



MISSION AND
SERVICE FUND

Stepping Stones

The Mission and Service Fund E-newsletter

August 2010

Kids' M&S Art Contest: Extended Deadline

It's time for a friendly reminder of the Kids' **M&S** Art contest!

Who: Kids up to and including age 12

Theme: "Helping Kids Around the World"

New deadline: Friday, October 22

Notification of winners: Friday, November 19

Send your artwork to: Kids' **M&S** Art Contest • Attn. Cathy Guo
The United Church of Canada • 3250 Bloor St. West, Suite 300
Toronto, ON M8X 2Y4

[More information](#)

Share your creativity!

Mission and Service Givings Update: **We're Ahead**

Last year was a difficult year for **M&S** contributions. A bad economy meant that for the first time in several years our total was below \$29 million (\$28,924,169), an almost \$800,000 decrease from 2008.

Some good news: early this year, we received a fantastic gift of about \$907,000 from an estate in Alberta. In addition, people are feeling better about the economy. As I write this, contributions to **M&S** stand at \$12,681,773 or just over \$1.1 million more than at this point last year. Thank you!

Yes, we are ahead, but mainly due to the special estate gift.

Let's continue working hard together so we can reach our 2010 goal of \$30.2 million.

A Global Story Human Rights in Brazil

Kathleen Stephenson, a lay member of Parkdale United Church in Montreal and Ottawa Conference, is an overseas personnel working in Salvador, Brazil. She is a theologian in residence for CESE (Coordenadoria Ecumenica de Serviço), an ecumenical human rights organization.

Kathleen works with individual congregations, national churches, and international partners committed to ecumenism and interfaith dialogue.

In a [recent letter](#), Kathleen describes CESE's response to the apparent assassination of five homeless men.

Your **M&S** dollars support CESE, Kathleen Stephenson, and all our overseas personnel.

See the next issue of *Stepping Stones* for a Canadian story.

Coming Soon to a Church Near You

The *Mandate* **M&S** special edition will arrive at your church office this month. In this issue are: stories and lists of United Church partners in Canada and overseas, charts of revenues and expenses, a worship service by Harry Oussoren, and a workshop by Darren Liepold. Ask your minister or church secretary if you can borrow your congregation's copy.



[Click to Make a Donation](#)

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United is our Vision.
United is our **Church.**