



## *“Together in Community”*

An invitation to Arts Groups to partner on CD *A Time to Heal: moving beyond homelessness*

The Arts Community is invited to lift its voice in harmony with First United Church - to help not only our arts groups, struggling after recent cuts to grants - but also to assist in the significant work the church is doing to shelter and support the homeless in Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside.

Thanks to the remarkable skill and dedication of two women from the North Shore, we have sponsored and produced a CD and booklet that helps to raise awareness of homelessness nationwide. It is called ‘*A Time to Heal: moving beyond homelessness*’. The music was recorded last spring by outstanding artists from the Vancouver area and Ottawa’s National Arts Centre. World renowned violinist Pinchas Zukerman, Director of the NAC Orchestra, plays the violin solo in Larry Nickel’s ‘*Come Unto Me*’. It is a remarkable and inspiring selection of music - from classical to blues to jazz - representing the diversity of backgrounds of those who find themselves homeless. Since its release in October, 2009 we have had to press 6000 copies. It is being sold by groups all across Canada on a profit-share basis. To read about this in the Vancouver Sun [click here](#).

We are inviting you to partner with us in a profit-sharing marketing blitz mid-February to mid-March by sending an email to your network offering ‘*A Time to Heal: moving beyond homelessness*’ for sale as part of a community-wide arts group initiative to benefit both your own organization and our work in the Downtown Eastside. The details of this initiative are in the questions and answers link. Other than the initial email there will be no further work to be done by the arts groups. First United will handle all the paperwork and shipping and track the sales related to each arts group.

So often we feel overwhelmed by the weight of the problems our organizations face. But if we can stand together, providing an opportunity for each individual to contribute in some way, we can achieve much. To quote Reverend Ric Matthews from the CD booklet: “The music of this CD brings us together in a rhythm and harmony that transcends our helplessness.”

Thank you for considering being part of this major community initiative!

Rev. Dr. Bob Burrows  
Director of Fund Development

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### First United Church Mission

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