

## **Sask. UCCW Newsletter May 2025**

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God Micah 6: 8

### **Pope Francis wrote this in the Hospital.**

“The walls of hospitals have heard more honest prayers than churches...

They have witnessed far more sincere kisses than those in airports...

It is in hospitals that you see a homophobe being saved by a gay doctor.

A privileged doctor saving the life of a beggar...

In intensive care, you see a Jew taking care of a racist...

A police officer and a prisoner in the same room receiving the same care...

A wealthy patient waiting for a liver transplant, ready to receive the organ from a poor donor...

It is in these moments, when the hospital touches the wounds of people, that different worlds intersect according to a divine design. And in this communion of destinies, we realize that alone, we are nothing.

The absolute truth of people, most of the time, only reveals itself in moments of pain or in the real threat of an irreversible loss.

A hospital is a place where human beings remove their masks and show themselves as they truly are, in their purest essence.

This life will pass quickly, so do not waste it fighting with people.

Do not criticize your body too much.

Do not complain excessively.

Do not lose sleep over bills.

Make sure to hug your loved ones.

Do not worry too much about keeping the house spotless.

Material goods must be earned by each person—do not dedicate yourself to accumulating an inheritance.

You are waiting for too much: Christmas, Friday, next year, when you have money, when love arrives, when everything is perfect...

Listen, perfection does not exist.

A human being cannot attain it because we are simply not made to be fulfilled here.

Here, we are given an opportunity to learn.

So, make the most of this trial of life—and do it now.

Respect yourself, respect others. Walk your own path, and let go of the path others have chosen for you.

Respect: do not comment, do not judge, do not interfere.

Love more, forgive more, embrace more, live more intensely!

And leave the rest in the hands of the Creator.”

—Pope Francis

## Spring Gathering 2025



April 26, 2025 the annual SASK UCCW gathering was held at St. David's Trinity United Church in Saskatoon. The theme this year was "Years Gone By" celebrating 100 years of women in the United Church of Canada.

The day began with coffee/tea and muffins during registration. We moved to the church sanctuary for the Worship Service. The Worship Service was written at the Annual General Meeting of the National United Church Women last September. The service shared insights and moments of meaning from across Canada of the role women have played since the beginning of the United Church in 1925. A special part of the service included a memorial and candle lighting for women within the United Church in Saskatchewan who have passed since April 2024.



The communion service was an Agape Meal under the leadership of Rev. Debz Ferber. Rev. Debz moved through out the sanctuary serving the gluten-free bread and fresh green grapes as the communion elements.



As we moved from the Worship Service to the Annual General Meeting, a few favourite camp-style songs were sung.

The AGM was held with approvals of all reports, financial statement and proposed budget followed by election of officers. Minutes of the meeting and reports are available on request.



To cut down on printing costs, email copies of all the reports, agenda, and minutes were sent out prior to the gathering. During registration the minutes from the 2024 meeting, the financial report and budget were displayed on the screen in the sanctuary. The display was used during the meeting as the reports were reviewed. The elected Executive are Co-Chairs Diane Thurlow, Meadow Lake and Rev. Debz Ferber, Saskatoon, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair Eleanor Bowie, Maple Creek, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair Susan Dokken, Saskatoon, Treasurer Phyllis Robinson, Saskatoon, and the position of secretary is vacant. Anyone interested in the position please contact any of the executive.

Allison Irvine, Co-Chair, and Barbara Byers-Bradley, secretary, have retired from their positions.





Left to Right: Back Row – Susan Dokken (second vice) Mary Mohn (newsletter editor), Centre – Phyllis Robinson (treasurer), Debz Ferber (co-chair), Dawn Weber (past co-chair), Front – Diane Thurlow (co-chair), Allison Irvine (retired co-chair) and Barbara Byers-Bradley (retired secretary). Missing – Eleanor Bowie (first vice)

Information was provided on two upcoming events. A Women's Day in Abbey, Saskatchewan on June 10<sup>th</sup> and Camp Tapawingo at Candle Lake, Saskatchewan on June 20-22<sup>nd</sup>. There is a Bursary available to people going into the United Church ministry administered by the SASK UCCW. Two bursaries are available through the National United Church Women Agatha Kassa and Dorothy Amos. More information on all these events and bursaries are available in the SASK UCCW newsletter or from any of the executive.

