

Regional Rambler

Living Skies Regional Council
The United Church of Canada



Summer 2022 - July 13

*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.

Please see [United in Learning's summer events newsletter here](#).

1. Wider Church News:

NEW - New Office of Vocation Minister for our Regional Council- Rev Laura Fohse

Rev. Marlene Britton, Team Lead, Policy and Programs for Ministry Personnel, Ministry and Employment Unit, writes, "I am delighted to announce that the Rev. Laura Fohse will join the Office of Vocation team in the Ministry and Employment Unit of the GCO, as the Vocational Minister for the Northern Spirit, Living Skies, and the Prairie to Pine Regions. She begins her assignment on **August 08, 2022.**" Laura lives out her vocation as a diaconal minister, coming to the role after serving 16 years in team ministry at McClure United Church in Saskatoon and prior to that, 3 years in the Rainbow Ministry in Winnipeg. She serves on the Prairie Candidacy Board. [More details are available here](#). Welcome, Laura!

NEW - Updates on General Council 44, and an invitation to view work so far

The recent GC44 Discussion Sessions were a time for Commissioners, Youth Forum members, and global, ecumenical, and interfaith partners to talk in small groups about proposals they felt required further discussion. In the notes from these conversations, the Facilitation Team has created Suggested Ways Forward. Everyone can access these notes; [please click here for full details](#).

Please see [an introduction to Moderator nominee Rev Carmen Lansdowne here](#).

The next sessions of General Council focus on decision making, running the evening of **Thursday, July 21, 2022 to Monday, July 25, 2022**. [Click here for details, and scroll down](#). The final General Council 44 session will be closing worship and the installation of the Moderator, **August 7 at 2:00pm** Mountain Daylight/ Central Standard, and 3:00PM Central Daylight.

NEW - The Pope's visit to First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities this July

Some very significant yet difficult dates are coming up for residential school survivors and Alberta, Québec, and Nunavut this July, as the Pope visits to hopefully fulfill a Call to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission by offering an in-person apology to First Nations, Metis, and Inuit survivors of residential schools, and their families. [Here's the schedule](#). While many have waited and advocated for this visit for a long time, others are troubled by it. Choosing to attend, or choosing not to attend, may be a very hard decision. Please keep survivors, families, and communities in your prayers and actions.

NEW - Building God's Beloved Community

There is a brand new UCPH book at the [United Church Bookstore](#). The new confirmation and faith formation resource, edited by Taylor Croissant, is for those who are considering membership or deeper involvement in

The United Church of Canada. This book is an ideal accompaniment to your journey of intentional Christian development, whether you're embarking on adult baptism, considering confirmation, or seeking to enrich your faith through deeper study. [Building God's Beloved Community](#) is an accessible and engaging discipleship primer designed to support you during this period of preparation and transformation. Also available in [e-book](#).

2. Living Skies Regional Council News:

NEW - 2022 South Saskatchewan River Walk route and support

Indigenous and ally Water Walkers are journeying through Saskatchewan treaty lands to the forks of the Saskatchewan Rivers. [Please check the route map](#), below, [follow the Walkers on Facebook](#), and organize some people in your community of faith to greet them, offer supplies, and/ or journey with them. They write, "Join us on this sacred Water Walk to speak, sing, pray to the water spirits and help all of life. You can walk for a day, a week, the whole journey, or support us with food and gas. Donations may be sent to the Saskatoon Unitarian congregation, which can issue tax receipts. Email: bookkeeper.ucs@gmail.com"

Google Maps route: <https://goo.gl/maps/GrLYhJveUJHfuKTd8>

As of July 9, the walkers were near Cabri. We'll share updates on the [Living Skies Facebook group](#) as we can. Please follow along.

3. Next month:

NEW - Hold the date: Decolonizing Ourselves: Healing Haunted Histories gathering on Muskeg Lake Cree Nation SK, **August 27, 2022, 1:00PM- 5:00PM**, followed by optional community meal, with overnight camping and community for Aug 27. Sponsored by KAIROS Prairies North and members.

Come for a day on the land, exploring paths to decolonizing through landlines, songlines, and bloodlines. Elders and knowledge keepers Harry and Germaine Lafond; and authors, teachers and theologians Elaine Enns, and Ched Myers will guide us. Overnight camping the evening of Aug 27 available. **Location: Muskeg Lake Cree Nation**, approximately 4 hours drive from Regina and 1.5 hours from Saskatoon. Registration will be posted soon. Cost: TBC, no more than \$50, dinner included, camping extra. We invite you to get the book *Healing Haunted Histories* and read it. [It can be ordered here](#).

2022 Church Office Administrators Retreat.

The dates have been finalized for the Church Office Administrators Retreat! *Fill Your Cup: Nourish & Restore Yourself* retreat will be held beginning **Tuesday, October 4, 2022 at 7pm and go to October 7, 2022 at 1pm** at Queens House Retreat & Renewal Centre (601 Taylor Street W., Saskatoon, SK S7M 0M8). Detail can be found in a [letter for M&P Committees or governing bodies](#). [Here is the form to register](#). For question or further information contact Brandy Emmerich at office@stmartinsuc.com or by phone at 306-343-7101.

Deadline for registration is August 31, 2022.

4. Into the Future:

NEW – Women's Network Camp

The Women's Network will be holding a Women's Camp at Camp Christopher (on Christopher Lake) from Friday, Sept. 9 to Sunday, Sept. 11. **Cost: \$60**. For the schedule and registration information, please see the Women's Network's June newsletter. **Deadline for registration is September 5, 2022.**

Update - UCW In-person Gathering

The Women's Network will be holding an in-person UCW Gathering at Watrous United Church on **September 24, 2022 from 9:30am to 3:30pm**. The theme for the day will be 'Standing with God in Hope', with guest speaker Marg Janick-Grayston. **Cost is \$20** / person (payable at the door) and includes coffee, fruit, muffins and lunch. **Pre-register** with Phyllis Robinson at phyllis.r2@sasktel.net before **Saturday, Sept 10**.