

Partners

A publication for friends of the Toronto United Church Council

Living Out Our Own Life Values

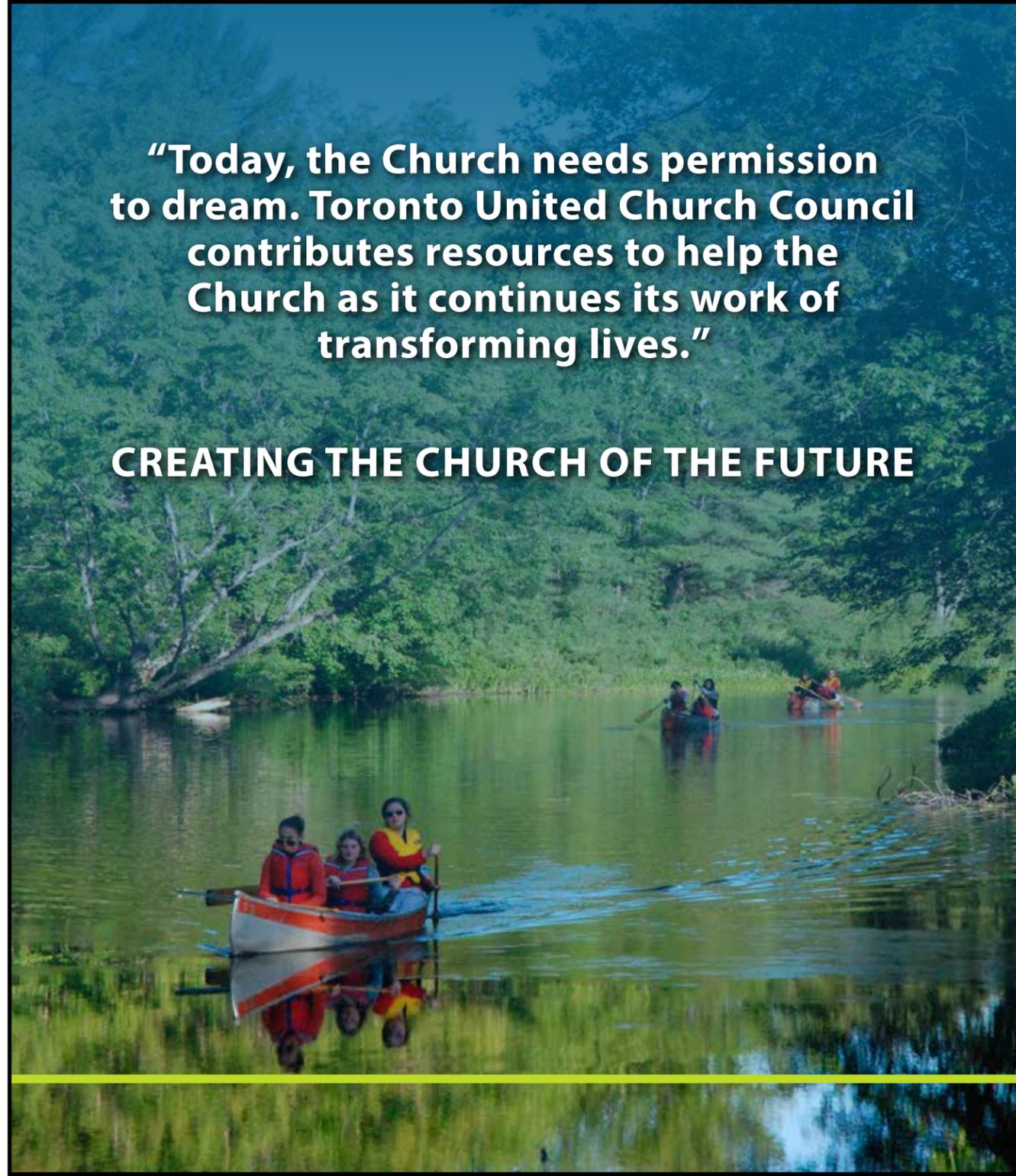
When it is at its best, our church empowers its members to live out their own life values, those personal guides to questions such as, “What is important for me and how I live my life?” and “Who are the people and what are the causes that I care about?”

Just as congregations assist their members to answer their “values” questions and to do something about them, The Toronto United Church Council helps congregations and the Church’s social ministries to succeed and thrive. This work often includes helping Church members arrange gifts for the benefit of their congregation or a community ministry.



“Today, the Church needs permission to dream. Toronto United Church Council contributes resources to help the Church as it continues its work of transforming lives.”

CREATING THE CHURCH OF THE FUTURE



Living out your life values – Creating the church of the future

Why give...

