

Regional Rambler

Living Skies Regional Council
The United Church of Canada



May 29, 2024 – News

*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.*

Church office workers, please feel free to use these announcements in your church bulletins or newsletters.

In this **NEWS** edition of the Rambler, new and time-sensitive items are listed near the top of each section. Items included for the first time will have **NEW:** beside the title of the event. **Dates** are highlighted in green for easy identification.

1. Living Skies Regional Council News

NEW: Prepared Service for the Regional Meeting weekend

A prepared [Service for Regional Council Sunday](#) for use by communities of faith has now been posted on the Regional Gathering page of the Living Skies website (in Word format for easy use). It is found just below the thin line in the 2nd column (under the committee members).

NEW: United Church 100th anniversary reminder and resources

Lots of preparations for the June 2025 centenary of the United Church are getting underway: **Tonight! Planning for the United Church's 100th anniversary with our regional and national archivists: Join us at 6:30 CST** for an intro to resources, a look at archival work related to the anniversary, and a conversation about your own plans. [Click here for details](#). Our Archivists, Leanne Templeton and Erin Acland, have prepared a resource to help you get started on your community of faith's anniversary plans. [Click here to download the PDF](#). And on **June 9**, the national church will hold a livestreamed national anniversary service at **2:00PM CST**. [Click here for details](#).

NEW: Three public events for our upcoming Regional meeting

Our Regional meeting is coming up; here are three fully public events to which you're invited in person or by livestream. [Click here for details](#), and to access Powerpoint slides to share with your ministry.

LAST CALL: Affirming You Are Loved T shirt and bunnyhug sales for the Region

You might remember the You Are Loved t shirts and bunnyhugs for sale at last year's meeting. Artist Yoonjoo Shin has updated the design a little, and we're again making these available for online purchase, with pick up at the meeting to save on the considerable mailing costs. As of the newsletter deadline, the ordering page hasn't been updated, so please watch Facebook, the website, and next week's newsletter. T shirts are around \$32 and bunnyhugs (aka hoodies) \$56. **Ordering deadline: May 31.**

Living Skies Regional Council Affirming celebration **Thursday June 13, 2:00PM**

All welcome online / in person to the Affirming celebration, online via YouTube, and in person, **Thursday June 13 at 2:00PM**, at the Living Skies Regional Council meeting opening worship, **Saskatoon Travelodge** and Conference Centre, 106 Circle Dr, Saskatoon. Absolutely everyone is welcome! You do not need to be a meeting delegate to attend, and the space is accessible. Free parking is available. [Please use this link to invite others!](#)

If you would like to send a note of congratulations and support, please email livingskies@united-church.ca, or send a card to 60A Athabasca St. E., Moose Jaw, SK, S6H 0L2 (the card needs to arrive **by June 10, please**).

Invitation to send photos of your ministry to the Regional meeting!

In keeping with the theme “DEEP | BOLD | DARING” of Living Skies Regional Meeting 2024 being held in Saskatoon, **June 13-16**, we are creating a slideshow to bring greetings from all parts of the Region.

Help us make sure your community of faith, ministry, or partnership with the United Church is represented through some creative photos and short text. **Deadline: June 2.** [Click here for all the details!](#) Thank you to Mark Pitman, member of the planning committee, for wrangling all the photos and helping us greet one another.

Equipping the Saints next gathering – June 4, 1:00-2:30pm

This initiative is an opportunity for lay folks to develop skills and gather information in an online community to strengthen and encourage visiting community of faith members. Hosted by hospital chaplains Emily Carr and Lorna King, we will be joined again by Brian Walton. In this session, we will discuss the various experiences of loss which often accompany a critical illness or death. We will also explore the expressions of grief that often follow such loss. The goal is to aid caregivers in developing the sensitivities required to offer pastoral support. Everyone is welcome to attend, even if this is your first time joining. Contact Bev Diebert at bdiebert@united-church.ca to register.

