

Sask. United Church of Canada Women November Newsletter 2022

“The greatest love a person can have for his friends is to give his life for them.”

John 15:13



NOMINATIONS FOR ANNUAL MEETING:

We are looking for nominations for the positions of 1st and 2nd Vice-chair. These positions will begin following the Annual Meeting in January 2023. If you or you know of anyone who would be willing to fill either of these positions please contact Dawn Weber at 306-373-2407 or any member of the Sask. UCCW executive. Remember, we are part of the Living Skies Women’s Network and any woman (including clergy) is welcome to be part of the executive. Meetings are most often held by Zoom or arranged at the convenience of those on the executive when held in person. Usually there are two to four meetings a year.

UCW Bursary Fund

The next application deadline for the UCW Bursary Fund is February 28, 2023.

Fellowship of the Least Coin: November is the traditional month for observing this ecumenical program that is provided by the Women’s Inter-church Council of Canada. All monies received by WICC from Fellowship of the Least Coin

services are forwarded to the International Fellowship of the Least Coin committee which decides on projects to aid women and children world-wide.

Here is the new Prayer of the Fellowship of the Least Coin:

A New FLC Prayer

Loving God, we thank you for the many gifts that you have given to us as women in the FLC. Thank you for the gift of sisterhood, which connects us with women and girls all over the world – no matter who they are, what they look like, where they come from, or how they pray. Thank you for the gift of empathy, which give us insight into the struggles of sisters living in poverty and in war zones. Thank you for the gift of compassion, which moves us to reach out to sisters who have been denied human rights, an education, job opportunities, and health care. Thank you for the gift of holy anger, which pushes us to seek justice for sisters who are oppressed and exploited. Thank you for the gift of leadership, which allows us to work together towards Shanti's vision of peace, justice, and reconciliation for all.

Dear God, accept these least coins as tokens of our prayers. May they be a blessing to others. May they show our love in action. May they transform our lives, our faith, and our world. Amen.

Women's Inter-church Council of Canada (WICC) is also responsible for the World Day of Prayer program every year. For more information go to www.wicc.org

Contemplative Gatherings 2022

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. Please note that there is a limit of 21 persons per session.

November Gathering: "Advent: Roadmaps of Grace"

Friday, November 25, 2022 10-11 AM or 2-3 PM (SK Time Zone)

To Register:

10:00 AM Gathering: <https://form.jotform.com/223115101068239>

2:00 PM Gathering: <https://form.jotform.com/223114845215247>

Scripture for Lection: Isaiah 40: 3-5

Annual Meeting of Sask. UCCW – January 7, 2023

Please save the date! A Zoom and in person Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 7, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. All United Church Women in Living Skies Region are invited to take part. A budget for the coming year will be presented along with election of the executive for the coming year.

Minto UCW in Moose Jaw Celebrates 60th Anniversary

On Nov. 13 about 50 UCW members, past and present, took part in a special event at Minto United Church to celebrate 60 years of service to the church and community. Minto UCW chairperson Jan Coward said, "It's very important to the church, to the community and to UCW members to celebrate." There was a special service and lunch. She said women from different churches were invited and many shared their stories of being in UCW. There was also a table of memorabilia from over the years. An angel statue was presented to Vivian Wilson who has been a UCW member at Minto since its inauguration in 1962. Jan said, "She is our angel. She joined as a young bride and while raising her four children she did a lot of work for UCW and continues to do so today".

Photos by Randy Palmer



Vivian Wilson presented with angel



Vivian Wilson & Vivian Francis

The Anniversary cake was cut by two 60-year members of UCW. Minto UCW is involved in many community activities as well as Minto United Church events. These include an annual turkey supper for the men's

home, donations to the Salvation Army stocking fund and right now they have a mitten tree to gather warm mitts, toques and scarves for daycares.

Renewing My Hope

From God's Enduring Presence by Joyce Rupp

They that hope in the Lord will renew their strength: Isaiah 40:31

Hope-filled people inspire and boost the enthusiasm of others. They have an ability to lift the disheartened from the pit of discouragement. It's not that hope-filled persons escape life's woes. It's how they respond that makes the difference. With their spiritual roots sunk deep in Enduring Love, they can stand strong in the wild storms of life and not give up. Hope-filled persons reach out wide and far to receive the empowering strength of God that comes in many disguises.

Jesus was a carrier of hope. We are meant to do the same. The world situation being what it is, we are sometimes greatly challenged to believe in personal and world transformation. Hope can quickly flee from our hearts.

Are we hope-filled? How do we keep our hope alive? Not by self-reliance alone. Isaiah reminds us that it is the ones "who hope in the Lord" who renew their strength. We have to go deep to find the endless Source that feeds the river of love and goodness in our hearts. When we do so, we have the courage to go on hoping in spite of what appears dismal. This Advent, let us renew our hope. Let us sink our roots deeper!

May you and yours enjoy a hope-filled Advent Season.

Blessings,
Mary