



Keeping in Touch

NUCW President's Message - *With Faith, there is Hope*

Hope for a new day, hope for a job, hope for peace, hope for joy, hope for love.



Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote,

*"Write it on your heart
That every day is the best day in the year.
He is rich who owns the day, and no one owns the day
who allows it to be invaded with fret and anxiety.
Finish every day and be done with it.
You have done what you could.
Some blunders and absurdities, no doubt crept in.
Forget them as soon as you can, tomorrow is a new day;
begin It well and serenely, with too high a spirit
To be cumbered with your old nonsense.
This new day is too dear,
With its hopes and invitations,
To waste a moment on the yesterdays."*¹

I think Emerson had a point with what he believed, even back in the late 1800s. If you have faith in God, there is hope to be had in a new day. We must look forward and not behind us, and know that God walks with us each and every day.

Go and walk with the Lord, and have Faith that your Hopes are in His hands.

**"I am with you always even
unto the end of the world"**

Sanctuary Window

Winchester United Church, ON

Photo: K. Gardner

With Blessings,

Nancy Risto

National UCW President

The Hymnals we use in our United Churches, *More Voices* and *Voices United*, give us two beautiful selections that echo these reflections on hope to begin our new year.

From *More Voices* #220, "Hope Shines as the solitary star. Faith is the inner light. You and I together mirror the Light of Lights, and illumine the pathway home."²

From *Voices United* # 656, we can recite "An Affirmation of Hope", which closes with the prayer..."
God we hope: help us to hope together! Amen"³

¹ (Emerson, 1870)

² (WORDS: MacLean & MUSIC: Tissandier, 2007)

³ (Student Christian Movement, 1996)



AN INVITATION TO PRAYER

We invite all United Church Women to include in your weekly prayers a message of hope and healing for our world and its people.



Banner Art:

Winsloe United Church Sunday School, PEI bring Hope to life in this colourful banner. Features are the UCW 60th Continuing in Hope logo, along with hopes for a bright future carried aloft by butterflies. "Into your hands, I give my worries...I know there's hope, in your hands" Lyric: Alice Finnamore 2022 Photo: K. Gardner

God of HOPE, LOVE, JOY AND PEACE, guide us in prayer for your people.

Encourage us. Strengthen us.

Into your hands, oh God we send prayers, for healing, for hope, for truth, for justice, for wisdom, for positive action as we keep in our prayers and thoughts: The people of Ukraine – Korean Peace Appeal – Hurricane Fiona Recovery which continues in Eastern Canada and South along the coast – Victims and families impacted by mass killings in Asia and USA this January – Missing and murdered Indigenous Women and Girls – All victims of violence - Local, Regional and National Health Care systems as we continue to battle Covid19 and new RSV outbreaks – UCW members across the country and their challenge to remain active and connected – Restoring of Water, Food and Shelter resources where needed, and to these cares and worries we add our personal prayers of concern.

We pray for guidance in our devotions as we study the word of God and seek to apply these teachings in an authentic way that will honour the word, ourselves, and our planet. In gratitude for all that we are given each day – the glory of this new day, the highs in which we can express our joy, the lows in which we may become wiser through the lessons learned – we offer our thanks and humble requests. *Amen*



A UCW Woman⁴

When you reach a certain age in church
You might get quite excited.
You're asked to join a special group
A sisterhood, United.
You join the UCW!
And from that very day
You are part of something special
In each and every way.
You have projects on the go, of course
You're busy as a bee
Your husband might be heard to say

"What?" Not another tea!"
We visit, love with tender care
We give to sister, mother
To friend, acquaintance, all are there
To cherish, love each other.
We find that over many years
Something happens to our cars.
They drive to church all by themselves!
It's really quite *bazaar*!
We meet to worship, sing and plan
With the time we can afford.
God bless the UCW
As they work for the Lord.

