

Saskatchewan United Church Women Newsletter November 2021

“The greatest love a person can have for his friends is to give his life for them.”

John 15:13

I hope everyone was able to join a Remembrance Day Service, whether in person or virtual.

Thank You and Welcome to the New Executive

THANK YOU to Wilma Will, outgoing treasurer and Susan Dokken, outgoing co-chairperson for their volunteer time serving on the executive of Sask. United Church of Canada Women since its inauguration in 2018. Participating and helping with Women’s Camps, attending Anniversary events and helping with decision making were some of the ways they went well beyond their position mandates.

Welcome to the new executive! They were all elected by acclamation at the annual meeting on Nov. 7, 2021. Thank you for your willingness to serve on the executive for the coming year.

Co-chair: Chantal Ntibategera

Co-chair: Dawn Weber

1st Vice Chair: Diane Thurlow

2nd Vice Chair: Marilyn Bodner

Treasurer: Phyllis Robinson

Secretary: Barbara Byers Bradley

Past Co-chair: Susan Dokken

Newsletter Editor: Mary Mohn

In Memoriam

During the worship service we recognized the following friends in UCW who have passed away since 2019:

Carrot River UCW: Nancy Watts, July 7, 2021

Prairie River UCW: Agatha “Eva” Deforest March 4, 2021

Saskatoon: Grosvenor Park UCW:

Norma Fulton August 1, 2020

Ruth Robinson August 26, 2021

Saskatoon: Mount Royal Emmanuel UCCW:

Mildred Morrison April 25, 2020

Shirley Woodside (Asquith) November 12, 2020

Saskatoon: St. Martin's UCW:

Dorothy Hall	February 1, 2019
Nancy Monseor	March 1, 2019
Margaret Finley	October 1, 2019
Marie Campbell	October 1, 2019
Edith Davis	December 1, 2019
Norma Romuld	October 1, 2020
Joan Cosgrove	January 1, 2021
Kay Nicklin	January 1, 2021
Shirley Cross	March 1, 2021

Tisdale UCW:

Edith Victoria Dahl	April 30, 2021
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60th Anniversary of UCW

It will be held July 11 to 15, 2022 at Membertou Trade and Convention Centre in Sydney, Nova Scotia. Applicants may apply for \$400.00 through the Agatha Kaasa Bursary Fund towards the cost of attending the 60th Anniversary event in Nova Scotia (deadline is April 15, 2022). Registrations need to be submitted by end of December as there are 22 spaces reserved for Living Skies/Saskatchewan until then. After that it will be first come, first serve basis. Two of us from Birch Hills UCW and another from Saskatoon are booked into the Hampton Inn. If you have any questions please contact Mary Mohn.

How Sask. United Church of Canada Women Came into Being

I will attempt to explain how the Sask. United Church of Canada Women evolved.

On October 2, 2012, a motion was passed at a meeting at the Saskatchewan Conference office "that the members of Saskatchewan Conference UCW Coordinating Committee disband as of October 2, 2012". The result was that the Saskatchewan Conference Network for Women of the United Church became "Women of the United Church Network" with two coordinators. One to be a representative of the UCW and the other to be from outside the UCW. From that meeting there was a representative from the UCW appointed.

In 2015 I was asked by Sask. Conference Nominating Committee to be one of the coordinators of Sask. Conference Women's Network. At that time Betty Anne Williamson from Indian Head was the UCW representative. I agreed, but made it very clear that I was also UCW.

In 2015 I attended the General Council of The United Church of Canada at Corner Brook, Newfoundland. There I met members of the National UCW and was invited to the National UCW Annual Meeting in Mississauga, Ontario.

Imagine their surprise and mine when they thought there were no UCWs left in Saskatchewan! It was important to maintain communication with UCWs and other Women's Groups in Sask. Conference. That is when the Newsletter started and has been regularly posted on the Conference/Regional Council website as well as e-mailed and mailed to those who requested it.

For health reasons, Betty Anne was forced to resign in 2016 and Susan Dokken agreed to come on as my co-convenor.

2017 was the 55th Anniversary of UCW so Susan and/or I attended celebration events at Grace-Westminster in Saskatoon, Calvary United in Prince Albert, the Kipling Fall Rally at Kipling United Church and St. Andrew's United Church in Moose Jaw. On July 10th to 14th, twelve women from Saskatchewan attended the 55th Anniversary Celebration of National United Church Women at the University of B.C. Campus in Vancouver, B.C.

We also hosted the Women's Camp at Tapawingo and attended the Women's Camp at Christopher Lake.

