

Regional Rambler

Living Skies Regional Council
The United Church of Canada



November 22, 2023 – 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 at bdiebert@united-church.ca*

In this **EVENTS** edition of the Rambler, events are listed in order of occurrence. **Date/s of the event** are highlighted in green for easy identification. **Registration deadlines** are highlighted in dark orange. Events included for the first time will have **NEW:** beside the title of the event. And, it's hoped the [Into the Future](#) will help facilitate your long-term planning.

Check out the Community of Faith Calendar (on the Living Skies Regional Council website - 3rd option down under News & Events). [Click here to view it](#). Don't miss the many fun and interesting upcoming seasonal events **Communities of Faith**, be sure to **submit your events** to the calendar (use the form, 4th option down under News & Events), so folks don't miss the festivities.

United in Learning, the church's main online events service, has moved to an exciting new platform - ChurchX! [Have a look here](#). The United Church's Edge Network also offers online courses related to Change and innovation. [See their courses here](#).

1. This month:

NEW: Letter from the church to the PM: ceasefire now; naming the genocide taking place

At its recent meeting, the General Council Executive, its corresponding members, and the members of the National Indigenous Council issued a plea to Prime Minister Trudeau to advocate for a ceasefire in the Israel-Hamas war, recognizing that, in the view of legal experts, genocide is currently taking place.

Its central calls can be echoed and added to through a letter or call to the Prime Minister's Office and your Member of Parliament. Our pressure is important here, because until a ceasefire is reached, there is no way forward. Currently the federal government is still not pushing for a ceasefire. To quote the letter, "The failure to clearly do so is unconscionable." [Please see the letter here and share widely](#).

Regional Council learning time on the Remit, Tomorrow, November 23 at 7:30 Central, on Zoom.

Please join Northern Spirit, Living Skies, and Prairie to Pine Regional Councils online for a learning time on the Remit on an autonomous Indigenous organization within the United Church. We are grateful that elders and knowledge keepers Charlene and Russel Burns will be joining Executive Minister Shannon McCarthy for the conversation. All welcome; content will be designed for pastoral charge council or board members, pastoral charge supervisors, and ministry personnel. [Please register here](#); you will get a Zoom email with the connection details. Check your spam folder if you have not received one. Thursday morning registrants will receive an email confirming connection information. We will hold at least one more Learning Circle in mid January.

NEW: Conversation with returned ecumenical accompanier to Palestine, Monday, November 27th 10:30 CST. Recently returned ecumenical accompanier Bill Chambre will talk about what he witnessed. [Register here for the Zoom link](#). For more information read a [blog by Bill](#) and read about the [World Council of Churches Ecumenical Accompanier Program](#).

Angels from Heaven to Earth: Engaging the Mystery Together A Zoom-Based Retreat Series **Mondays, November 27, December 4, 11 and 18, 2023 from 1:30-5:00 CST** Stories about of people from every culture sharing experiences of angels coming as thoughts, visions, dreams, animals, light on the water or in the clouds, and as people too. During this Advent retreat we will take time to share the mysteries, of Heavenly Angels to Earthly Angels, as we explore and respond to the qualities that are believed to be part of the essence of Angels. For full details visit: <https://www.freeflowwellness.ca/retreats>

St. Andrew's College "Year of Intention" Monday November 27 from 7 – 8pm (Sk time)
Join us for the second of four online events celebrating St. Andrew's commitment to being an Affirming Ministry, and [Lutheran Theological Seminary Saskatoon](#)'s commitment to being "Reconciling in Christ". We'll be educating ourselves about sexual orientation and gender identity, and exploring new ways to be in solidarity and celebration with LGBTQIA2S communities in the church and beyond.

Monday November 27 from 7 – 8pm (Sk time) ... "Queer Christology" A public lecture by the Rev. Dr. Kayko Driedger Hesslein, William Hordern Professor of Systematic Theology at Lutheran Theological Seminary Please join us on zoom: (Meeting ID: 875 9466 6578 / Passcode: 329367) <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87594666578?pwd=SKV3FkuRKdSKhUgtfkBjbvrucyrkmg.1>

Ministry Personnel Gatherings - Tuesdays at 1pm

Facilitated gatherings for all ministry personnel (active or retired) will continue every on Zoom. Please check the website calendar for [connection information](#).

