

# Regional Rambler

## Living Skies Regional Council The United Church of Canada



### March 16, 2022 - Events

The **Regional Rambler** is our primary resource for sharing information across the Regional Council. To be added to the receiving list, please email Bev Diebert ([bdiebert@united-church.ca](mailto:bdiebert@united-church.ca)).

Regional Council events will also be posted [on our Regional calendar](#). And you are most welcome to submit local public events to our [Community of Faith Calendar](#), whether you're part of a congregation, community ministry, partner group, and more. [You can use this form](#) to do that. Staff will approve the events in order to avoid the inevitable spammers. "Local" is a relative term these days of online events, so we leave that to your judgement. Generally it refers to shorter, more specific events that are, of course, public.

The latest opportunities from **United in Learning**, the church's online learning space, [are listed here](#).

#### 1. This month:

##### **Lesser Evils book study, Tuesdays in the day, March 8 to April 12**

Please check the web link for time details. This year's Lenten book is full of reflections on how to wend your way through the dilemmas of every day living. [Click here for full details](#).

##### **Ministry Personnel Gatherings**

Join your ministry colleagues every **Tuesday (March 22, 29, April 5, 12, & 19)** over Zoom for conversation, support and information sharing. Facilitated conversation begins at 1pm; connection information is found in the [calendar](#).

##### **Wisdom of the Elders Lenten Series**

**Tuesdays (March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 19 and 26) at 7:00pm Mountain** Beginning with Tony Snow and John Snow. [Details and registration are here](#). Or email Tony at [tony.snow@hillhurstunited.ca](mailto:tony.snow@hillhurstunited.ca).

##### **Youth & Children's Ministry Roundtables Wednesday, March 16, 7pm and Tuesday, April 26, 7pm**

Register: <https://form.jotform.com/220425315803244>

More Info: <https://livingskiesrc.ca/event/youth-childrens-ministry-round-table/2022-03-16/>

Got a passion for Ministry & Faith Formation with children or youth/young adults? Join us for a regular get-together to talk about our ideas, challenges, connections, and hopes. For at least part of our time together, we'll plan to split into at least two interest groups (children's ministry or youth ministry) to ensure that the discussion is relevant to everyone's needs.

##### **Refugee support and sponsorship get together, 17 March 2022, 6:30PM Mountain Daylight/ CST**

This has been a strange and difficult two years for refugee support and advocacy. Come out for support, conversation, and updates. We will be joined by Khwaka Kukubo, General Council Refugee Program Advisor, so bring your questions! Whether you're new to this or have been involved for years please join us. Sponsored by the Living Skies Refugee Task Group. Invited: Northern Spirit, Living Skies, and Prairie to Pine Regional Councils, and further afield if you wish. All welcome. [Register here](#) (this gives you the link and reminders automatically).

**Our Story in Our Language, March 19, 10:00AM Central, Sandy Saulteaux Centre.**

In a series of online multi-lingual conversations, we'll explore what community leadership training means for Indigenous communities of faith. All sessions start at **10:00 AM Central** on the second last Saturday of the month. (Please adjust for your time zone.) Tickets are \$25/session or \$75 for the 5-part series. [Full information and registration here.](#)

**NEW - International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination Monday March 21.**

Please see Racial Justice and Equity lead [Adele Halliday's reflection here](#). Consider what you can offer on social media or from the pulpit on Sunday and Monday.

**Sacred Water: An Interfaith Conversation for World Water Day, March 22, 4:00PM MDT**

Learn about diverse faith and spiritual traditions teach concerning the sacredness of water in a time of climate crisis, and how we can deepen our connection with it. Offered by Faith and the Common Good, a United Church partner. [Click here for registration and details.](#)

**“Faith-Filled Storytelling – An Intro to Godly Play” This is a Practically Prophetic Webinar  
Tuesday, March 22, 7pm**

**Godly Play** is an innovative method of Faith Formation & Storytelling for childhood and beyond. Godly Play allows participants to experience faith-building stories through intentional storytelling and imaginative wondering. **Mary Nichol** currently serves as Coordinator of Education for Children's and Family Ministries for the Pacific Mountain Region of The United Church of Canada. She is committed to creating sacred and safe space for children to engage and deepen in their relationship with God.