In April 2018 we hosted a Women's Gathering at St. Andrew's College for all women in the United Church, thanks to funding from Sask. Conference. After round table discussions, a motion was carried to form the Saskatchewan United Church of Canada Women to include all women in the province and also be a close affiliate of the National UCW. The suggestion was made that co-chairs would remain in office for two years (staggered), then be followed by the 1st vice-chair and second vice-chair, etc. Secretary and Treasurer were left to be voted on each year or until one resigned. I volunteered to keep doing the newsletter. It was also suggested that we try to hold a one-day Regional Event one year and a larger three-day Women's Gathering the following year.

Women's Camps were popular with all ages. In 2019 Sask. UCCW hosted Women's Camps at Tapawingo and Wellman Lake. We also took part in the Annual Women's Camp at Christopher Lake. Women's Camps can now be totally handled by the individual camp boards with them collecting the registrations, planning and taking any profit. We will provide publicity throughout the Regional Council. Women from other Regional Councils might even be interested in attending.

Here are some of my personal reasons for encouraging the formation of Sask. UCCW:

1. Two people could not continue to plan and host events throughout the province.
2. We needed to have a bank account to deposit registrations and pay for events as they happened. Volunteer hosts could not be expected to pay costs out of their own pockets and then be reimbursed.
3. Having an elected executive helps to spread the work load and bring forth new ideas.
4. We need the structure, stability and knowledge of UCW in order to carry on.

The Sask UCC Women has a mandate to reach out to the women of the United Church within Living Skies Regional Council through the existing United Church Women (UCW) structure, as well as through non-UCW groups and the individual women of the church. A newsletter, events, and connections with the wider movement of women in The United Church of Canada are among our many efforts to keep women connected and supported.

I partly wrote and edited a book "Celebrating 55 Years of UCW in Saskatchewan" and after the cost of printing was covered the proceeds went into the Sask. UCCW account. In this book there are details of the first Inaugural meetings of UCW, stories, mini sermons as well as the decision to disband at the provincial level. If anyone is interested, I have a few books left for \$12.

Without the financial support of Sask. Conference/Living Skies Regional Council we could not do anything. Hopefully, as time goes on, we will receive more individual monetary support for events and communications.

Mary Mohn with help from Barbara Byers Bradley

Hospital Chaplaincies:

Our hospital chaplains are: Lorna King at the hospitals in Regina and Emily Carr at the hospitals in Saskatoon. If you, or someone you know require treatment in one of our major hospitals and would like a pastoral care visit, please contact them. They are not only available during emergencies, but also as a visitor when so many restrictions are in place, especially for out of town patients.

They can be reached at :

Emily Carr	rev.emilycarr@outlook.com	1-306-227-8707
Lorna King	lking1255@yahoo.com	1-306-551-7755

Women's Inter-Church Council – World Day of Prayer 2022

You may have already received a coordinator's letter. This does not mean you will be the coordinator but at this point in time, yours is the contact information we have. We do need someone who will be able to receive communication by email. And if you are using the video, you will need a church, library or community centre that have those resources.

This year, as last year, there will be a complete video for you to use plus other options. All of this information will be explained to you on a zoom call November 20 at 10am BC, 11am Alberta time, noon Saskatchewan time. It is starting at 1pm Eastern time.

I am your contact again this year. Last year for some folks in Saskatchewan, we had a zoom meeting where we walked through the resources and answered questions. We could do that again this year. Let me know if you think that is a good idea. Linda M. Ervin (H)250-493-5333 (C)250-462-3998

World Day of Prayer Field Representative Email: fieldrep567@wicc.org

World Day of Prayer Coordinators networking event on Zoom

Reminding you that any of you can register even if you are not the coordinator.

We are doing a Training Day Saturday, November 20 and hope many coordinators and others who are interested can attend. **You do need to register.**

You can learn how to access the materials, discuss different ways to have a service, understand key people to contact for information and support. And you will have an opportunity to ask questions. Coordinators are encouraged to send questions in advance to communications@wicc.ca.

A confirmation with the zoom link and password will be sent to you upon registration. To register, please go to <https://wicc.org/get-involved/events/>

Living Skies Advent Concert – an opportunity to do some easy fund-raising
*More ticket info coming soon, but save the date for this year's Advent Concert Celebration: **Sunday, December 12, 2021 at 7pm on YouTube Live***

And, we're asking all congregations and ministries throughout the Region to record Christmas greetings again! Record and send in your greetings for the concert by December 3.

Questions? Suggestions? Wanna join a planning team? Contact Kent at kmohn@united-church.ca or 306-221-5529.

<https://livingskiesrc.ca/.../unto-us-a-child-is-born.../>

An Advent Prayer: (Voices United 11)

God of all wisdom,

our hearts yearn for the warmth of your love,

and our minds search for the light of your Word.

Increase our longing for Christ our Saviour,

and strengthen us to grow in love,

that at the dawn of his coming

we may rejoice in his presence

and welcome the light of his truth,

This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen

Prepare for Advent and take time to enjoy the Christmas Season!

Blessings,

Mary