

Regional Rambler

Living Skies Regional Council The United Church of Canada



September 24, 2025 – 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 (mostly) listed in order of occurrence. For easy identification: **Date/s of the event** are highlighted in green; **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** section will help facilitate your long-term planning.

NEW: United in Learning - Find what's new in the [latest newsletter from the national church's online education, action and community program](#). Upcoming opportunities include a cross-country check up, and much more. **NEW: E-ssentials** - Please also see the [very handy latest national newsletter](#), which goes over highlights for national work. The **United Church's Edge Network** also offers online courses related to change and innovation. [See their courses here.](#)

Updated - **Check out the Community of Faith Calendar** (on the Living Skies Regional Council website - 3rd option under News & Events). **Be sure to browse** the list for fun and interesting upcoming events. [Click here to view it.](#) **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.

This month:

Weekly events:

- ***Online Bible study** - **every Wednesday 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 each **Thursday at 11a-m Central / 10am Mountain** Register to join [here](#) . Send your prayer request to growth@united-church.ca (you can send a request even if you're not attending)
- ***Ministry Personnel Gatherings** - weekly on **Tuesdays at 1:00pm on Zoom**. Connection information is in the calendar.

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.](#) Sessions include: **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.

Final Call: Lunch time Intercultural Coffee Chai series: Stories and Narratives: God-Talks from Diasporic Filipino Ministers in the United Church of Canada, **Thursday, Sept 25, 2025, 12:30pm MDT and CST (90 minutes)**. Bring your lunch and join us as we resume the Western Intercultural Ministries Network 100th Anniversary series honouring ethno-cultural communities within the United Church. The Filipino Ministers Network in The United Church of Canada invites you to join them for a panel discussion about seeking God in the midst of every-day life. In the Philippines, theologizing is embodied in everyday life; not seen as a separate religious category or exercise. Faith grows out of our lived experience: life-stories, turning points, crises and celebrations. God is active in shaping our everyday decision-making. [Please see and share all the details!](#)

Legacy Giving and Your Community of Faith - Thursday, Sept. 25 – 1pm Mountain (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](#).

Book Launch with The Very Rev. Dr. Carmen Landsdowne

On **Tuesday, September 30, 2025**, 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](#).

United Church's 100th Anniversary:

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

As we enter the month of The United Church of Canada's 100th Anniversary, here is another one of Gayle Simonson'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 twenty-first vignette, she writes:

NEW: All three founding denominations stressed the value of education. At union, Methodist Rev. Dr. Samuel Rose noted the Methodist respect for learning and the struggle for public schools open to all, a struggle that Methodist Rev. Egerton Ryerson had spearheaded in Upper Canada. Presbyterian Dr. John T. McNeill also noted the importance of education. "Our colleges have been

nurseries both of religion and learning.” He felt they brought “a knack for conserving the values of the past while moving on in obedience to a new and true vision.” Congregationalist Dr. W.H. Warriner stressed spirituality, Christian freedom and Catholicity, an acceptance of all forms of worship as new revelations continue to expand our faith. The new United Church inherited colleges from coast to coast.

Next month:

“Francis and the Web of Creation” ...

St. Andrew’s College (in partnership with leaders from the Living Skies Regional Council, Northern Spirit Regional Council, and GreenSpirit Chaplaincy) invites you to our next contemplative gathering, to be held on **Friday October 3, at 10am Sask time**. Come spend 40 minutes or so in quiet contemplation, centered on the ancient practice of *lectio divina*. Join us [via zoom right here](#). *All are welcome ... and invite a friend!*

NEW: Job Posting for the First Third Animator for Northern Spirit

Northern Spirit Regional Council is seeking an individual to fill the role of First Third Ministry Animator on a Permanent Part-time basis (17.5 hours per week). For further information about this position, [see here](#). Closing date for applications: **October 6, 2025**.

Stewardship Learning Opportunities

Getting Started in Stewardship - Monday, Oct. 6 at 2pm OR 4:30pm Mountain (3pm or 5:30 Central) Learning why stewardship is not fundraising, why people are compelled to give, and how doing stewardship work is an essential part of discipleship building. This 90 minute session is great for people new to stewardship, or for folks who haven’t engaged in it for a while. Register here - <https://churchx.ca/local/shop/product.php?id=301>

Stewardship Best Practices - Five weeks, starts Thursday, Oct. 23 – 1pm Mountain (2pm Central)

This course is for a team or committee who are keen to see generosity grow and gratitude transform their community of faith. Five sessions on zoom, that unpack the theological and practical components of stewardship, are followed by the development of an annual plan and consistent online coaching. After almost 5 years of offering *Stewardship Best Practices* we have seen that congregations who participate in the course, and do the follow up work see higher giving and morale—teams report to us optimism about their ministry and hopes for the future. Register here - <https://churchx.ca/local/shop/product.php?id=297>

Seeds of Hope Grant Applications Now Open!

The Foundation’s Fall 2025 *Seeds of Hope* granting cycle is now accepting applications! The Seeds of Hope granting program supports innovative, unique projects which enable us to live out the New Creed’s call to seek justice, live with respect in Creation, and love and serve others.