⁴ A UCW Woman by Wendy Lowden for Shoal Harbour, NL UCW Rally 2016



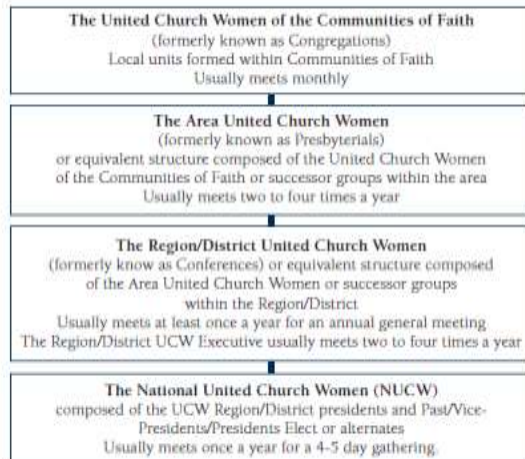
ALL ABOUT UCW STATS for 2023

It's that time of year again! Yes, its STATS FORM COMPLETION AND COLLECTION TIME!

All Units (Community of Faith), Areas and Regions/District UCW (usually the President or Secretary) receive a collection form to be filled out each year.

From the Unit it is sent to Area/Region/District where the data is summarized. These final numbers and information are sent on to National UCW. When all data has been submitted, the summarized numbers for the entire organization are reported at the National UCW Annual General Meeting each September, which gives a picture of UCW across the country for that year. The annual statistics for UCW is just one of the tools that are used as a guide when planning UCW faith programs, workshops and gatherings.

Organization Chart of United Church Women



You will notice that the collection form has been modified to make it easier to fill in the data that our National United Church Women have requested. National UCW hopes that the below explanation of the revised forms helps to make the process easier to understand when completing the Statistics data, we have asked you to provide. **A note about due dates:** On the forms you circulate you may modify the "submit by" due date for your own UCW level (Community of Faith-Area-Region/District) to align with your Annual Meeting timing.

COMMUNITY OF FAITH UCWs: If you have always filled in the Pastoral Charge Form or Congregation Unit Form (**now the Community of Faith Form**), send the filled in form to your **Area Secretary*** as shown on the form. This will ensure all the information can be assembled, counted and sent on to the next level of UCW contacts. *If you do not have an Area Secretary, your contact is a ****Regional Secretary**. **Timing: Annually - February/March due date**

AREA UCW:** If you are asked to fill in an Area Form (former Presbyterial UCW. Not all Regional UCWs have Areas within the Region – review this requirement with your UCW Executive), OR you are an Individual Member, please forward the completed form to your *Regional Secretary** as indicated on the form.

Timing: Annually April/May due date

****REGIONAL/DISTRICT UCW:** (Regional UCWs replace the former Conference UCWs in the new structure) Your Regional Secretary will be receiving the completed forms from any Area UCWs which exist in some parts of the country, or Statistic Forms from Community of Faith UCWs, as well from enrolled Individual UCW Members. Each Region, depending on the size, structure and geography will have a designated woman assigned to receive the Statistic Forms from within that Region. She will summarize the data for the Region and send it on to the National UCW Secretary. **Timing: Annually June/July due date**



INDIVIDUAL UCW Members:

If any woman wishes to apply as an Individual UCW Membership, this form is sent directly to the Regional Secretary, together with the requisite membership fee. This form should be completed annually, to keep your membership in good standing. **Timing: Annually – April/May due date**

The National United Church Women hope this explanation of the new forms and process, will clear up the confusion caused by all the changes.



UCW Individual Membership – Count Me In!

National UCW has approved the UCW Individual Membership option. This membership is for women who no longer have access to a local Community of Faith UCW Unit. When a UCW Unit closes the members may retain their UCW membership within their congregations and the wider church.

Each year the Local Community of Faith UCW Units complete a “Statistics Sheet” to report membership numbers, names and contact information for key Executive positions, and the names of women blessed to receive a Life Membership Pin and Certificate in that year.

This year the new statistics forms also give a place to include the number of UCW women for each Area, Region/District who have registered as “Individual” members. These statistics are gathered Regionally, then tallied again to be shared Nationally to get a picture of UCW across the country.

You are important to us, so be sure to reach out to be included! If, as a UCW woman, you are living your purpose in your community of faith, but no longer have access to an active UCW Unit, reach out, sign up, and be counted!

How do you Enroll for Individual Membership? Ask your minister to connect you to the regional office who will be able to provide the name and contacts for your Region/District UCW Secretary or President. She will guide you about remaining active as an Individual Member of UCW. Give your contact information (email address for electronic contact, plus your mailing address and phone number) to enroll. A UCW Executive member from your region will keep you informed about upcoming events within UCW locally and nationally. You can request copies of the National UCW Newsletter, *Keeping in Touch*, to stay connected to other UCW women throughout the year. Membership fees are managed by the Regional UCW Secretary or Treasurer. For Information: *Karen Gardner* Email: gardnernucwsecretary@gmail.com



Royalty Free Image:
Meet Virtually



UCW VIRTUAL!? YES!

