

Regional Rambler

Living Skies Regional Council
The United Church of Canada



June 5, 2024 – 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.

[Click here for the latest United in Learning](#) online conversation and learning offerings on the church's online education and training space. The United Church's Edge Network also offers online courses related to Change and innovation. [See their courses here](#).

1. This month:

NEW: June is Indigenous History Month.

There are gatherings of all kinds throughout the month, especially on **Friday June 21, National Indigenous Peoples' Day**. Most are in person but some are online (keep reading for information about one.) Please look for local opportunities and online learning spaces; use your church's signage and lawn to express your support for this significant day and month. Please invite a speaker if you can, show a film (school and public libraries have many), make time to honour this month.

Sunday June 16 is Indigenous Day of Prayer across the church. Thank you to Rev. Kimberly Roy for preparing this service! [Click here to download it](#). [You can find many other order of service here](#).

NEW: Awasisak: Our Children, Our Future, film and talk with Dr. Patricia Makokis,

Monday, June 10, 2024, 7:00 to 8:30 pm MDT/ CST, 8:00-9:30PM CDT

The Being Good Relations Network in Northern Spirit and Chinook Winds Regional Councils invites you to a webinar in honour of Indigenous History Month. We will watch the video together and be in conversation with the film producer and walk organizer Dr. Patricia Makokis, Saddle Lake Cree Nation servant leader, about what our children are learning, how we take part in treaty, and the possibility of organizing treaty walks and talks in our communities. To view the first two videos in the series, see www.treatytalk.com All welcome! [Click here for a shareable invitation](#).

Zoom connection details:

<https://united-church.zoom.us/j/83155001968?pwd=wj7UI4C8Hen4VdGgrp170tP2Zpbfo.1>

Meeting ID: 831 5500 1968 Password: 187091 855 703 8985 Canada Toll-free

Leaders in Context: Forming leaders and creating communities of hope in challenging times **June 10-13** **In-person only, on the AST campus in Halifax** **Cost: \$100.00 (A great deal! The normal price is \$500+)** You will join co-learners and experienced pastor-teachers to focus on Missional Leadership in church and society in this post-pandemic season. **Topics will include:** *Where are we? What kinds of questions do we need to be asking? How does God turn up when we find ourselves in a place we've never been before? What are the critical practices for Christian life in dark time? What kind of leaders form communities of hope in dark times?* **Instructors:** Alan Roxburgh, Kimber McNabb, Chris Pullenayegem. [Register at this link](#) Questions? Contact James Cheatley, Continuing Education Convenor (james.cheatley@astheology.ns.ca). This course is part of AST's [Diploma in Missional Leadership](#) program.

Ministry Personnel Gatherings - Tuesdays at 1pm

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

A Floriferous Retreat: A Time to Bloom Freely **Tuesday, June 25 (4:00) - Thursday, June 27, 2024 (1:30 CST)** **Qu'Appelle House of Prayer, Fort Qu'Appelle, Sk.**

In this floriferous retreat, we will be invited to see the extraordinary in the ordinary as we spend time with plants at various stages of unfurling their leaves and unfolding their buds to bloom freely. As we contemplate what they might teach us about life, there will be time for meandering, personal reflection, and sharing with each other. Leadership: Marg Janick-Grayston. **Register by June 10.** For complete information, visit: <https://www.freeflowwellness.ca/retreats>

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 ynelson@united-church.ca with any questions.

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.

All things Regional Meeting:

New: Docket for the Regional Meeting

Completed portions of the Docket have now been posted to the Regional Gathering / Meeting page of the Living Skies website. The rest of the pieces will be posted shortly. Watch also for an updated version of the Agenda.

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).

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

Having finished the formal requirements of the Affirming process, Living Skies now moves into new commitments to living into being Affirming. All are welcome 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 this celebration, 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**).

