

SASK. UCCW NEWSLETTER MARCH 2024

For we are His handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them. Ephesians 2:10

I wonder what our world would be like if we didn't have any people-labelling in it. What if we were just all people – children of God?

GROWING SPIRITUALLY – WOMEN'S GATHERING SATURDAY, APRIL 27

This is a one-day Gathering for ALL women in Living Skies Region taking place at St. David's Trinity United Church, 3318 Merritt St. in Saskatoon. Doors open at 9 a.m. Program begins at 9:45 a.m. **REGISTRATION Cost: \$30 a person (includes snacks and beverages in the morning and afternoon and lunch at noon.**

Send Registration Forms and Memorial Service Memoriums to:

Sask UCC Women, c/o Barbara Byers Bradley, Secretary, 41 Nicholson Pl., Saskatoon, Sask. S7L 4G7; [E-mail: greenview@sasktel.net](mailto:greenview@sasktel.net) Phone: 306-370-0136.

Registration Payment by cheque payable to Sask United Church of Canada Women or e-transfer to phyllis.r2@sasktel.net. (if paying at door please let Barb know)

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: April 19, 2024

We invite everyone to bring an item for the Silent Auction. It can be a group item or individual. There will also be a book sale table. The annual Memorial service will be held during worship so we invite everyone to submit names and a short obituary of those who have passed away since September 2023.

The Very Rev. Jordan Cantwell, past moderator of The United Church of Canada and now Growth Animator/Prairies, will lead our worship and communion service. Guest speaker will be Carolle Dallas-Arbuckle, national UCW treasurer and Licensed Lay Worship Leader, who will speak on the Healing Fund, various grants available to women, and the 65th Anniversary taking place in Ottawa on July 19 – 23, in 2027.

The [registration form](#) and [poster](#) are available. Please include the poster in your church bulletins and newsletters and on church bulletin boards. If you have any questions feel free to contact me (Mary Mohn) at 306-749-3446 or e-mail d.mohn@sasktel.net or secretary Barb Byers Bradley at 41 Nicholson Place, Saskatoon, Sask. S7L 4G7 or e-mail: greenview@sasktel.net. Phone 306-370-0136.

The Annual General Meeting of Sask. UCCW will take place at the Gathering. We have one vacancy to fill on the executive: First Vice-chair. The following have agreed to let their name stand for the up-coming year: Co-chair – Diane Thurlow, Co-chair – Allison Irvine, Secretary – Barbara Byers Bradley, Treasurer – Phyllis Robinson, Second Vice Chair – Dawn Weber . Meetings are usually held by zoom three or four times throughout the year. If you or anyone you know is interested please let any member of the executive or myself know.

(Re)Generate Leadership Program

In January, 31 ministers from across all regions of the United Church gathered at Five Oaks Retreat Centre to begin the (Re)Generate Leadership Program with Moderator Carmen Lansdowne. The Moderator and a creative team have put this 18-month program together as part of her dream of a Flourishing Church, as we listen for ways the Holy Spirit is enlivening the United Church of Canada at this moment. The group will gather for four in person and two online residencies, meeting as a large group and in various configurations of smaller cohorts to support, encourage, and challenge each other as we grow our leadership skills and complete a capstone project that fits within the context of our own ministry setting.

Our Tri-Region area from Northern Spirit, Living Skies, and Prairie to Pine Regions was very well represented, with nine of us attending:

Rev. Dr. Dorcas Kanana (Beaverlodge United Church, Beaverlodge, Alberta)

Rev. Anna Constantin (St. Paul's United Church, Edmonton)

Rev. Monica Rosboro (Athabasca United Church, Athabasca)

Rev. Janelle Shaw (Lafleche-Limerick Pastoral Charge)

Rev. Aurora Espenant (St. Andrew's United Church, Outlook)

Rev. Lindsay Mohn (Delisle Vanscoy United Church, Regional YAYAC Minister)

Rev. Mitchell Anderson (St. Paul's United Church, Saskatoon)

Rev. Jen Dresser (St. Andrew's United Church, Yorkton)

Rev. Tricia Gerhard (Westworth United Church, Winnipeg)

We were led through our first residency by a team of leadership consultants, Moderator Carmen, and Rev. Laura Fohse (Office of Vocation), and joined at various points by Executive Secretary Rev. Michael Blair and two of our General Council Executive Ministers, Rev. Dr. Jennifer Janzen-Ball and Rev. Jennifer Harvey. Throughout the week we discussed leadership roles and organizational strategy, and accumulated many new tools and resources for the work that we do. It was exciting to learn and toss around new ideas, but what felt possibly even more significant about this gathering was the opportunity to connect with other ministers who are passionate and ready to shake up the church a bit. There was a tangible sense of hope throughout the week around the room and I know we all carried that spark back to our own ministry contexts, staying in touch throughout the weeks and months in between.

This is the part of the project that brings me the most joy – the chance to care for and support each other from afar as we do this work that we are all deeply committed to and called to doing... work that can be challenging and exhausting and lonely from time to time. Knowing that there are others just a group chat away lifts my spirits on a daily basis! We are all very much looking forward to the rest of this adventure, and promise to take you along with us as it all unfolds. We welcome your prayers for this endeavor and the entire church as we discover where God is guiding us all!

Rev. Lindsay Mohn

EASTER

In her book “God's Enduring Presence” Joyce Rupp writes:

“Easter is a season of joy. Why is it that problems, troubles and worries usually get centre stage in the spiritual life: Why is joy a neglected part of prayer? Most of us surely do enough complaining and beseeching of God when things don't go our way. How can we balance our requests and wants with thanksgiving and joy? One way I've found to nurture a spirituality of gladness is by remembrance. Each day before closing my eyes for sleep, I look back over the day that is ending. No matter how troublesome the day has been, I recover my joy by asking: “What is one thing in this day for which I can be glad?” There is always something that can bring joy.

Risen Christ, may the joyfulness of this Easter season find a home in my heart.”



I look forward to meeting and visiting with you on April 27.

Easter Blessings,
Mary