Deadline: Applications must be submitted by 11:55 p.m. on October 15, 2025

Apply today: <https://unitedchurchfoundation.ca/grants/seeds-of-hope/>

Save the date – Equipping the Saints: Pastoral Care for patients and Families affected by Alzheimer’s and Dementia - Wednesday, October 15, 1:00-2:30pm on Zoom.

Our guest speaker will be Nancy Styles. Nancy is a retired registered nurse with 24 years of experience caring for patients and families affected by a variety of forms of dementia. She is a Licensed Lay Worship Leader with the United Church offering regular ministry at Stoughton, New Hope Nursing Home and Ceylon and occasionally at Yellow Grass, Minton and Creelman. She provides music at Parkway Nursing Home monthly. We hope that you will join with Living Skies, our Hospital Chaplains, and with Nancy for this time of learning and discussion.

NEW: Would you like to help others start or enrich their Messy Church?

As we move into fall it seems a great time to come together and discuss how to start a Messy Church, how to enrich a Messy Church, and to connect with others who are leading Messy Churches in our country! Please join Messy Church Canada as we share some ideas about Messy Church and offer some tips and ideas for starting a Messy Church.

We will meet on [ZOOM](#) -- for about an hour on **Thursday, October 16, 2025 at NOON (MT)**

World Food Day (October 16) resources from the Canadian Foodgrains Bank

This year, CFGB invites churches, groups and individuals to mark World Food Day with a variety of thoughtful resources that can be incorporated into church services, used in small group gatherings, or personal reflection. Drawing from the story of Gladys in our new film called [A Legacy Taking Root](#), which will be released to the public this fall, our resources invite to pray, learn, advocate, and give. Our collection of worship resources on our [World Food Day website – Until All Are Fed](#) includes calls to worship, prayers, videos, scripture readings, group discussion guides, sermon starters, and diverse activities for children. You can also find a [postcard action for food security here](#).

NEW: Eyewitness Report on Gaza, Oct. 22, 7:00pm CST, Knox Met United Church in Regina and by livestream. Join us to hear the firsthand experiences of **Dr. Deirdre Nunan**, a Saskatchewan-trained orthopaedic surgeon who has spent much of the past decade working in international humanitarian contexts. She has spent nearly two years working in Gaza, including on three occasions during the past year. She recently returned from working at Nasser Hospital in Khan Younis, Gaza. Admission is free. No registration required. For livestream info, please contact Valerie Zink, valeriezink@gmail.com. *This event is sponsored by Doctors Against Genocide, Palestine Solidarity Regina, Amnesty International Saskatchewan, Regina Peace Council, Regina Public Interest Research Group, Students for Justice in Palestine, Faculty for Palestine, and Regina Making Peace Vigil.*

NEW: How did we get from the Bible to a genocide in Gaza?, with Dr. Dan Epp-Tiessen, Wednesday evenings, October 22, 29, and November 5 at 7 p.m. (CST). This popular three-part webinar series returns on Zoom, free of charge. **Oct. 22:** How the Bible helped generate Israel's settler-colonialism and the dispossession of Palestinians. **Oct. 29:** How Christian antisemitism, inspired by the New Testament, led to the creation of the state of Israel and the oppression of Palestinians. **Nov. 5:** How Christian Zionist readings of the Bible have enabled the genocide in Gaza. [Register here](#). **The Zoom links will be sent to registrants closer to the dates.**

Fall YAYAC Retreat: We're going on a road trip to Manitoba!

This year, join Living Skies YAYAC (Youth & Young Adult Community) as we hit the road to Virdin, Manitoba for an incredible weekend with the Prairie to Pine YAYA crew on **October 24-26**. This retreat is open to grades 7-12 and there will be a few carloads going over from various parts of the province. We can't wait for you to join us! For more information [click here](#) or contact Rev. Lindsay Mohn at livingskiesyaya@united-church.ca

[Into the Future:](#)**Save the dates – November 4 and 6, 2025 evenings for Living Skies General Meeting**

Watch this fall for more information about the LSRC Learning Session and Online General Meeting. *For now, please save these dates.*

NEW: Northern Saskatchewan Hospital News - Saskatoon Cluster Meeting

Expanding Pastoral Care In Our Communities of Faith, a time of sharing and discussion with the Northern Saskatchewan Hospital Chaplaincy. All are welcome to join this in-person gathering at **St. Martin's United Church** (2617 Clarence Ave., Saskatoon) on **November 13th from 1pm - 3pm**, to encourage and equip lay pastoral care within our churches.

YOUTH CONFIRMATION RETREAT 2025 Save the Date - **November 21-23** in Biggar SK.

Grades 7-12 are invited to go through the confirmation class together with other youth from around the region, and will then return to their home communities of faith to be confirmed. More information and registration form available next week!

NEW: Save the Date for *Collective* - a national youth event in Summer 2026

Start thinking about youth connected to your community of faith that might be interested in joining a group from Saskatchewan to travel together! For more information: <https://united-church.ca/events/collective-2026-embrace-impact>

Spirit River Community

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