



A broad coalition of Winnipeg groups,  
communities, and individuals  
[budgetforall.org](http://budgetforall.org)

## **This Lent, seek the welfare of the city**

**The journey of Lent begins when we read that Jesus “set his face toward Jerusalem” (Luke 9:51). This Lent churches are invited to set their face towards Winnipeg and seek the welfare of our city, because in its welfare we will find our own (Jeremiah 29:7). In its proposed budget, the City of Winnipeg has set out cuts that, if realized, will negatively impact quality of life, particularly for our city’s most vulnerable.**

**This Lent you are invited to give up the false belief in austerity — the belief that there is not enough — and take up the call to seek the welfare of our city by celebrating what we have and joining in solidarity for its future.**

**We are encouraging all churches to participate in this Lenten discipline and are inviting other faith and religious organizations to draw on their traditions and resources to join us in this common goal.**

**In support of the work of **Budget for All Winnipeg**, the reverse side of this sheet features some Lenten practices that can help us seek the welfare of our city.**

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**February 26 – Ash Wednesday** Remember mortal that dust you are and to dust you shall return. When wealth is increasingly withheld for some it can deprive many of critical supports and opportunities that can make life more livable. Reflect on how tightly we hold to our property and possessions and consider how taxes and giving can allow life to flourish more broadly.

**March 1 – Street Hockey at True North Square (1pm)** Grab a hockey stick and some friends, and join Budget for All to protest the City of Winnipeg’s proposed cuts to city arenas and recreation facilities.

**March 2 – Call your councillor** Join other concerned citizens across Winnipeg and call your city councillor to ask them to vote against all cuts. You can find your councillor by locating your ward on the map at [budgetforall.org/map](http://budgetforall.org/map). Then call Mayor Brian Bowman (204 986 5665) and tell him to scrap the cuts.

**March 5 – Gather at City Hall (1pm)** Religious leaders and people of faith are invited to City Hall to call on the mayor and city councillors to repent of austerity which inevitably forces the most vulnerable to pay the heaviest price for our cuts.

**March 8 – Visit the Winnipeg Art Gallery for free!** Reflect on the value of the arts in our quality of life. Many of our most beloved artists live precariously because of how underfunded they are and in turn rely heavily on things like libraries, public transit and cultural events for the livelihood. Consider what could be possible when come to together to invest more in our local artists.

**March 14 – Day of Action** Join Budget for All for its citywide day of action. More details coming soon.

**March 25/26 – Budget Day** As Winnipeg’s City Council tables its budget, pray that councillors would vote against austerity and instead work for a just city.

**April 5 – Palm Sunday** Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Whatever the mayor and city councillors decide remember that we follow a humble leader who was willing to walk with those who are most vulnerable and stand against those unwilling to act justly.

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