have ideas, questions or inspiration to share, please get in contact [with me](#).

One way I would love to connect in 2025 and beyond is through the learning programs, [Called to be the Church: The Journey](#). We currently have 4 course offerings available on [CHURCHx](#) that provide training and support for different parts of the stewardship journey. Whether you want to learn some stewardship-first principles, get resources to run a congregational Giving Program, or are hoping to set up a Legacy Giving Program in your community of faith, we have training options for you!! One participant provided this program feedback, *"I appreciate the leadership, the enthusiasm, the knowledge and the support of the leaders of this course. It was a lot of information, and was presented in a way that was not overwhelming. The recommendations are practical and doable."* You can learn [more here](#).

Speaking of gratitude for shared abundance, Mission and Service is our Church's most powerful vehicle for helping to transform lives, inspire meaning and purpose, and build a better world. We offer thanks that your compassion continued to flow in the form of Mission and Service gifts that provided valuable assistance. In 2024 Mission and Service provided funding globally to 68 organizations in 23 countries; approximately \$416 thousand was sent to support the work of our partners and bring aid to those affected. Families and children who are fleeing war in Ukraine and Palestine are provided with food, clothing, shelter, medical supplies and safe housing. Your Christian compassion is making this possible.

In Canada, each of the 16 regions received \$180,000 that they were able to use to provide support to ministries within their areas through grants and programmatic support. Mission and Service funds supported a number of amazing ministries in Canadian Shield. Community partners like Rainbow Camp and Daisy-Chain Elder Abuse Prevention, and communities of faith like St. Matthew's St. Paul's Shared Ecumenical Ministry in Hearst are just some of the transformative programs supported with your Mission & Service donations in 2024. Thank you!

Setting giving goals and sharing inspiring stories about Mission & Service are effective ways to hold up and celebrate this amazing work, and to encourage deeper generosity in your community of faith. New Stories of our Mission are [posted monthly](#). For those who utilize videos in worship, there are also [videos that tell personal stories of the life changing work of Mission & Service](#). If you want to bring more

conversations about stewardship, gratitude, generosity and Mission & Service into your community of faith, consider signing up for the monthly newsletter [God's Mission, Our Gifts](#).

Finally, I want to draw your attention to the important work being done by the United Church Foundation in [four priority areas](#): Anti-Racism, Reconciliation with Indigenous People, Climate Justice, and Communities of Faith. If your community faith has program ideas or is engaged in work that falls into one of these areas, there may be grants available. Additionally, the United Church Foundation is there to help you invest in the ministries you care about.

Thank you, Canadian Shield Region friends. I am so grateful for your spirit, creativity, generosity, and thoughtfulness. I look forward to learning together in 2025.

In gratitude,

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