It's a New Year with many opportunities to forge new paths forward as UCW. Have you created (OR thought of creating) a Virtual UCW Chapter in your Region? Well, Regional UCW members are asking and we are interested! Let's get the word out! **Create a virtual meeting place to suit your own Region's UCW needs in Christian witness, study, fellowship and service. Share the links to your Regional website, newsletter or FaceBook !**

We'll publish your contacts, ideas and questions in *Keeping in Touch!*

Email us at: nucwkeepintouch2021@gmail.com

We'll include your information in the newsletter.



WHERE will we celebrate UCW's 65th ? Regions: Extend your invitation! Be a Host!

Host the UCW 65th Anniversary in 2027!

Deadline for proposals: June 1, 2023 to: NUCW Sub-Executive President, Nancy Risto nancyssweets@live.com
President-Elect, Barbara Davison the.davisons@shaw.ca
Treasurer, Carolle Dallas-Arbuckle: cdallas@ripnet.com
Secretary, Karen Gardner: gardnernucwsecretary@gmail.com



Brava! We applaud our Maritime Region UCW hosts who welcomed us in 2022

Thank you *Wela'liog* Tapadh leibh *Merci*



Visit the photo library, information pages and a unique YouTubeVideo to celebrate and reflect on the inspiring experience of UCW 60th Anniversary: Click Links:

to access the [photo library](#)

to see details on the [Maritime – 60th UCW](#) web page.

access the video **Ready, Set, GOUCW60** <https://youtu.be/38XoJcg6nTc>

Sand from all 16 Regions of the UCW Network came together in a moving ceremony to open the 60th Anniversary Celebrations in Sydney, Nova Scotia July 2022.



Did you miss ordering your 60th Anniversary Pin or would you like one to give as a gift? To order contact: Debbie Hawkins EMAIL: macdebbie.hawkins@gmail.com.

OR send an order request via Canada Post with payment to:

Debbie Hawkins 128 Woodbine Lane, Upper Kingsclear, NB E3E 1S3.

\$6 each postage included. Pins will also be available for purchase at the Maritime Annual meeting at Visions United in Moncton, NB April 28th. -



*60th Planning Committee
Maritime UCW*

NUCW ALUMNAE



A gentle reminder from National UCW Alumnae to contact the NUCW Alumnae Coordinator, Pat Edmonds, with any modified contact information for our Alumnae mailing lists.

patriciaedmonds11@gmail.com

Your assistance is much appreciated as we honour and celebrate United Church Women across the country.



UNITED CHURCH WOMEN SPECIAL PROJECT UPDATE

The Healing Fund

Bursary to Support Indigenous Women, Children, and Families

New for 2023, United Church Women (UCW) will fund programming designed by our Healing Fund partners for Indigenous women and children whose primary focus is healing the family through culture and language while meeting individual supports within the program. Through the Healing Fund application process, for the next five years, this priority group has been added, designed to specifically support women and children via this UCW special bursary program.



The Healing Fund acknowledges the UCW for their generous blessing and funding to ensure Indigenous women and children receive adequate support and encouragement through culture and language programming. For further inquiries and information on this new priority group, please reach out to our Healing Fund Coordinator at healing@united-church.ca.

PROJECT SELECTION: THE HEALING FUND - Bursary to Support Indigenous Women, Children and Families was selected for partnership with United Church Women for this next Five-year Special Project, beginning 2023 through to UCW's 65th Anniversary in 2027. Joni Shawana, Healing Fund Program Coordinator with Indigenous Ministries, United Church of Canada, is our key contact for the project. UCW are excited to join with Joni's team and to be a named partner in this unique program. This year's NUCW Executive chose *The Healing Fund* as our next Five-year Special Project to follow the success of the 55th Anniversary partnership with *Women for Change-Zambia*, which wrapped up in 2022.