2. Wider Church Information:

NEW: Church leaders Ceasefire Pilgrimage on Parliament Hill

On May 22, church leaders and members from a very wide range of denominations marched to Parliament Hill to call on Canada to do more towards a ceasefire between Israel and Gaza, Occupied Palestinian Territories, the release of all captives, and immediate humanitarian aid. They also called on Canada to end all military sales to Israel. “Canada can do better. We can avoid being complicit in genocide by imposing a comprehensive and binding embargo on military trade with Israel,” said Moderator Lansdowne. “I join here with my siblings in faith and our membership gathered here in Ottawa today, to not just wish for a better world, but to actively advocate for a just peace in Palestine and Israel.” [Please click here for the full story.](#)

NEW: Getting Started in Stewardship – Online: June 11 - 2pm MST or 4:30pm MST

Come on your own, or come with a team and join United Church people from across the country to learn some stewardship first principles. In this 90-minute live meeting we'll answer questions like: *What is stewardship all about anyway? *Isn't stewardship just a churchy word for fundraising? *Why do people give, and why would they give to our church? *What can we do to encourage greater generosity?

This course is FREE, but you must register in advance. [Find more information here.](#)

Contact Vicki at vnelson@united-church.ca with any questions.

NEW: General Council 45 Commissioners: last call. Nominations closing June 5

Nominations for General Council 45 Commissioners will be received until June 5th. The nominations committee will be presenting a slate of nominees to be approved at the regional meeting, in keeping with the diversity requested by General Council. We will not be taking nominations from the floor at the Regional Meeting. [Please click here for more information.](#)

3. Upcoming Opportunities:

Please check out our CoF calendar for upcoming local events on the LSRC website. Watch for other upcoming events to be added. Our [Community of Faith events calendar](#) is open 24/7 for online events! As long as the public is invited, you can post it. From workshops to worship, go for it. [Here's the handy form.](#) Be sure to **submit your events**, so folks don't miss events in their own 'backyard'.

Queen's House Retreat and Renewal Centre welcomes you! Their ecumenical programming combines in-person and online events using Zoom. Please visit their webpage for a list of all upcoming programs and to register for all programs: <https://www.queenshouse.org/programs/>
Nourish Your Mind and Nurture Your Spirit at Queen's House! For inquiries/additional information contact Sarah Donnelly, Programming Director: 306-242-1916 x226. If you are considering an event at Queen's House, please connect with Bookings Coordinator, Angela Brockmeyer. Angela can be reached at 306-242-1916 x230; bookings@queenshouse.org.

Summer Camp in Saskatchewan!

Spring is here and with it the excitement amongst campers, volunteers, and staff at our amazing UCC Camps! **Lumsden Beach Camp** (near Regina Beach): *Registration is open!* Hiring for Head Cook, assistant cook and maintenance. <https://www.lumsdenbeachcamp.com/>

Camp Shagabec (Cypress Hills): *Registration is open!* Applications for Volunteers are open. <https://shagabec.com/>

Camp Tapawingo (Candle Lake): *Registration is open!* <http://www.camptapawingo.net/>

Camp Christopher (<https://www.campchristopher.ca/>): *Registration is open!*

Camp Woodboia (<https://www.facebook.com/p/Camp-Woodboia-100070296482386/>)

Registration is open! They are also looking for Leaders-In-Training (under 16) and Cabin Leaders (age 16+)

4. Reminders:

Pastoral Relations Ponderings - [Pastoral Relations Pondering Vol 53](#). Updates from the Pastoral Relations desk.

First of a three-part series from Jordan Cantwell, the Prairie Growth Animator

Check out Jordan's [Ideas for Summer Family Ministry: Take-Home Activities](#).

Are you missing the Rambler?

The Living Skies Regional Council office has been contacted by several folks to say they aren't receiving the Rambler anymore. We aren't entirely sure why, but we haven't changed anything. If you (or someone in your congregation or you know) isn't getting the Rambler, please check the spam / junk folder(s), it may be there. If not, then you / they will have to sign up yourself to get back on the list. [Here is the sign up link.](#)