



Staff and Leadership Changes

June 14, 2022

Introducing new leadership on the Executive

Tricia Gerhard didn't know what she was in for when she said yes to chairing the Regional Council Executive in May 2019. First, continued restructuring shock, then COVID called on her calmness and commitment to good communication. As she prepares to leave for Winnipeg, many thanks and blessings go with her. Now Living Skies Regional Council welcomes Regina's *Darrell Reine* as the new chair, and we wish him the very best. Many thanks to the Executive for continuing to guide the Regional Council through a difficult time; we look forward with hope to 2023, when a face to face Regional Council meeting is planned.

Youth and young adult, chaplaincies, and camps staffing farewell and changes

Kent Mohn is moving out of his half time work supporting the Youth and Young Adult Community and the two hospital chaplaincies, the ecumenical chaplaincy at the U of S, and our camps. As he begins parental leave this month, he looks forward to ordination and a move to pastoral ministry this fall. Congratulations, Kent!

Lindsay Mohn will cover the position quarter time - welcome, Lindsay! Lindsay will focus on the adult end of support for youth, and on camps. *Josie Williams* will be back in the fall; she works quarter time on the newsletter, social media, and the youth end of YAYAC. In addition, we are lucky to have two summer students. *Avery and Erika Stronski* will work on camping promotion and engagement, and related social media. If all this sounds complicated, it's because we're working on a not-quite-post-COVID vision for youth and young adult ministry broadly speaking, as are many across the church. Please [have a look at the YAYAC website](#) for more details.

Staff farewells: Jamie McKay, Executive Assistant; Karen Medland, Vocation Minister

Executive Assistant *Jamie McKay's* last day with the tri-Region staff team was June 9. Jamie served Northern Spirit, Living Skies, and Prairie to Pine Regional Councils, especially the Executives. In addition to taking minutes at Executive meetings and Regional annual meetings, she worked to support Shannon; and, when we were able to meet in person, was a particular support to the Keewatin Circle in Northern Manitoba. She took on the special project of design for the three new Regional websites, then worked with a staff team to get the sites up to date and launched only days before COVID hit. We wish Jamie all the best in whatever the next chapter may be, and thank her for sharing her many gifts with the church for the past four years.

Since the transition to a new structure in 2019, *Karen Medland* has served the Office of Vocation. As a Vocation Minister, Karen was part of a team of regionally deployed General Council Office staff in Northern Spirit, Living Skies, and Prairie to Pine. She supported the processes for the discernment, training and accreditation of people who felt called to become ministry personnel in the United Church. Karen supported ministers who were seeking to fulfill the continuing education standards, and she also accompanied ministers engaged in the formal processes for oversight and discipline. June 1 Karen started a new call to ministry and vocation with Chinook Winds Regional Council as their Pastoral Relations Minister. Congratulations, Karen! You will be missed, and we wish you God's blessing in this new work.

Candidates in our three Regional Councils, please get in touch with *Brenda Fawkes*, Vocation Minister for Pacific Mountain and Chinook Winds, until a new hiring is announced: bfawkes@united-church.ca All other inquiries, please email *Marlene Britton*, Team Lead, Policy and Programs for Ministry Personnel: mbritton@united-church.ca