

Sask. United Church of Canada Women - January Newsletter 2025

Be patient and wait for the Lord to act; don't be worried about those who prosper or those who succeed in their evil plans.

Don't give in to worry or anger; it only leads to trouble.

Psalm 37: 7-8.

“WINTER, HUMBLE SERVANT OF CREATION, with brisk determination you encompass our land. You clothe us into warm wraps, sending us out into the weather to gather the lessons you scatter. You call us to sit by the fireplace and feed each other stories. You invite us to listen to that which is invisible. You are the contemplative season. In unseen and unknown places you faithfully do your work. In the winter storms of our lives, teach us patience. May we learn to trust the goodness of what we cannot see. As the ground becomes frozen may we have the courage to visit the frozen ground of our own lives, believing in the life that is hidden. You clear the air. You protect the seed. You embrace reality. You, O Winter, hold our fears until they can be transformed into trust. You are the beautiful season that we sometimes overlook. Share with us your virtues of solitude, contemplation, and faith. Surround us with your fresh, crisp breath and protect the seed that is sleeping in the depths of our being.”

From The Circle of Life by Joyce Rupp and Macrina Wiederkehr

UP-COMING EVENTS

WOMEN'S GATHERING in Saskatoon on Saturday, April 26, 2025

WOMEN'S GET-TOGETHER in Abbey on Tuesday, June 10, 2025

WOMEN'S CAMP at Camp Tapawingo at Candle Lake, June 20 - 22, 2025

Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of The United Church of Canada:

Below are the links to the UCW Worship Resources for the UCW Centennial Worship service. They will be downloaded to your computer.

[Bulletin cover](#), [Bulletin with service outline](#), [Full service](#) with children's story, scripture and reflection etc, The [Agape Meal service](#)

Any parts of the service can be modified or moved to what best suits your Community of Faith. The suggested date for the service is March 2nd, 2025, when we are hoping to have as many UCW units lead service that day as possible, but UCW units can use this service whenever it best suits your Community of Faith and you.

Executive Nominations

We will be looking for nominations in the new year.

Second Vice will be open with First Vice moving up to Co-chair and Second Vice moving to First Vice.

We also need Secretary nominations.

If you or anyone you know is interested in any of these executive positions please contact me at d.mohn@sasktel.net or phone 306-749-3446 or any member of the executive. Voting will take place at the Women's Gathering on April 26.

Our congratulations to Rev. Nobuko and Elder Lorna!

On the recommendation of the Honorary Degree Committee, the Academic Committee of St. Andrew's College has selected Rev. Nobuko Iwai and Elder Lorna Standingready, to receive a Doctor of Divinity *honoris causa* degree at the College's Spring convocation on May 30, 2025, at Christ Church Anglican in Saskatoon.



Rev. Nobuko Iwai is being honoured for her work in pastoral ministry as well as for her social justice work outside of the Church. Nobuko currently serves at Grosvenor Park United Church in Saskatoon, SK. She has also served as Chair of River Bend Presbytery

(Saskatoon and area) and President of Saskatchewan Conference, the first person of colour to hold this position. She has served on the Anglican Church United Church Dialogue as well as the General Secretary's Supervision Committee. She is a trained Educational Supervisor, Interim Minister and Racial Justice Facilitator. Her compassion extends to people in all marginalized communities, in particular those in the gender and sexually diverse community. As stated in her nomination, "Nobuko is able to give the community a vision of what this world would be when we try to understand and love each other."

Elder Lorna Standingready, of Regina, SK, is being honoured for her work as an elder and long-standing member and partner with The United Church of Canada. She is held in the highest regard in terms of her international, provincial and local positions of leadership while also embodying the transformative spirit of Compassion, Light and Love. She is an Elder within The United Church of Canada, an educator of United Church and Canadian history of colonialism, and on how to be in right relations with all peoples, works with Luther College at the University of Regina as Elder-in-Residence as well as Elder in other communities. She also has a longstanding relationship with Regina Multifaith Forum. One letter of support indicated, "Lorna's dedication to community, to building bridges, to supporting and honouring residential school survivors and their families, to building up the church in love is endless." Elder Lorna Standingready has also served on the executive of the National United Church Women as the female elder representative from the All Native Circle (under the former structure of the United Church) at National UCW meetings held in in Mississauga, Ontario.

UCW Bursary Fund

The Sask. [UCW Bursary Fund Application form](#) and [brochure](#) can be found on the Living Skies Website under Resources: Funding, by e-mailing livingskies@united-church.ca and is also available at St. Andrew's College. This is a reminder that the deadline for funding this year is February 28, 2025 and Oct. 31, 2025.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

“I Made You Wonderful”

Psalm 139:14 Worship Service by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Cook Island.
Artwork, by mother, daughter duo Tarani and Tevairangi Napa.

Create a Coordinators login account (You do not have to be a coordinator to create an account)

Access information on coordinating WDP at: <https://wdpcanada.ca/world-day-of-prayer/how-toparticipate/> . The Planning Guide includes ideas to help prepare for the service.

For free Offering Envelopes, please order online at wdpcanada.ca/wicc-store or call or email our office.

The 2021 to 2024 videos of a recorded WDP service were so popular that we are making another one for 2025! It has participants from across Canada with closed captioning. You can download the 2025 WDP service video for free after January 15, 2025. OR You can buy a USB memory stick (\$25) that includes the service video as well as music from Cook Islands, service PowerPoint, and a country background video about Cook Islands that you can play during your WDP gathering. Order online at wdpcanada.ca/wicc-store. With the USB, you will also receive a paper copy of the worship service, a participant bulletin version, and information on Cook Islands. If you order a USB, remember to order Offering envelopes at the same time. The USB and envelopes will be mailed, but please order as soon as possible to ensure that an adequate supply of USBs are produced.

The WDP Worship Service will be available to you as a computer file when you log in for service resources. The Service is available in English, bilingual (French and English), Spanish, and German. There's lots more for World Day of Prayer that will be available on our website: posters, music, recipes, hymn suggestions, PowerPoint service and much more. All resources are available to download for free.

New for 2025! National Service Area Map. World Day of Prayer 2025 services in

Canada can be shared by coordinators by going to <https://wdpcanada.ca/service-locations/> If you have been a coordinator before, these changes may be new to you: • You no longer need a printed order form or service tracking number to order resources – everything is available online or by order of the USB through the WICC store. • Get the music for free from our website or order a USB with these resources. We Are Here to Support You. If you need assistance to register or log in, or any other aspect of

World Day of Prayer, please contact your WDP Field Rep:

Linda Ervin fieldrep567@wicc.org 250-493-5333

SAVE THE DATES:

Saturday, January 18, 2025 - Three regional World Day of Prayer Gathering Events.

Saturday, March 15, 2025 from 1:00 – 2:00 pm EST – Online National WDP National Service.

For more information and to register, go to wdpcanada.ca/get-involved/events/.

I close with these words from a dear friend who passed away on New Year's Day. She was 97 and a charter and life member of UCW.

ALWAYS REMEMBER: GOD ANSWERS “KNEEL-MAIL”

Blessings,

Mary