*Please Save the Date & watch for Registration info at <https://livingskiesrc.ca/event/creative-storytelling-with-godly-play-practically-prophetic-webinar/>*

**Contemplative Gatherings****Wednesday, March 23, 2022 10am or 1pm (SK Time)**

These one-hour gatherings are an opportunity, in Presence, to discern and listen, to rest and receive. This coming together gives us a chance to find our grounding and to renew our sense of common belonging.

Registration info at : <https://bit.ly/3he6rxv> or <https://livingskiesrc.ca/invitation-to-contemplative-gatherings-jan-mar-2022/>

**Doors of our Heart: A Journey through Palm Sunday to Easter and Beyond**

An Online Retreat Series over 5 Tuesdays Via Zoom - **March 29, April 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2022 (1:00-4:15 CST)**

Doors can be a metaphor for our lives...a symbol of who we are, how we live our lives out, and what our relationship with the Divine is like. As we explore lectionary readings, this retreat series invites us to open the door into the hearts of people who journeyed with Jesus from Palm Sunday through to Easter and beyond, and to creatively explore the doors of our own hearts along the way, that we might open them wider and wider to Divine love. *Leadership: Marg Janick-Grayston* Full information can be found at:

<https://www.freeflowwellness.ca/retreats>

**An Imagination Pilgrimage for the Soul: Knitting our Lives into the Sacred Landscape of the Earth**

An Online Retreat Series over 5 Thursdays Via Zoom - **March 31, April 7, 14, 21, 28, 2022 ( 2:00-5:30 CST)**

Pilgrims seeking to deepen their connection with the Divine often find spiritual connection under God's clear blue sky by lakes, at vistas, on mountains, and in sacred gardens. During this time when travel has become challenging for many people, this retreat series provides an opportunity to take an IMAGINARY pilgrimage across Canada, in the company of others, and to reflect on ways that the natural landscapes we encounter might ruminate with our lives and connect us spiritually. *Leadership: Marg Janick-Grayston*

Full Information can be found at: <https://naramatacentre.secure.retreat.guru/program/an-imagination-pilgrimage-for-the-soul-reflecting-on-the-landscapes-of-our-lives/>

## 2. Next Month:

**Youth Confirmation Weekend** (grade 9 & up)

**April 1-3, 2022 at St. Andrew's College, Saskatoon**

A great weekend to share, learn, laugh, and grow in our faith together. **Cost: \$50/participant**

**Register:** <https://form.jotform.com/220593788574269> Full details and information are available at <https://livingskiesrc.ca/event/youth-confirmation-weekend-2022/>

## 3. Into the future:

**Spring Senior Youth Retreat** - grade 9 & up

**May 13-15, 2022 at Moose Jaw???** (we're working on the details)

Finally! Mark your calendars because the Spring Senior Youth Retreat is on its way! Let's get together for an amazing weekend of laughter, friendship, faith, music, and any other other good things we can come up with. We're gonna learn some cool stuff about our own unique Personality & Leadership Types. You know, all those things that make each of us beautiful, frustrating, remarkable, and kinda weird all at the same time? Yeah, that stuff. We're also looking for homegroup leaders and planning team members! Details & info available at: <https://livingskiesrc.ca/event/spring-senior-youth-retreat/>

**NEW - Online Community? Church Hybridity? The Digital Body of Christ? June 13 – 16**

If these are realities which continue to excite, disturb, or otherwise engage you, then mark your calendars for the first annual summer learning event co-sponsored by the three schools of the Saskatoon Theological Union in partnership with St. Thomas More College when we will be exploring the theme of **Religious Community in a Digital World.**

Apropos of our topic, this conference will be held entirely online. It will include keynote presentations, worship, workshops, social time, networking opportunities, and digital spaces for deep and rich ecumenical encounter.

Our keynote speakers this summer are **Dr. Deanna Thompson** (author of The Virtual Body of Christ in a Suffering World) and **Dr. Jeffrey Mahan** (author of Church as Network: Christian Life and Connection in Digital Culture). Individually and in dialogue, our speakers will be looking at our new digital-ecclesial landscape through historical, theological, and pastoral lenses. For those of us planning on engaging our plugged-in world, no matter how bewildered we may feel in it, these conversations will be missional and life-giving, practical and prophetic.

Planning is underway ... keep your eyes peeled for registration details as they emerge!

For more information, please contact Shawn Sanford Beck at [stmstulearningevent@gmail.com](mailto:stmstulearningevent@gmail.com) or 306-441-6367