

## **Aileen Urquhart**



### **Year Commissioned**

1994, Conference of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario (Morden, MB)

### **Program of Formation**

Western Field-Based Diaconal Ministry and Lay Professional Training Program (WFBDM) out of St. Stephen's College, Edmonton

### **Describe some of your experiences of ministry**

- Advocacy and community development in the inner city of Winnipeg - an important piece of that was connecting and working with other ministries: Oak Table, St. Matthews-Maryland Community Ministry, North End, Inner City Volunteer Program
- Congregational ministry - Both times as the only minister, and both in small communities.
- Field placement - West Broadway Community Ministry (social justice component) and Riverview United Church partnering with Sunday School Superintendent Mary McNairny (congregational - education and pastoral care - component)
- Settled into congregational ministry in Fisher River Cree Nation - part of All Native Circle Conference
- Co-Director - Teaching and administration - at Dr. Jessie Saulteaux Resource Centre
- Congregational ministry at Sioux lookout - More inner city connection with Out of Cold programs
- Retired and still connected to the community

### **How I explain Diaconal Ministry to others ...**

It is those areas of ministry which focus particularly around supporting people to find their spiritual path and to discover their spiritual gifts - and particularly working more outside or at the edges of the institutional church.

### **What gives you the most satisfaction, reward, sense of fulfilment from the ministry you do?**

Things that I enjoy and find most fulfilling - experiential worship, working intergenerationally with others, social justice work (especially healing and reconciliation, homelessness and poverty), exploring ways to connect art and spirituality.

**16 January 2011**