The Healing Fund is a grant program which supports healing initiatives in Indigenous communities to address the ongoing impacts of the residential school system. Many survivors name a need for mending,



restoring, and celebrating — acknowledging a sense of loss, along with hope for rebuilding identity. Programs that have been supported throughout the years include healing and sharing circles, reunions and commemorations, traditional and cultural programs, language revitalization, workshops for residential school survivors and families, spiritual gatherings, creating digital resources, and more.

Learn more about the [Healing Fund projects and criteria](#)

Photo Credits: Healing Fund (left to right)

1. Learning culture through drumming and songs.
2. Nokomis harvesting porcupine for traditional craft making.
3. Creating children-focused art and crafts to learn culture and language.



How do you support UCW's 2023-27 Special Project – The Healing Fund Bursary?



Send all donations for this UCW Special Project to:

The United Church of Canada
3250 Bloor St. W. Suite 200
Toronto ON. M8X 2Y4

**Important: On cheque memo line, clearly write
National UCW Special Project - Healing Fund**



UPDATE: A Kick-off for Giving is well underway! Funds have flowed in since the announcement of this next Special Project and we will update you in *Keeping in Touch!* Last issue we shared that an **on-line auction** would kick off giving for The Healing Fund Special Project. With regret we could not easily host such an auction on line nation-wide, and NUCW Executive voted instead to accept an offer to purchase directly. The payment received was in excess of suggested value, and this beautiful blue satchel, donated by Ottawa-based artist Deborah Lyall (<https://www.facebook.com/lyallsartanddesign/>) was sold with all funds donated directly to UCW - The Healing Fund Five Year Special Project.

UCW women have found creative and unique ways to raise awareness and funds to support the special projects over the years. Thank you for all that you do!

In Peace, Greetings for 2023 from National Korean United Church Women

Moon-Ja Park, President

Local Seniors at Bathurst Finch Society (BFSS) are excited to share their 2022 year-end news through their connection to National Korean United Church Women. Supporters gave BFSS the funds and support to launch exciting projects last year. For information reach out to: moonjapark422@gmail.com

Climate Change Workshops: A 16-unit workshop series during 2022, supported by City of Toronto and Enbridge -- 400+ participated. Six workshops are scheduled for February through June in 2023, funded by North York Cluster Climate Action Fund, and CAFund of City of Toronto. **North York Food Harvest Lunch Festival** served over 500 residents. **A Green Market** during August and September served 500+ families. Partner: Unison CHS. **In-Person Classes** : “*Better Health*”, “*Engage Well Together*” and “*Seniors on Line*” ran in 2022; to continue for 2023. Fund Partners: Unison CHS, United Way, GOC Grant.



REGIONAL UCW NEWS



Pacific Mountain Region UCW Fraser Area UCW gathered at Peninsula United Church in Surrey, BC on October 4th, 2022, the first in-person gathering since the pandemic began! The 50th, 55th & 60th National UCW Anniversary banners were displayed.. It was both a joyous and nostalgic day. Guests shared stories from UCW's 60th Anniversary, and honoured Betty Dunham-Gledhill's 38 years as a Fraser Area UCW Executive. A moving flower ceremony was held for members who passed away in 2021. *Photos (shared with permission): FA President, Val Weinert, with 60th Anniversary scarf. Banners are on display in photo by Marci, shared by member Shirley McGonigal*

Winnifred Kowalewich, President



Women of the United Church (WOUC) – Chinook Winds and Northern Spirit



Celebrating Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medal recipients, Eleanore Tribe--President WOUC-Chinook Winds and Northern Spirit UCW of Nanton, and Dr. Linda Ormson (D.Div) of High River, Alberta. The Former Foothills Presbyterial in Alberta is pleased to make the announcement to recognize these two deserving women. Medals were presented on January 22nd, with family and friends attending the ceremonies. Congratulations to both women, who are holding up the pillars of United Church Women.



Eleanore Tribe, President WOUC – Chinook Winds and Northern Spirit UCW: Nanton Legion Branch #71 recognized Eleanore's dedication, exceptional character and outstanding service to Alberta, her volunteerism and commitment to UCW and church community in Nanton, and her years of service with the Royal Canadian Legion Ladies Auxiliary-- Nanton Legion Branch #80.

