

Regional Rambler

Living Skies Regional Council
The United Church of Canada



April 27, 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:

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

Wednesday evenings until 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

REVISED DATE **Learning about Jordan's Principle and Indigenous children, April 28 at 5:00PM CST (SK).**

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 - CCS Online Open House

Join us live on Zoom on **Saturday, April 30, 2-3:30 pm (Central Daylight Time)** to get to know the Centre for Christian Studies community. It's a chance to meet current program staff and students, learn about our programs, bursaries, and registration process, ask questions and meet new friends. Whether you're considering the diaconate, diaconal ministry, or continuing education, there are options for you with CCS. There will even be a mini tour of Woodsworth House. It'll be fun! [Click here to register](#) and get the link.

2. Next Month:

NEW - Decolonizing Ourselves: Exploring the Spirit of Land Acknowledgements May 3 and 5, at 7:00-8:30pm (SK) Two online workshops for faith communities with Dr. Rose Roberts (PhD) and Dr. Stryker Calvez (PhD), Cree and Métis experts who have presented land acknowledgement workshops at the University of Saskatchewan for many years. We're invited to reflect and act on the role and meaning of land acknowledgements in our personal lives as well as in our faith communities. We will connect with one another to consider our relationships with place, land, people, and spirit, and to learn how to make our land acknowledgments authentic and genuine.

[Click here to register](#). ****Registration deadline: April 30th****. Hosted by: KAIROS Prairies North Decolonization Working Group and the SK Treaty Land Sharing Network with support from the United Church and Mennonite Central Committee.

Ministry Personnel Gatherings

Join your ministry colleagues every **Tuesday (May 3, 10, 17 24 and 31)** over Zoom for conversation, support and information sharing. Facilitated conversation begins at 1pm; connection information is found in the [calendar](#).

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.](#)

You can learn more about UNJPPI at: <https://www.unjppei.org/index.html> You can find the event's Facebook page here: <https://fb.me/e/2gn3aoAty> .

NEW - Living Skies Affirming gathering: Preparing for Pride Tuesday May 10, 7:30– 8:30PM

June is Pride Month and Sunday, June 4 is United Church Pride Sunday! What are your rainbow plans? How can we support Pride activities in the community? Share small and big ideas for getting involved? Plan for worship and more? LSRC Affirming Task Group invites everyone, including Affirming-curious friends, to a Zoom discussion. [Click here for the meeting link.](#) Meeting ID: 844 2830 5761; Password: 489662; Phone: 855 703 8985 Canada Toll-free. Please do NOT post this information in a public social media group or account, or on a website.

NEW - Indigenous Church invitation to the United Church:

Discussion on the General Council 44 proposal on the restructuring of the Indigenous Church May 11, 5:00PM Central Standard.

An invitation to the wider church to meet with the National Indigenous Council on the GC44 proposal. This is a time to hear the work and ideas invested in the proposal for a continued process of creating our way of belonging as the Indigenous United Church. Registration and Zoom link: please email Liz at lvillegas@united-church.ca

An Introduction to Trauma-Informed Ministry (Practically Prophetic Webinar) Thursday, May 12 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.

Register: <https://form.jotform.com/220875503969265>

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

Spring Senior Youth Retreat - grade 7 & 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/>

Our Story in Our Language, May 21, Sandy Saulteaux Centre. (next conversation – June 18)

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 **9:00AM Central Daylight 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 - Miles Russell is retiring.

You are invited to attend a celebration of Rev. Miles Russell's 39 years of ministry at Preeceville-Sturgis Pastoral Charge on **Sunday, May 22, 2022 from 2:00 – 4:00pm** at Trinity United Church Preeceville, SK. Please RSVP by May 8, 2022 to sivanochko@sasktel.net or 306-547-7898. Greetings can be sent by email or by Canada Post to Box 890 Preeceville, SK S0A 3B0. We hope that you can join Miles and Anna for this momentous celebration.

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/>

3. Into the future:**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**.

As a gift to the wider community, this amazing learning event is being offered by St. Thomas More College, Lutheran Theological Seminary, the College of Emmanuel St. Chad, and St. Andrew's College without charge! Register now: <https://forms.gle/AtMMfT9BJGkuyVDe8>

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.

For more information, contact Shawn Sanford Beck at stmstulearningevent@gmail.com or 306-441-6367.

UCC Camp Day for Camp Staff & Boards Saturday, June 18, 10am at Lumsden Beach Camp

Let's share resources, programs, ideas, policies, recruitment, and any other camp-related thing we can think of. Plus, it's a great excuse to meet other camp people for networking and sharing dorky camp-stories.

We'll have more details and info posted on the Region website soon. For now, please mark it in your calendars and spread the word amongst staff, volunteers, board members, etc.