

# Regional Rambler

Living Skies Regional Council  
The United Church of Canada



## February 11, 2026 – 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](mailto: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.

**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. **E-ssentials and more** – Please see the [very handy latest national newsletters](#), which goes over highlights for national work.

**Check out the Community of Faith Calendar** (on the Living Skies Regional Council website - 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, 4<sup>th</sup> option down under News & Events), so folks don't miss the festivities.

## This Week's Events:

- \***Online Bible study - every Wednesday at 1 pm (SK time)** Contact [jcantwell@united-church.ca](mailto: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](mailto:growth@united-church.ca) (you can send a request even if you're not attending)

### **Reminder: A Change to the Tuesday Ministry Personnel Gatherings**

Starting **this month**, the online facilitated ministry personnel gatherings for Living Skies will occur **only on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday** of the month; the gathering set for **February 17** has been cancelled. The calendar on the website has been updated to the new schedule.

## This Month:

### **NEW: Black History Month: Here From the Beginning**

Unveiled last year as a Centennial project, [Here from the Beginning](#) is an in-person and [virtual exhibition](#) that showcases the contributions and experiences of Black people within the United Church, amplifying voices that have long been overshadowed. It is a celebration of faith, history, and community. [Learn more and explore the exhibition online](#).

For more information and resources about Black History month, [click here](#).

### **Save the date**

Join the Regional Council, Moose Jaw: Zion United Church and Deborah Smith as we covenant together on **Tuesday, February 17 at 5:00pm**, followed by pancake supper. Information regarding livestream to follow.

**It's deep winter but it sure is nice to be thinking about SUMMER CAMP!**

Watch the dates carefully for Staff, Counsellor, and Volunteer applications as well as Camper Registrations!

**Camp Tapawingo:**

Camper Registration - **open with early bird pricing**

Staff Application - **Open!**

Volunteer Application - **Open!**

**Camp Shagabec:**

Camper Registration - **Friday March 13**

Staff Application - **Open due March 27**

Volunteer Application - **Open!**

**Lumsden Beach Camp:**

Camper Registration: **Monday February 2**

Staff and LIT Application - Watch for postings and dates.

Volunteer Application - **Open!**

**Camp Woodboia:**

Watch for info and dates!

**NEW: Ash Wednesday and Lent Resources for Kids and Families**

Often, we think of services during Lent and Holy Week as “too somber” for our youngest church members, but this is far from the case! If done appropriately, Ash Wednesday is the perfect opportunity for an all-ages service that is tactile and participatory. [Click here for more ideas and information](#), or reach out to Rev. Lindsay Mohn at [livingskiesyaya@united-church.ca](mailto:livingskiesyaya@united-church.ca) to chat about your upcoming services!

**Next Month:****NEW: Save the date – Covenanting announcement**

Janelle Shaw and the collaboration between Lafleche-Limerick and Grasslands pastoral charges will be held on **March 8, 1:30pm** in Glentworth.

**NEW: The Moderator's PIE Day message: now available**

Every year, on **March 14<sup>th</sup>**, The United Church of Canada celebrates National Affirming PIE Day. This year for PIE Day 2026, we celebrate every kind of creator—woodcutters, crocheters, gardeners, and bakers—who help weave connections in our communities. [Access the Moderator's PIE Day video in advance and review release information at this link.](#)

**United Church's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:****Updated: Short reminders of our history from the Centennial year continue**

As we leave the Centennial year, here is another of Gayle's 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 *forty-seventh and forty-eighth vignettes*, she writes:

**NEW:** As technology advanced, the church incorporated video as well as print into its communication program. For a few years, the UCC Berkeley Studio developed films and even an award-winning weekly TV program, “Spirit Connection.” The program covered many topics including, in 2004, an episode on the churches in Cuba and a two-part series on the Lac St. Anne pilgrimage in Alberta. The latter included interviews with a number of pilgrims who reported healing in the lake's waters and an interview with the speaker of the All Native Circle Conference. In 2009, Mardi Tindal, who had been a series co-host, became the fourth lay person to be elected moderator. Technology has changed and today with the accessibility of social media, film strips no longer play a significant role in church communications.

**NEW:** Jessie Saulteaux, an Assiniboine of the Carry-the-Kettle reserve in south-east Saskatchewan was one of the first women in Saskatchewan to be elected a tribal chief. As a dedicated member of the United Church, she participated in the founding of the All Native Circle Conference. She

also helped found a theological college for Indigenous people, a place which welcomes all people and where both Indigenous and Christian beliefs are respected and shared. In 1983, St. Andrew's College in Saskatoon granted her an honorary Doctor of Divinity. The following year the indigenous college was named the Dr. Jessie Saulteaux Resource Centre. In 2016, it merged with the Francis Sandy Theological Centre. Sandy was an Ojibwa lay minister. The centre, located in Beausejour, Manitoba, is now known as the Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre.

## Into the Future:

### **The Great Exhale: A Gentle Pause for Faithful Souls - *A retreat for clergy***

**All active ministry personnel** (currently in, or searching for, a call or appointment) from Prairie to Pine, Living Skies, and Northern Spirit Regional Councils are warmly invited to **The Great Exhale**, a retreat for rest, renewal, and connection, held **May 5–6** at **Star of the North Retreat Centre** in St. Albert, Alberta.

Designed with spaciousness in mind, this retreat offers time to rest, reflect, pray, laugh, walk, and simply breathe—alongside worship and shared learning. The retreat will be facilitated by **Rev. Jordan Cantwell**, with gentle sessions focused on listening deeply, reconnecting with God, and renewing imagination for ministry.

Flexible registration options are available to support accessibility. More information can be found on the registration form. **Registration deadline is March 15**. Click [here to register](#)

Contact Laura Fohse, Vocational Minister for more information.

### **Reminder: Arbor Week - May 25-31, 2026 / Arbor Day - May 29, 2026**

Now is the time to start planning your **2026 Arbor Week / Day** activities. One of the best ways to celebrate creation is to plant a tree or trees. Planting trees or shrubs is an activity that can involve big plans or very small activities for individuals and small groups. It is a great opportunity to involve persons of all ages and circumstances from within community of faith. Do you have an idea you would like to try, or perhaps have tried and would like to share? To chat about possibilities, contact Walter Farquharson -306-744-2214 or [farq.blueheron@sasktel.net](mailto:farq.blueheron@sasktel.net).

### **Collection 2026 – a national youth event – August 12 – 15, 2026**

[Collective 2026](#) registration is now open!! The Presbyterian Church in Canada (PCC) and The United Church of Canada (UCCan) are coming together once again to offer inspiring workshops, meaningful worship, and plenty of recreation for Christian youth across Canada. Whether you're a youth participant, young adult, or youth leader, we can't wait to share what's in store for Collective 2026.

**Learn more and get ready at** [Collective-Gathering.ca](http://Collective-Gathering.ca).

### **Are you talking about it in your Community of Faith???**

We need your help in planning the "in-person" Living Skies Regional Council Meeting for **May 27-30, 2027**. Would you consider placing this item on your Annual Congregational Meeting Agenda. The Agenda item would be whether your community of faith would be open to hosting this event in your community either on your own or with the help of a neighbouring community of faith. All that is needed is a preliminary interest. Final decision would be made later, after consultation with the Living Skies Regional Council Meeting Planning Committee. Contact is Miles Russell at [russella@sasktel.net](mailto:russella@sasktel.net) or 306-547-8517. Thanks for your consideration of this important event.