Dr. Linda Ormson (D.Div) has a distinguished career in nursing and Ministry. She is a recognized author, and has penned a hymn. Dr. Linda leads education workshops on spiritual care topics for the High River Hospital volunteers, and provides spiritual care for community seniors. She provides pulpit supply for the United Church of Canada, and is Chaplain for the Royal Canadian Legion High River Branch #71. Dr. Linda leads workshops for UCW, and has organized Remembrance Day services in the community.

[Photos used with permission]

Barbara Davison, WOUC CWNS UCW

Saskatchewan United Church of Canada Women: 15 REMINDERS FROM THE ELDERS

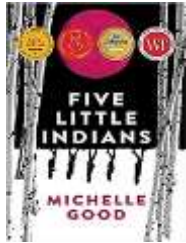
1. Get up with the sun to pray. Pray alone.
2. Be tolerant of those who have lost their way. Pray for them to find guidance.
3. Find yourself, by your own means. Others may walk with you -- no one can walk your path for you.
4. Treat guests in your home with the best food, the best bed and treat them with respect and honor.
5. Do not take what is not yours, whether from persons, communities, nature or a culture. If not given or won, it is not yours.
6. Respect all the things on this earth, be they people, plants or animals.
7. Honor the thoughts, desires and words of all people without mockery or rude imitation. Each person has a right to their personal expression.
8. Never talk of others badly. Negative energy multiplies as it returns to you.
9. All people make mistakes. And all the mistakes can be forgiven.
10. Bad thoughts cause illness in mind, body and spirit. Practice optimism.
11. Nature is not FOR us. It is PART of us. She is part of your family in the world.
12. Children are the seeds of our future. Sow love in their hearts and water them with wisdom and life lessons. When they grow up, just give them space to grow up.
13. Avoid hurting the hearts of others. The poison of their suffering will return to you.
14. Be true (transparent) all the time. Honesty is the test of one's will in this universe.
15. Keep yourself balanced. Your Mental person, your Spiritual person, your Emotional person, and your Physical person: they all have the need to be strong, pure and healthy.

Mary Mohn, SUCW

As shared on facebook by *Eagle Healing AB Canada*
<https://www.facebook.com/eaglehealing1>



Prairie to Pine Region UCW - Canada's heart is calling! On behalf of the members in Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario UCWs, Karen Corbett, Regional President sends New Year greetings from the Region. She is inspired by Manitoba's new travel slogan, "**Canada's Heart is Calling**". Let us all be inspired, as Karen is, with the warmth of that message. Embrace the opportunities the Lord places in our paths this year, to reconnect and recharge as United Church Women!



Bay of Quinte UCW, East Central Ontario Region UCW

Online Discussion Group Launched: Tuesday nights in October, women from East Central Ontario UCWs and our community at large met by zoom to discuss our responses to the award-winning novel, Five Little Indians by Michelle Good. This novel focuses not on what happened to people, but on what happened in them -- the damage, the coping, the persistence, the despair, the strength and the hope. We felt for, and with, the characters and saw glimpses of continuing effects of residential schools on whole communities. One of us said, "This is a powerful book. No matter how many times I read it, it made me cry." Another said, "Yes, the book 'should be read by every Canadian' but for readers, some prior learning and opportunity for debriefing is important." Woven into our discussion of Lucy, Clara, Kenny, Kendra, Maisie, Howie and the healer, Mariah, was learning about some of the central issues of the book. Our discussions touched on intergenerational effects of residential schools; Indigenous and Settler concepts of law and justice; urban indigenous communities and Friendship Centres; traditional roles of Indigenous women and healing practices. It was a step on a path to deeper understanding. **For information about the group process**, please feel welcome to contact Cheryl Mound: phone 613-395-0914 or email:

cdmound@gmail.com

Newfoundland & Labrador East District UCW

"A good time was had by all" in traditional Newfoundland style in October 2022, when UCW members from St. John's to Grand Falls-Windsor gathered to celebrate! There was excitement in the air! After three long years we were finally meeting in person! Wesley United Church, St. John's, was the venue for the "Continuing in Hope" themed event which welcomed three of the region's charter members as honoured guests. A traditional Friday meal followed by a slide presentation and the singing of wonderful old hymns led by the Wesley UC Hymn Team, before closing with Vespers, rounded out the evening. Holy Communion led by Rev. Rebecca Pike, and a thought-provoking Bible Study with guest Rev. Faith March-MacCuish, Executive Minister for First Dawn Eastern Edge Region, filled the morning on Saturday. Participants were truly blessed with the gift of fellowship, in this coming together for worship, food and fun. The rally in Shoal Harbour, NL was remembered with the reading of "**A UCW Woman**" [See Page 2], written by Wendy Lowden in 2016.