TO THE TORONTO UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL

- » Rich history of Church development and social action
- » Knowledge, strength and experience in church redevelopment
- » First hand engagement in social mission
- » Flexible, nimble and quick to make decisions
- » Professional financial management experience, skills and results
- » Ability to ensure that your wishes are carried out in the best way possible

TO BENEFIT

- » Your congregation, another, or all congregations
- » Social ministry in action – youth, leadership, social service
- » Other ministries of the United Church
- » The Church of the future
- » Other charitable causes you care about

PERSONAL BENEFITS TO YOU

- » Enjoy peace of mind, knowing a significant gift is in place for your congregation or an area of work that you care about deeply.
- » Make a bold statement by creating a gift that will keep giving far into the future, addressing the particular work of the Church you care about
- » Be comforted by creating a lasting legacy for the future of the church

Ways to give...

GIFT IN YOUR WILL (ANY AGE)

- » Receive an estate tax credit of almost ½ of your gift to pass on to heirs
- » Simplest, most flexible type of estate gift

LIFE INSURANCE

- » Make a large gift for the future with a small amount today
- » Can be structured so that you experience tax benefits now

LIFE BENEFICIARY

- » Make some area of the Church (or other charity) the beneficiary of your RRSP, RRIF, life insurance policy or TFSA knowing your estate will receive a sizeable tax credit to benefit other beneficiaries
- » Create a lasting legacy for the future of the Church

ENDOWMENT DURING YOUR LIFETIME OR WHEN YOU DIE

- » Take pleasure in naming the fund after someone you have loved or admired, memorializing them for decades to come
- » Fund the endowment now (or through your estate) and enjoy a tax credit now (or to your estate)

GORDON WINCH



“I’ve included the Toronto United Church Council in my will. After my death, there will not be a large estate, but my intent with this gift is that it should become a modest expression of my faith. My life has been devoted to discerning the will of God and undertaking God’s work within the community of the church. Council has been able to assure me that my efforts will continue through their programs of camping ministry for children and youth in and around Toronto.”

THE VERY REVEREND LOIS WILSON



“I have supported the work of the Toronto Christian Resource Centre at 40 Oak Street for more than ten years. In considering how this important work can be sustained beyond my lifetime, I have made a gift to the Toronto United Church Council’s “Toronto Christian Resource Centre Endowment Fund”. That fund is already of such value that it produces nearly \$8000 annually in support of the work in Regent Park. That support will continue to grow as the fund grows, ensuring that the work of the Christian Resource Centre continues.”

A History of Creating the Church of the Future

From its earliest days Toronto United Church Council has encouraged and enabled social ministries and congregations to adapt to the needs of the day and position the Church for the future.

1892 – The *Methodist Social Union of Toronto* is founded, transforming a “Social Club” into a community-building agency which built the Fred Victor Mission and the Massey Centre.

1925 – Church union caused renaming to the *Toronto Church Extension and Mission Union*. Its focus remained the provision of social assistance.

1935 – Renamed the *Toronto Home Missions Council*. The organization added a focus on the leadership of initiatives in social justice.

Post-war – Focus on new Church development. Council’s resources helped build 47 new congregations in Toronto and suburbs, made possible by a generous bequest from George Armstrong.

1973 – Renamed the *Toronto United Church Council*. Expanded to all of South Central Ontario, assisting congregations to redevelop with financing and planning help.

2000 – Council’s Investing in Ministry Fund secures capital financing for congregations in Toronto Conference, making more than \$10 million in loans to churches and securing an average return of more than 4% annually for investing congregations and individuals.

2007-2016 – Council added 22 new ministry funds to its portfolio through generous gifts from families and congregations, bringing to 32 the funds it manages. The Centre for Church Development and Leadership brings a new level of professionalism to the task of nurturing congregations in faith and service.

Today – Council manages 32 designated funds which fund various aspects of United Church ministry.



Living Out Life Values

Gifts planned as lifetime legacies sustain and renew the Church's camping ministries, develop new social ministries and support donors' congregations and favourite charities. Council has the expertise and deep knowledge of the Church and 125 years of successful experience, all of which helps a donor's creative process. Council can discuss with you, in confidence, your particular dreams for the Church.

Partners Society

With the commitment of an estate gift, Toronto United Church Council will welcome donors into its **Partners Society** – a group of visionary individuals and families who choose to be co-creators of the future of our Church. This simple statement of your values is an expression of hope for a vital and engaged Church that inspires and builds a better world for all.

Should you wish to talk about your dreams, contact us as below, and we can share what Council can do to help you make them happen.

Toronto United Church Council

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