

Regional Rambler

Living Skies Regional Council The United Church of Canada



September 17, 2025 – 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: This Week's events:

Online Bible study - Wednesdays at 1 pm (SK time) Contact jcantwell@united-church.ca for more information. Click here to join: <https://bit.ly/41Vh93V> *New participants always welcome!*

Strengthening Invitation - the Growth Department prays for and with communities of faith each **Thursday at 11a-m Central / 10am Mountain** Register to join us [here](#). Send your prayer request to growth@united-church.ca (you can send a request even if you're not attending)

Ministry Personnel Gatherings - Tuesdays at 1:00pm on Zoom. Connection info is in the calendar.

Updated - M&P 101 - tonight

*There is still room – register before 4pm to join in **tonight's** workshop.* Join other ministry and personnel committee members for a time of learning and sharing of best practices. **Wednesday, September 17, 7pm on Zoom.** Contact Bev Diebert at bdiebert@united-church.ca to register.

Save the date – Covenanting Service

Fall is the season of new beginnings! Join the covenanting service between Prince Nkhoswe and Knox United Church in Lanigan on **September 21, 3:00pm**. Stay tuned for further updates, and for information about other services in Living Skies.

NEW: Ministry Personnel Prayer Gathering – a time to connect

All ministry personnel – *active, retired, honorary associates, and candidates in appointment*, are warmly invite to a once a month, one hour online gathering on the **4th Wednesday of each month**, beginning **September 23 from 1:00 – 2:00pm**. For details of what to bring and link information, [please see the calendar announcement](#). This is a simple space to pause, breathe, and remember we are not alone in ministry. Come for prayer, community and the gift of communion shared across our regions.

NEW: Pastoral Relations Ponderings - [Pastoral Relations Pondering Vol 63](#). Updates from the Pastoral Relations desk.

NEW: Bible Woolies

Have you heard about Bible Woolies yet? Bible Woolies is an awesome app created for kids by a United Church minister - it's a way to connect kids to Bible stories, church, music, and all kinds of fun, all wrapped up with a reminder that they are loved. The best part? You don't have to edit for content! It's all United Church theology and values.

Check out the free app on the website <https://biblewoolies.ca/> - for your kids, grandkids, church kids, anyone who loves to learn and play games. Print off the QR code and post it on your church wall or pass it out to families who might be looking for faith based content for their kids!

NEW: An invitation from the Nominations Committee

This week the Nominations Committee is highlighting the Nominations Committee. Last year's committee created this video: <https://youtu.be/a0ia5T3Ur9Q?feature=shared>. We will also be asking the Growth Department to pray for our Nominations Committee during their prayer meeting tomorrow at 10am our time. You are welcome to join. Register to join the prayer / support session [here](#) For more information about the Nominations Committee, their work and vacancies, [see their webpage](#). Please contact Bev Diebert (Admin Support Staff) at bdiebert@united-church.ca / 639-396-0200 if you have questions.

Save the idea

Are you or someone in your community of faith interested in becoming a [Sacraments Elder](#)? The Committee on Lay Leadership Support is discerning whether to offer a training session this fall. Email bdiebert@united-church.ca if you are interested.

2. Wider Church Information:**NEW: 100 Tables local projects continues!**

The United Church of Canada's [100 Tables](#) project really took off this summer. As of August 22, there are [109 communities of faith registered as hosts of a table](#) in their town or city. Part of our 100th anniversary celebrations, this an initiative that turns ordinary picnic tables into extraordinary places of welcome, and part of our campaign to create [A Place at the Table](#) for all to join. Rooted in justice, compassion, and radical belonging, 100 Tables invites communities to create tables that reflect local priorities, whether those are food security, care for creation, 2S and LGBTQIA+ inclusion, or reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. Consider what your community can offer!

Looking to live out your land acknowledgement? A congregation in Hamilton, Ontario was inspired to learn how Indigenous ministry students at Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre in Manitoba are showing the broader church a path to reconciliation. The congregation decided to celebrate UCC's 100th anniversary with a gift that supports these students and a hopeful future for our church. They challenge you to do the same! [Learn more here](#).

NEW: The latest national newsletter

[E-ssentials, is out and posted here](#) . It includes some highlights from last week's General Council online meeting, which dealt with business not completed at the in-person General Council in Calgary this summer.