Blessings from *Debra Sparks-Mercer*, East District, Newfoundland Labrador UCW

LOCAL UCW NEWS

Berwick United Church Camp, NS Celebrating The UCW Cookie Cottage

Berwick United Church Camp in the beautiful Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia, celebrated its 150th year this summer. In photo on right, Ruth Rudderham, Barbara Rafuse and Marilyn Bubar stand with the UCW Welcome Banner.





On August 3rd, 2022, The United Church Women were there to continue the tradition of the “Cookie Cottage” and a UCW Day at Camp! Co-presidents of Maritime UCW, Marilyn Bubar and Debbie Hawkins attended this special day and are pleased to share the history with us. The Cookie Cottage tradition, began in the early 1900s as a place of hospitality, serving tea/coffee/juice and cookies on each day of a week-long camp. In 1962, the cottage officially became *The UCW Cookie Cottage* (See Page 150 - *Ordinary Heroes, Celebrating United Church Women*⁵, for Ruth Rudderham’s article and reflections).

As part of this special day, UCW ladies gathered in the outdoor pavilion, surrounded by majestic hemlock trees, to share an afternoon of worship, singing, and a presentation of the happenings at the 60th anniversary celebration of the UCW, held in Sydney last July. Following the presentation, the ladies gathered for a celebratory Cake Cutting.



On Left: Smiles and Cake are served!

On Right: Children choose cookies with the help of volunteers at The UCW Cookie Cottage – Berwick United Church Camp, NS: Photo D. Hawkins



Trinity United Church – Summerside PEI We attended a wonderful day in PEI October 15th at a Fall Gathering led by Elaine Burrows at *Trinity United Church* in Summerside. It was a soul renewing day of worship, music and sharing the highlights from the 60th Anniversary.

Knox United Church -- Brookfield NS On October 22nd the women of *Knox United Church*, in Brookfield, NS welcomed us to a *UCW Roundup* to “Continuing in Hope”, organized by Judy Matheson and Brenda Theakston.

Co-Presidents *Marilyn Bubar* and *Debbie Hawkins*
Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters – Maritime UCW

Norval United Church - Georgetown ON

Some of us may remember the talk by Alice Finnamore at the Sydney 60th Anniversary gathering where she talked about the **Seven Keys to ‘success’**: Start Now -- Exercise -- Make a New Friend – Borrow -- Be Sociable with Strangers -- Let People Help You -- Just Keep Going...

A recent morning message received in January from Norval United Church links to a video that brings home the message of connecting with strangers in a new way. People who are strangers are more connected than they know. From *TV2* in Denmark this is a powerful reminder of how we are connected to one another and should be responsible to one another (from *My Daily Minute* – Rev. Paul Ivany, Norval UC paul@norvalunited.ca).



Click image to play or paste link to browser. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=UQ15cqP-K80>

Cheryl Mound, Bay of Quinte UCW cdmound@gmail.com

⁵ (Edited by Noelle Boughton for UCW 50th Anniversary, 2012)



Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada/Conseil œcuménique des chrétiennes du Canada
47 Queen's Park Crescent East, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 2C3 www.wicc.org

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER MARCH 3, 2023 “I Have Heard About Your Faith” Ephesians 1:15-19).
from WDP Committee Taiwan. KIDS, CANADA, GRANTS, TV, PRAY NOW – A
LITTLE ABOUT A LOT TO SHARE from WICC. **The Service Package AND an on-line
NATIONAL WDP service are offered this year.** www.wicc.org Thank you for
promoting World Day of Prayer 2023 in your denominational networks. There is something
for everyone!



