

The WestEnd Commons: A Community of Communities

St.Matthews Non Profit Housing Inc. ~

SMNPH is a partnership of St.Matthew's Anglican Church and Grain of Wheat Church-Community to develop and manage The WestEnd Commons. It was incorporated in 2009 and received its charitable tax status in 2011.

Neighbourhood Resource Centre Organizations [accounts for 82% of the building use]

1. St.Matthews Maryland Community Ministry [SMMCM]:
SMMCM is a partnership of St.Matthew's Anglican Church and Winnipeg Presbytery of the United Church of Canada. It began in 1972 and currently accounts for 24% of the total use of the building. Its mission statement is: "Grounded in God's love, St.Matthew's-Maryland Community Ministry builds community well-being; works for justice; and nurtures hope within individuals and families in West Central Winnipeg." SMMCM receives its space for free from St.Matthew's [valued at \$22,000/yr] and the congregation is represented on the board and as program volunteers.
2. West Central Community Program [WCCP]
WCCP is a United Way agency founded in 1977. It runs after-school programming at three primary schools: John M King, Greenway, and Wellington and supports those school communities. In addition it runs a leadership training and summer program for the children and young people in those schools. Its mission statement is: WCCP is a community based organization dedicated to recreational and educational programs promoting positive well-being of children and families in the West Central Area. It receives subsidized office rental space and free use of the commercial kitchen.
3. The Urban
Lutheran Urban Ministries grew out of the demise of First English Lutheran in 2006. In the summer of 2010 The Urban moved here. It accounts for 22% of the use of the building and it also hosts a Lutheran worship service every Sunday afternoon with lunch.
4. Mosaic
Mosaic is an English as an additional language program for newcomers to Canada that currently runs 2 classrooms and a child tending program four mornings a week. It is part of the Newcomer Family Resource Network funded by Manitoba Labour and Immigration and started here in 2009.
5. Assiniboine Alcoholics Anonymous
AAA is one of the oldest 12 step programs in Winnipeg. They hold 9 meetings a week.
6. Thelma Wynne
In the late 1940's Thelma Wynne began this program which provides layettes to at-risk mothers of newborns. Every year about 400 layettes are assembled by church women's groups around the city and distributed through a variety of public agencies.
7. Friendship Sewing Circle
This craft circle is the current embodiment of aboriginal outreach work begun here in the 1990's. In addition to creating quilts and teaching the craft, the circle meets for fellowship and support.
8. Aboriginal Circle of Educators
ACE supports aboriginal educators in the public school system and has had an office here since 2009.
9. Community Groups
A variety of community groups rent space here for meetings, community events, and family

celebrations. In addition, the commercial kitchen is used by catering groups starting up their businesses. Every effort is made to accommodate these groups and there is flexibility in the rental fees to meet the group's capacity.

Faith Communities [accounts for 18% of the building use]

1. St. Matthew's Anglican Church – founded in 1896, built the current building in 1913, re-built the upper floors after a fire 1945/46, and signed a 50 year lease for the property to St. Matthews Non Profit Housing in 2011.
2. Grain of Wheat Church-Community is a non-denominational church community founded in 1979 who moved here in 2006.
3. Shiloh Apostolic Pentecostal Church is a small Jamaican family-based pentecostal group who have worshipped here since 1992.
4. Emmanuel Mission is an Anglican community of South Sudanese Canadian newcomers who have worshipped in Dinka since 2003.
5. The Urban holds a Lutheran worship service and lunch for the neighbourhood since 2010.