A soup and sandwich lunch was provided by St. David's Trinity UC. The lunch was wonderful with the vegetable soup being a special hit.

A special mixer was held to share thoughts and memories of life within the United Church. Women were invited to pair with a woman that they did not previously know. A question was posed and each woman was given a minute to share their personal answer. Then on to the next question. A couple of example questions were "What was a favourite hymn from when they were young?" to "What was the strangest dish they had been canvassed for at a church event?". The church was a buzz with the sharing, laughing and chatting taking place.

Susan Dokken shared how to make a prayer bracelet. It was a fun craft and beautiful, meaningful bracelets were created. This time also allowed women to chat and share memories of time spent in the church activities and of life.

There was a Silent Auction with items donated by women in attendance. \$437.00 was raised by the auction and cash donations.

## Prayer Bracelet



27 beads plus centering bead

- $27 = 3 \times 3 \times 3$  3 is our Holy number (think of Trinity)
- 4 Prayer beads, 23 traveling beads
- need to be able to feel (tactile) when you hit the prayer bead as your eyes are closed
- think of 4 things you want to pray for (names of 4 people, 4 places in world that are suffering, 4 parts of Advent, etc)
- Breathe in and out to centre as you travel around the bracelet



The afternoon ended with coffee/tea and dainties followed by a closing prayer and sending forth. Special thanks to photographer Jo-Anne Barber for all the pictures.

## **LADIES DAY CAMP JUNE 10, 2025**

**This will take place on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our United Church of Canada  
HELD AT ABBEY UNITED CHURCH, 246 DENNIS ST.**

**100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

**LET US JOIN IN CELEBRATING OUR PAST, OUR HERITAGE, OUR COMMUNITY**

**COST: \$20 PER PERSON INCLUDES DINNER**

- 10:00 – Registration and Muffins
- 10:30 – Welcome, exercises in your chairs
- 11:00 – Stories from Churches and UCW groups (memories, histories)
- 11:45 – grace before dinner, moving to Abbey Legion Hall, 116 Wayne
- 12:00 – Dinner, Desert, Craft
- 1:40 - Memories from Camp Shagabec – camp songs
- 2:15 - Business, Audrey's report of bank account  
Next year's camp location
- 2:45 - Memorials (Please bring your names)
- 3:00 - Communion  
farewells  
( If you have cookies for Shagabec, bring them! )

Please call Catherine at 306-587-3411 or Sharon at 639-920-7011 if you plan to attend.

## **Camp Tapawingo Women's Camp June 20 - 22**

NEW CAMPERS AS WELL AS ALL FORMER CAMPERS INCLUDING GRANDMAS,  
MOTHERS, DAUGHTERS, NIECES ARE INVITED.

**Registration Cost:** \$65/weekend. \$40/Sat. only

Tapawingo at Candle Lake is pleased to be hosting the Women's Camp this summer...

Friday night potluck supper

Silent auction, bring an item

Stay in one of our cabins or bring your camper (no hookups)

Home-cooked meals

Enjoy our beautiful sandy shallow beach area

Go for a stroll on a path through the forest or walk the labyrinth

Make a craft

Unwind with chair yoga

Bring your musical instrument

Go for a paddle in a canoe, kayak or paddle boat

Play 9 holes of golf next door

Sing and roast a marshmallow at the campfire

Worship and reflect on Vesper Hill

Bring a board game or cards for a games time

**PLEASE NOTE** THAT ALL MONIES RAISED FOR THIS EVENT INCLUDING REGISTRATION FEES AND PROCEEDS FROM THE SILENT AUCTION WILL GO TO CAMP TAPAWINGO.

Direct link to registration form is <https://form.jotform.com/250346384219256>

For more information email Terry Linsley, executive director at [info.camptapawingo.net](mailto:info.camptapawingo.net)

**“O seeds, blessed seeds, you will soon be dwelling in the soil.**

**Grow, grow deep, grow strong!**

**Send your life forth into the sunlight,**

**We celebrate the secret of spring within you!”**

**-Blessing of a Seed in the Circle of Life by Joyce Rupp & Macrina Wiederkehr**

Blessings,  
Mary