

Saskatchewan United Church Women Newsletter June 2021

The Lesson of the Fig Tree: Matthew 24: 32 – 35

“Let the fig tree teach you a lesson. When its branches become green and tender and it starts putting out leaves, you know that summer is near. In the same way, when you see all these things, you will know that the time is near, ready to begin. Remember that all these things will happen before the people now living have all died. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.”

As we welcome summer solstice let us take time to revel in the many good things we have.

Sask UCC Statistics

Sask. United Church of Canada Women thanks you for submitting statistics forms so that we can maintain contact with as many as possible throughout the Region. We also appreciate all those who have sent membership donations to us as well as those who have donated to the UCW Bursary Fund.

Sask UCW Executive

The executive plans to meet in August and hopefully will be able to make plans for a one-day in person meeting for everyone to attend in the early fall. At that meeting we want to install the new executive. Presently we are looking for anyone who might be interested in the First and Second Vice positions and of course, would welcome other nominations for any of the other positions even though we do have people who have agreed to take on the positions of Co-Chairs, Secretary, and Treasurer. This past year all the executive meetings have been held virtually and in the future there will likely only be one or two in-person meetings depending on health restrictions and distances people would have to travel.

We would also dearly like to have a week-end in person Gathering next year.

National UCW Report

A special meeting of the NUCW Executive was held on May 31, 2021 – a meeting which had been called for November, 2020 but due to health concerns had been postponed.

Following the lighting of the Christ Candle, Beulah expressed her gratitude and thanks for the many cards, notes and calls she received during the last few

months and especially the support and care she received from Carolle, Nancy and Karen.

Sept. '21 NUCW: It was decided almost unanimously that once again this year's meeting will be held virtually. Further info to follow once plans are firmed up.

Handbook: The first edit of the Handbook was presented. There are still a few items that need polishing up but this is a work in progress and a final report should be available by Sept. '21.

Terry Beaumont is now office support for NUCW at the General Council office.

60th Anniversary:

UCW 60th Anniversary is slated for July 11 – 15, 2022 at Sydney, Nova Scotia.

The beautiful pins have arrived and are \$6 each. When you register for the event you can order one. Alternatively, you can order them now but it is preferred they be ordered in batches for your area/region. Check with your Region's President.

Registration will be open on September 30th, 2021. Each Region has 22 guaranteed spots until February 2022. If the spots are filled you will go on the first come first served waiting list. Hotel codes will not be available until late August/September.

Here is a direct link to the 60th "bookmark" for easy access:

<https://ucceast.ca/fsldw-and-region-15-ucw/ucws-60th-anniversary-news/>

The committee wanted to remind those who want to apply for the Dorothy Amos Fund Grant of \$400 that the date is fast approaching. Please have your applications in to the committee by **July 2**. You can apply on line or by paper application. Application forms and information can be found on the National UCW webpage, or by clicking on the link above which takes you to the 60th, scroll down to find the form. Download, fill in and email to ucw@united-church.ca with a copy to cdallas@ripnet.com. Most of the form does not have to be completed, just note that it is for a \$400 grant to help you, financially, with attending the 60th Anniversary Celebration in NS in 2022.

Women's Inter-Church Council News

Along with my World Day of Prayer donation receipt I also received a thank you note and information from WICC. I will paraphrase parts of the letter:

“Covid-19 changed the way we celebrated World Day of Prayer, but it did not change our desire to unite in prayer with people from around the world! *World Day of Prayer 2021 Vanuatu: Build on a Strong Foundation* touched the lives of many. Thousands of people watched the full-length service video produced by WICC on local television stations or as part of a Zoom group or directly from the link on the WICC website. Others gathered virtually to share reading parts. A few were able to meet in churches with safety protocols.

Many joined WDP Canada Pray Now on Facebook from September to February. Co-ordinator Network training, Festival Highlights, and Fun Paint nights were also very successful on-line events. Go to www.wicc.org to find out about events for next year or sign up for the WICC monthly e-newsletter, We-Connect, for all the updates and interesting articles.

WICC is currently reviewing World Day of Prayer 2022 England, Wales and Northern Ireland: I Know the Plans I have for You – for March 4, 2022. The theme is a soothing balm for uncertain times. WICC will, again, produce a video of the World Day of Prayer service with special guests.

WDP 2022 service co-ordinators will be able to access all materials quickly and easily this fall on www.wicc.org. If you have not already submitted names and e-mail addresses of service co-ordinators from your faith community please do so as soon as possible.

Many of the World Day of Prayer grants will be approved this month at the meeting of the board of Women’s Inter-church Council. You are invited to read about past grant stories on the WICC website.”

Remember that we are represented on the WICC board through National UCW. “Through the Lens of Blessing” June Newsletter is now available on the wicc.org website.

Camp Christopher Woman’s Camp

There is the possibility of one Woman’s Camp at Camp Christopher in September. The Camp Christopher Woman's Camp Executive is hoping that come September they will be able to host Woman's Camp. By that time, they are assuming that most folks will be vaccinated and that things will start to open up in Saskatchewan.

With that "HOPE", they are interested in getting some feedback from all of you: If it is possible to host Woman's Camp this year, would you come? Please reply to this either way (yes or no) before the end of June. womanscamp1@gmail.com If there is enough interest, the planning team will get to work! The Date of the camp would be the weekend of September 10, 11, & 12, 2021.

Closing

As we are left reeling from the horrific events of the past few weeks, including the senseless killing of a young RCMP officer here in Saskatchewan, I leave you with this prayer by Ruth Duck (1990) from Voices United #557:

In you, O God, every family on earth receives its name.

Illumine the homes of this earth with the light of your love,
granting courage to those who are hurt or lonely,
endurance to those who care for sick family members,
and wisdom to those in fearful times of change.

We thank you for gifts of love we have received
from mother, father, spouse, child or companion.

As we have been loved by you and by others, so may we love.

Grant us your peace, through Jesus the Christ. Amen

I hope everyone has a good summer. The next newsletter is scheduled for around Sept. 15.

Blessings,
Mary