2. Next Month

St. Andrew's College Contemplative Gathering: The Gift of a Pause Dec 1 @ 10-11am (Sk)

December 1 is between seasons; a time to pause and.... Each of us will pause in ways unique to our lives. Join us for an hour of prayer, scripture, quiet meditation, and conversation.

Please register here:

https://form.iotform.com/232975380744263?fbclid=IwAR1uSNJyULtv0TdERN1uGlXRHSjdA7XLse5eQQ6z8F5rlekn_Aj46KQmGc

40 Days of Engagement on Anti-Racism: going to December 1 2023

There's brand-new content coming for this year's [40 Days of Engagement on Anti-Racism](#). In addition to the daily written content that will be posted online, a dynamic set of speakers will be sharing their insights on Tuesdays. The speakers will explore these diverse themes: race shifting; anti-racist and decolonial theologies; raising anti-racist children; environmental racism; countering antisemitism; intergenerational Asian voices; and copyright justice and musical misappropriation. There's no cost for the online events! You can register for all of the [live events on ChurchX](#). Consider [signing up for the 40 Days newsletter](#) to stay up-to-date on all of the developments related to the 40 Days for this year!

NEW: Join a CCS Friday for an online discussion about engaging youth in climate justice.

Friday, December 8 at 12:00 CT This summer, 15 youth from across the church participated in The United Church of Canada's first ever Climate Motivators program. Each student was sponsored by, and in partnership with, a local community of faith where they worked together

on local climate justice or environmental needs. The motivators connected online and in-person to learn how to be leaders, worship, be in nature, act for change, and influence church policy. Our special guest will be Amy Crawford, team leader for Faith Formation and Mission with the General Council of The United Church of Canada. Amy has just returned from a short sabbatical where she was reviewing and evaluating what happened to the youth and the people they interacted with. She will share some of her insights about getting youth involved in educating about climate change.

CCS Fridays are free. Please register to receive a zoom link, here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZclduiqqTMqHdzVZnAl2bcp5TI2oUuC5d7z#/registration>

CCS Fridays are online conversations to help us respond faithfully to emerging issues in local contexts. These workshops are open to anyone who might be interested. There will be a presentation that will be recorded for future viewing, plus opportunities to engage with the ideas in small groups.

NEW: Climate vigils December 8-10: lots of resources available to help

From November 30 – December 12, 2023, the [United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties \(COP28\)](#) will be held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. This global conference can serve as an important catalyst for leaders and communities of faith to pray, learn and act for climate justice. Please see [For the Love of Creation](#), an ecumenical site for climate justice advocates, for lots of ideas. The theme of COP 28 is Unite. Act. Deliver. Let's help this be so.

Faithful Footprints energy carbon reduction for faith buildings webinar, Friday, December 15th at 1:00pm CST. Join other Prairies and North people to learn more about strategies to reduce the carbon footprint of your faith spaces, and how to access the Faithful Footprints grant program to support energy efficiency upgrades and investment in renewables. Free! Register today at: <https://forms.gle/WsPbu6tEvuzx89JP8>

Queen's House Retreat and Renewal Centre offers a variety of topics in their programming that combines in-person and online events using Zoom. Please visit [Our Programs page](#) for a list of all upcoming programs and to register.

Bookings Coordinator, Angela Brockmeyer, looks forward to connecting with you if you are considering an event at Queen's House. Angela can be reached at 306-242-1916 x230; bookings@queenshouse.org.

3. Into the Future:

NEW: Virtual Learning Opportunity - receive a certificate in Ministry of Supervision in January.

The Certificate in Ministry of Supervision provides participants with the information and skills to mentor individuals preparing for ministry by equipping them for supervision including pastoral practices, leadership, reflection, feedback and spiritual guidance. It is designed for **clergy and lay individuals** who are interested in supporting students and communities for supervised ministry education (SME), internships and field education. **PREREQUISITES:** A minimum of five years of post-ordination or commissioning, experience in congregational ministry leadership OR equivalent lay leadership

Mark your Calendar Now! The course will take place as a once a week intensive with three-hour synchronous class time on zoom each week. Here is the schedule: **Thursdays: Jan 11, Jan 18, Jan 25, Feb 1, Feb 8, each time from 12:00 – 3:00 pm ET**

You can register at United in Learning (<https://churchx.ca/local/shop/catalog.php?id=2>)

For more information please contact Andrew Richardson (ARichardson@united-church.ca)