



First Gifts... help us make room at the Inn.

Advent is a special season as we prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth. It is also a special time for the work and ministry at First United which **provides an "Inn" for the people** of downtown eastside Vancouver where they may sleep in safety, eat a hot meal, find legal information and access the many resources we provide.

The need for the Mission's programs and services is growing

In the winter months last year, **700-1000 people a day** came through the front doors of First. Despite financial challenges, we've worked hard to keep the doors and heart of the Mission open so we may carry out this important ministry.

First Gifts Donations

Special First Gifts donor cards and envelopes are arriving at your Church and will be available in December. The cards invite you to make a one-time donation or join our ongoing monthly donation program. Your participation in First Gifts will go a long way to helping us make room at the Inn this winter and in the future.

We deeply hope that First Gifts will be much more than a fundraising program for First. *May it be a life giving expression of a mission and a ministry which we share in as members and friends of the United Church in the Lower Mainland.*

United Church congregations make a difference!

We are deeply grateful for the blessing of support First United receives from our family of United Churches. Together, we are able to make a difference in the lives of the people who come to First to sleep in safety, to eat a hot meal, to talk with an advocate, and to access the many resources we provide. The mission's programs and services would not be available without the generous support and active participation of people in our congregations. ***Thank you.***