

Regional Rambler

Living Skies Regional Council The United Church of Canada



March 30, 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).

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:

Tonight An invitation to 'Caging Childhood' - Online via Zoom, **Wed. March 30, 6:30 to 7:45pm. Pacific DT**
Can you imagine a 13 to 17-year-old child arrested on the suspicion of throwing a stone? Then detained in an interrogation centre unknown to their family? Interrogated without a parent or lawyer present?

Each year approximately 500-700 Palestinian children, some as young as 12 years old, are detained and prosecuted in the Israeli military court system. The most common charge is stone-throwing. To learn more about the reality on the ground for Palestinian children and their families, please join us for a short film screening of *Caging Childhood: Palestinian Children in Israel's Military Detention System*.

The documentary shares the stories of three Palestinian children in the occupied West Bank and their experiences being detained, interrogated, prosecuted, and imprisoned in the Israeli military detention system.

It was produced by Defence for Children International – Palestine (DCI:P). DCI:P is one of our overseas partners supported by the Mission and Service. The screening will be followed by a discussion and letter writing event. Shaina Low, the Advocacy Officer from DCI:P will join us to respond to questions and provide an update.

Pre-registration is required on Eventbrite: <https://cagingchildhood.eventbrite.ca>

This event is co-hosted by *Amnesty International Okanagan* and *CJPME: Okanagan*. Questions?? Please send an email to cjpmeokanagan@cjpme.org.

2. Next Month:

Youth Confirmation Weekend at St. Andrew's College, Saskatoon on April 1-3, 2022 has been cancelled.

Lesser Evils book study, Tuesdays through 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 (April 5, 12, 19 & 26)** over Zoom for conversation, support and information sharing. Facilitated conversation begins at 1pm; connection info is found in the [calendar](#).

Wisdom of the Elders Lenten Series

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

NEW - Easter Youth Vigil Saturday, April 16, 8pm at McClure United Church, Saskatoon

All youth grades 7 & up are invited to join us for our annual Easter Vigil. We begin Saturday at 8pm and end with the Easter Sunrise Service at 5:45am. <https://livingskiesrc.ca/event/youth-easter-vigil/>

Youth are asked to bring: (1) \$5 to contribute to pizza; (2) a snack to share; (3) optional – a few extra dollars for the midnight 7-11 run. **Everyone is invited** to join us for the beautiful sunrise service beginning at 5:45am on the hill at Wildwood School.

For more information, please contact Laura by email laura@mclureunitedchurch.org or by phone/text at 306-291-5838. Pre-registration is not required but is appreciated.

NEW - Book study of *These Mountains are Our Sacred Places* by Rev. Chief John Snow

Wednesday evenings from April 20 to May 11, 7:00-8:00 p.m. (Sask time) Hosted by Centre for Rural Community Leadership and Ministry (CIRCLE M), we'll explore the story of the Stoney People. Facilitation by Chief Snow's sons, Rev John (Indigenous Minister, Pacific Mountain Region) and Tony Snow (Indigenous Minister, Chinook Winds Region). [Zoom link](#). Meeting ID: 899 4431 3877 Passcode: 311859

NEW - Learning about Jordan's Principle and Indigenous children April 21 at 6:00PM CDT.

Resource: Leann Shimoda, hosted by Indigenous Ministries and Justice of the UCC. This free event is open to anyone but may be particularly helpful to parents/ caregivers of Indigenous children and people who work with Indigenous children. We discuss: Who was Jordan River Anderson, background on Jordan's Principle, who can apply for assistance, how to apply. Visit the [Indigenous at UCC Facebook page](#) at the date/ time above. [Further information is here](#).

NEW - Prayer forum for the Philippine election Friday, April 22, 6:00PM Sask time

Join the Filipino Network of the United Church to learn about the issues and concerns that surround the upcoming Philippine national election and to discern a common response from the church here in Canada. [Please register here](#).

Update *Our Story in Our Language* April 23 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 - Called to be the Church: Stewardship Best Practices cohorts starting April 26 or 27.

Create a stewardship team of 3-5 people from your Community of Faith (including your minister or key lay leader, where possible), and spend some focussed time with a Stewardship Specialist and teams from other congregations. [Click here for available dates and times](#).

Youth & Children's Ministry Roundtables 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.

NEW - Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory Workshop April 27, 8:00AM Sask time

Antler River Watershed, Horseshoe Falls and Western Ontario Waterways regions are offering a practical workshop designed for individuals and communities of faith who are considering either starting a practice of acknowledgment of Indigenous territory in their worship and other activities, or would like to re-visit their current practice. Find out more, and [register](#). Please note: KAIROS Prairies North is also planning a land acknowledgement workshop for the West - watch for details, and plan on joining Eastern kin in the meantime!

3. Into the future:

NEW - United Network for Justice in Palestine and Israel Annual meeting May 5-8 London ON.

An opportunity to learn regardless of your previous knowledge or engagement with peace and justice in Israel and Palestine. Hear from dynamic and diverse speakers, form connections with like minded advocates from across the country, gather strength and inspiration as we emerge from pandemic shut downs, form community over meals and music, engage in meaningful learning sessions and discussions, and envision how we carry the work forward. [Registration and full details are here.](#)

NEW - An Introduction to Trauma-Informed Ministry (Practically Prophetic Webinar)

Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 7pm

Over the last two years, the topic of trauma has made its way into the public conversation in new ways. Once thought to be a concern only for military veterans and first responders, the impact of trauma on 'ordinary' people is being recognized as we move through a global disaster together. **Michele Rowe** will explore what constitutes trauma and how it impacts our lives in community.

More info & Registration: <https://livingskiesrc.ca/event/an-introduction-to-trauma-informed-ministry-practically-prophetic-webinar/>

Spring Senior Youth Retreat - grade 9 & up **May 13-15, 2022**

St. Andrew's UC, Moose Jaw and Lumsden Beach Camp

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 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. Details & Registration info posted at available at: <https://livingskiesrc.ca/event/spring-youth-retreat/>

NEW-Green Priestcraft: Becoming a Chaplain of Creation an online retreat **Sat. May 28, noon – 6:30 CST**

This daylong workshop will introduce participants to some basic tools and practices of spiritual and ritual care for the Earth. Drawing on his extensive work in Christian Animism and Druidry, Rev. Shawn will explore a spiritual cosmology which sees the Creation as “teeming with neighbours ... only some of whom are human.” Expect to have your curiosity awakened and your sense of “self” gently stretched, as we peer into a cosmos which is more sentient than we ever imagined! **Leadership:** Shawn Sanford Beck. Full info and registration: <https://naramatacentre.secure.retreat.guru/program/green-priestcraft-becoming-a-chaplain-of-creation/>

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 or 306-441-6367.