Updated Moderator's Flourishing workshop, open to all, Saturday June 15, 9:30AM-3:30PM

Saskatoon Travelodge and Conference Centre, 106 Circle Dr, Saskatoon, Join our Moderator, the Right Rev. Carmen Lansdowne in this public all-day workshop! United Church folks from across the Region are invited to attend and participate. You don't need to be a delegate to the full meeting to attend - all are welcome, especially as a team from your community of faith or ministry. You will need to find your own lunch, and register but the day is free.

Updated Regional celebration of ministries service, Knox United Church, 838 Spadina Cres. E., Saskatoon, and [online via YouTube](#), beginning at **10:00AM sharp**. Message: Moderator Rt Rev Dr Carmen Lansdowne. Our service includes admitting, commissioning, honouring retirees, ordaining, recognizing LLWLs, and sharing in communion. Thanks to the Saskatoon churches, we will share in a light lunch after. All welcome!

Learning on Purpose: Changing Leadership for a Changing World is a 2-week intensive leadership development module hosted by the Centre for Christian Studies. It is a practical, holistic, hands-on, learning community experience, and those who take it come out feeling transformed (in a good way!). [Register for Learning on Purpose](#). This year Learning on Purpose will be held in **Ste. Anne-de-Bellevue** (Montréal), QC from **June 17-28**. It is open to Continuing Studies students as well as CCS diaconal ministry and certificate students beginning their programs. Bursaries are available. Sample schedule – from [LoP 2023](#) For more information: <https://ccsonline.ca/program/leadership-development/>

Rural ministries conference: experience the rural culture of the Alberta Foothills, June 18-21 2024, Cochrane, AB. Hosted by the Centre for Rural Community Leadership and Ministry and by the Rural Church Network of the United States and Canada. Accommodation, meals, and some programming at Mount St. Francis Retreat Centre; transportation offered from Calgary airport to people from out-of-province. Options available for people not staying at Mount St. Francis. Information at www.circle-m.ca and [registration is now open at this link](#).

Save the date – Covenant Service

Eatonia-Mantario Pastoral Charge will be covenanting with **Rev. Peter Kugba-Nyande** and Living Skies Regional Council on **Sunday June 23, 2024 at 4:00 pm** with pot luck supper to follow. All are welcome to join this in-person only service.

2. Next Month

Stones Cry Out: Praying with the Land, Lutheran and Anglican National Worship Conference July 18-21, 2024, Regina. Registration is now open! Visit our website at: www.nationalworshipconference.org and follow us on Facebook [@nationalworshipconference](https://www.facebook.com/nationalworshipconference) for updates regarding the keynote speakers, workshops, and Friday evening hospitality options! The focus of the conference is to help us to think about, talk about, and pray about the ways in which we can transform our worship, in authentic ways - from language and image of empire and colonialism, to one which recognizes our rich multi-cultural and Indigenous heritage. Now is the time to register. [Please click here.](#)

3. Into the Future:

A Spiritual Journey Rooted in Nature Tuesday, September 24 (4:00 pm) – Thursday, September 26, 2024 (1:30 CST) (Option to stay an extra day for a time of complete solitude) Qu'Appelle House of Prayer, Fort Qu'Appelle, Sk.

In this retreat, we will be inspired by Richard Rohr's contemplative practice to stop our busy lives and minds long enough to see everything in the natural world with humility and love. We will be invited to love what is right in front of us one step at a time, starting with a stone and then moving to the plant world, the world of creatures, and humanity itself. Once we see the divine fingerprint of beauty, truth, and goodness pulsing through all that is, we may have worked up to loving the divine in new and refreshing ways. For complete information, visit:

<https://www.freeflowwellness.ca/retreats> **Register by Sept 13**

SAVE THE DATE: UCC Office Admin Conference! October 1-4, 2024

Planning is underway for our next Office Administrator's Conference at Home Inn & Suites in Saskatoon, SK. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to connect, learn and "fill our cup". A registration package will be coming out in early April with more details, along with a letter for support to provide to your M&P Committees.

COSTS: Single accommodation: \$600 / Double accommodation: \$475 / No accommodation: \$300.

For more information, contact Chantal Winslow at cwinslow@united-church.ca