

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

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



Over the past couple of years I have had the honour of meeting with many of you, whether as participants in a *Called to be the Church: The Journey* program, through a town hall, or simply because we connected via email or over the phone. 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 and 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 2024 and beyond is through the learning programs, *Called to be the Church: The Journey*. We currently have 4 course offerings 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, "*Fear no more! Your stewardship questions answered! Deep insight AND solid skill building! A must for ministries of every description!*" [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. Together we do more. Thanks to generous people like you 2023 saw \$20.8 million raised, including Mission and Service givings totalling \$17 million and bequests, Foundation and other planned gifts totaling \$3.7 million.

Locally, Mission and Service funds supported a number of amazing ministries in Prairie to Pine. Camping ministry at Wellman Lake and Rock Lake, Sandy Saulteaux Centre, and the life shaping work happening at 1 Just City to name a few of the transformative programs supported with your Mission and Service donations. Thank you!

Setting giving goals and sharing inspiring stories about Mission and 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](#). If you want to bring more conversations about stewardship, gratitude, generosity and Mission and Service into your community of faith, consider signing up for the monthly newsletter [God's Mission, Our Gifts](#).

Finally, I want to share some of the exciting work of the United Church Foundation. Among the regular work of the Foundation (like providing grants to programs at St. Mary's Road United Church, Altona United Church, and the Centre for Christian Studies), 2023 saw some exciting new developments. There are now twice-monthly webinars to share stories and build skills. The Foundation also hit the milestone of \$100 million invested. Going into 2024 there is also a special granting program to support communities of faith with their centennial events.

Thank you, Prairie to Pine Region friends. I am so grateful for your spirit, creativity, generosity, and thoughtfulness. I look forward to learning together in 2024.

In gratitude,

Vicki Nelson, Community of Faith Stewardship Support Staff for Prairie to Pine Region

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