Ctrl-Click on image for Promo Video –
YouTube / Artwork by Hui-Wen HSAIO
Tainan, Taiwan

- **Be a service coordinator for 2023** <https://wicc.org/create-a-coordinator-login-account/> Recruit a team for 2024! It is not too early to begin planning.
- **NEW FOR 2023: A NATIONAL online WDP 2023 service will air via Zoom on SATURDAY, MARCH 4TH AT 1PM EST.** Breakout rooms before and after the service will give all a chance to “catch up” and share thoughts. Get the Zoom link to join the service at: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/national-world-day-of-prayer-2023-virtual-service-tickets-517837414647>
- **FREE downloadable resources (anyone may access) at “coordinator resources”** www.wicc.org.
- **Full WDP Kits:** Kits contain a USB of the WICC/WDP service, video and power-point, a paper copy of the service, host country information, and offering envelopes. Order online. Cost \$20.
- **Kids Pray Too -2023:** A WDP themed video (24-minute) for the young features crafts, music, and stories led by participants from across Canada: <https://wicc.org/world-day-of-prayer/what-is-wdp/>
- **WDP Pray NOW podcasts and lists of TV stations streaming WDP events are found at:** <https://wicc.org/get-involved/events/> (Featured are Pray- Now #5 Personal Reflections on the pandemic and Pray Now #6 Interview with WDP artist Hui-Wen HASIO).
- **WDP donations. Complete online or send cheques to WICC:** <https://wicc.org/donations/>
- **WDP Grant applications due March 31st.** For grant stories, go to <https://wicc.org/grant-programs/grant-stories/> **Awakening Grant:** Helps Indigenous women in Canada and is funded by sales of the limited edition prints “Awakening” by Canadian artist David Alexander Risk.
- **We-Connect Newsletter:** Subscribe on www.wicc.org (free). Next issue is February 8th.
- Check out the web site for more information about any of the above plus more at www.wicc.org

Blessings from *Win Czum*, UCW rep to WICC board



Join the Thursdays in Black Movement⁶

“The United Church [and United Church Women] stand in solidarity with all victims of gender-based violence...” *How can United Church Women participate? Pray for an end to gender-based violence, and Take Action!*

Plan a devotion or worship service about gender-based violence : A [Thursdays in Black prayer\(opens in a new tab\)](#) from the United Church. From the World Council of Churches (WCC): [Thursdays in Black video and other resources \(opens in a new tab\)](#). The [Transgender Day of Remembrance\(opens in a new tab\)](#) service held November 20th. Participate in “Thursdays in Black” – ask your community of faith to wear black as a group. Take a group photo and post it to your faith community’s social media accounts. Use the hashtags #ThursdaysInBlack, #jeudisenoir, #UCCan, #WCC. Choose a [Thursdays in Black background](#) for a Thursday Zoom call. Order “[Thursdays in Black](#)” buttons from the [Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada\(opens in a new tab\)](#) (WICC), and make them available to your community of faith.

For more information and resources, see [End Gender-based Violence](#)

⁶ (The United Church of Canada, 2023)



SOCIAL MEDIA – WEBLINKS – RESOURCES

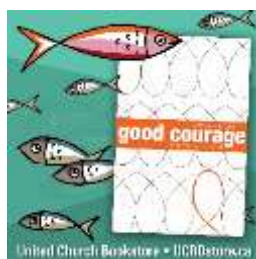


To find us on the web click the link or copy and paste into your browser: <https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/being-community/united-church-women-ucw>



United Church Women

@UCW.UCCan.55 · Community



ucrdstore.ca New from the United Church Publishing House – and

available at the United Church Bookstore (UCRDstore.ca), *Good Courage* is a Lenten devotional filled with stories of people who have found the courage to go against the flow— all in the hope of creating a better world. In these pages, find comfort with examples of practical and courageous hope in the midst of despair. Deepen your theological understanding of hope, resurrection, and new life. Blessings, **Kim Allin (she/her)** Sales and Ecommerce Associate

GRAND RIVER BOOK STORE



Grand River Book Store: Open at Five Oaks Retreat Centre, Paris, Ontario

You can contact the store at 1-519-442-3366 or 1-888-668-0871

Email: sales@grandriverbooks.com and on the website at www.grandriverbooks.ca

Planning for the always popular book table for your next gathering? Give the store a call.

Resources available for your reading, book studies and worship needs.



What is happening in your Region, your Area, and your local UCW Unit?

Send us a photo (JPG) or article (500 words or less).

Submit articles, ideas or questions for the SPRING 2023 issue

. Send Email to nucwkeepintouch2021@gmail.com

Editor reserves the right to modify submissions as required.

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United Church Women Celebrating 60 – Visioning for the Future

“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord...to give you a future with Hope.”

Jeremiah 29:11:NRSV