Updated: Short reminders of our history for this Centennial year continue

Here is one of Gayle's very short stories about United Church history. Many thanks to Gayle, who offers us these 100-word history vignettes for use in your own community! **Please remember to credit!** For our twentieth vignette, she writes:

NEW: For nearly 125 years, the United Church and its predecessor denominations have offered health care in remote areas of Canada's west coast. Hospitals in Bella Bella and Bella Coola B.C.

have operated with support from the Mission and Service fund. Health care professionals have often been recruited through the United Church. Services have included emergency care and obstetrical services as well as physiotherapy, pharmacy and public and mental health education. The most serious cases could be transferred by air to Vancouver or Victoria, accompanied by a medical professional. These hospitals most recently have worked in conjunction with the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority (VCHA) and United Church involvement in these hospitals is currently coming to an end.

3. Upcoming Opportunities:

Community of Faith Calendar

Please check out our CoF calendar for upcoming local events. 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'.

Truth and Reconciliation Lunch and Learns, 22-26 September, 12:00 CDT, 11:00AM MDT/CST

The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation invites us to join daily *Lunch and Learn* webinars – an immersive experience to UN-learn the myths of colonial history in Canada. *Lunch and Learn* sessions are **aimed at an adult audience**, and **open to the public**, and will be hosted virtually over Zoom Webinar and streamed to YouTube. Expert matter speakers will present for 40-50 minutes before a Q&A between the moderator and guest(s). All sessions will have simultaneous English-French, and ASL interpretation. [Please have a look at the topics and details](#). They include: **Sept 22** - Surviving the Residential School System; **Sept 23** - Uncovering the Truth: Ground Searches; **Sept 24** - The Ongoing Legacy of the Residential School System through Child Welfare; **Sept 25** - Reflecting on the TRC's Calls to Action 10 Years Later; **Sept 26** - Confronting Residential School Denialism.

NEW: Legacy Giving and Your Community of Faith - Thursday, Sept. 25 – 1pm Mt (2pm Central)

Perhaps you have heard about the United Church's [Centennial Legacy Campaign](#) and are curious how it could support the ministry and meaning-making in your community of faith. Spend 60 minutes learning more about the campaign, legacy giving, and how we can vision and plan for a future of thriving ministry. Stewardship support staff, Vicki Nelson, and Campaign Animator, Tamara Granatstien, want to support your community of faith and this webinar is a great place to start. Register here - <https://forms.office.com/r/LfnFf1gyqS>

Updated: Resources for Inspiration: **Orange Shirt / Truth and Reconciliation Sunday: Sept. 28 and Tuesday, Sept 30** Please have a look at our [summary post for resources and ideas](#) to support this important day of action and remembering, as we carry our continued commitment to the TRC Calls to Action forward this tenth anniversary of their release. Read on, and share!

Luther Lecture Series 2025, with The Very Rev. Dr. Carmen Landsdowne

The Very Rev. Dr. Carmen Landsdowne, former Moderator of The United Church of Canada, will be speaking at the Luther Auditorium (also on Zoom) on **Monday, September 29 at 7:30pm**. Registration for Zoom is required. [Click here for more information or to register for the event](#).

Updated - Book Launch with The Very Rev. Dr. Carmen Landsdowne

On **Tuesday, September 30, 2025 at 7:00pm**, former Moderator The Very Rev. Dr. Carmen Landsdowne will be in Treaty 4, at **Broadway United Church** (105 Broadway Ave, Regina) for the launch of her new book *Wearing a Broken Indigene Heart on the Sleeve of Christian Mission* in which seeks to engage the question, "If Indigenous hearts are broken by Christianity, what is it in

Christian theology that is life giving at all?" Carmen will share from her book and engage us all in conversation. We are working to have copies of the book available for sale at the event – [books can also be ordered online here](#). She notes that this is an academic focused book (and she reads macro-economics for fun) but has written a Study Guide designed for non-academic uses which is [available here for free download](#).

NEW: Come Let Us Sing – A 100th Anniversary Concert

Join us on **October 5 at 2:30pm** at **Grace-Westminster United Church** (505 – 10th St. E., Saskatoon) for a wonderful afternoon of United Church music while supporting local outreach ministries. The concert will feature United Church musicians from across Saskatoon. Admission is by donation. For more details, [see the Living Skies calendar entry](#)

4. Reminders:

Spirit River Community, an outgrowth of Queen's House.

Sarah Donnelly has created a new 'retreat centre without walls', called "Spirit River Community".

To learn more and to see what programs are being offered, see www.spiritriverrivercommunity.org

"Hear this, all you peoples; listen, all who live in this world, both low and high, rich and poor alike"

Psalm 49:1-2