

Regional Rambler

Living Skies Regional Council
The United Church of Canada



March 25, 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

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 here](#) . **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 - 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 Week's 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!*

NEW: Faithful Footprints Grant Info Webinar - Wednesday, March 25, 1:30 – 2:30 PM CDT, via Zoom
The Faithful Footprints team invites United Church communities of faith for an information webinar about The United Church of Canada's dedicated Faithful Footprints Grant. The 2026 Faithful Footprints Funding Cycle is still open, with **Expressions of Interest being accepted until April 30, 2026**. Join them to learn about eligibility criteria, the grant application process, and how your United Church communities can access up to \$20,000 in funding to support carbon-reduction building upgrades. [Register for the Faithful Footprints webinar here](#).

Things we Tell Ourselves - 7pm to 9pm ET from now to May 20, 2026

The United Church has spent 100 years establishing patterns and ways of doing ministry. Many of us are still doing what was done a generation or two earlier. We want to try new things but don't know where to start. Join us **Wednesdays** for this ten-week series of learning sessions and workshops that gives participants the chance to see new opportunities, engage with new ideas, meet other lay church leaders and reimagine the church of the future and start building it now. For details and to register, see: [Things We Tell Ourselves](#)

A Pause for Peace and Justice

In these troubling times at home and in our world, let's come together to hear words of hope, justice and empowerment, to be grounded in compassion and radical kindness. Join us at **8pm (SK time)** for 15 minutes (every Monday to Friday) **through the month of March 2026** [on this Zoom link](#).

Everyone welcome. *This is a community initiative of Grace-Westminster United Church in collaboration with the Oliver & Gruchy Learning Centre, St. Andrew's College (Saskatoon).* For more

info, contact Jan Clarke (jlclarke@sasktel.net), Brenda Curtis (c.b.curtis@sasktel.net) or Bernon Lee (bernon.lee@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca).

***Strengthening Invitation** - the Growth Department prays each **Thursday at 10a-m Central / 9am 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)

Getting to Love Gen Alpha: *An online workshop from our friends at First Third Ministry*

Join us for a one-hour session to help your community of faith begin discerning its next steps with Gen Alpha (those born after 2010) — through theological reflection, current research, and practical, hope-filled insight. The session is **Thursday March 26 at 8 pm CST** [click here](#) to register.

Another workshop to be held on **March 26** is about **children's bibles** from the Center for Excellence in Christian Education. [Click here for more information.](#)

Last Chance: Late-breaking opportunity for learning – Sacraments elder training

The Committee on Lay Leadership Support is again offering an online opportunity for training for Sacraments Elders. This would be appropriate for those new to the role, as well as serving as a refresher for those currently licensed. It will be offered **over Zoom on Saturday, March 28 from 9:00am to 12:00pm**; there is no cost. Feel free to share the invitation widely. Contact Bev Diebert at bdiebert@united-church.ca to register.

Toward 2035 national survey: Share Your Voice

The United Church of Canada invites anyone connected to the life of the church to complete a short survey on **Toward 2035**, the framework introduced in 2025 to guide our shared direction for the next decade. Your responses will help us understand how **Toward 2035** is being received and what supports communities may need. There are no right or wrong answers—just your insight. **Take the survey in English here:** <https://bit.ly/survey2035> (**deadline March 31**).

Rooted in our [Call and Vision, Toward 2035](#) invites us to imagine and shape the future together. [Towards 2035 resources can be found here.](#) Scroll to the end of the page for downloads.

This Month:

NEW: Children's Bible in Canadian French

We have access to copies of Ralph Milton's children's Bible translated into French, available for the cost of shipping. If you would like a copy, please reach out to Lindsay at livingskiesyaya@united-church.ca

NEW: United in Learning Spring courses from the national church

Feeling disconnected? Want to explore specific topics like myths about the church, speaking up for the Earth, racism, church tech, and much more? [See the latest newsletter here](#), and please share it. All courses require a free account, to help you access course materials. Have a look at the long list of excellent topics available to all of us, and please share.

NEW: Share an Inspiring Easter Appeal

Easter is fast approaching, as is an annual time of generosity for our communities. *Inspire* and *Invite* gifts to Mission and Service this year with these helpful resources: 🐰 Use the [pre-made Script and Slideshow](#) to make an Easter Appeal as part of your worship services this Easter. 🌸 Share the [2026 Mission and Service Easter Video](#) in your newsletter or on social media. 🙏 Include the new [God of the Wild Wilderness prayer](#) from Mission and Service in your worship. **And**, as always, don't forget to *Thank* the amazing donors who make the work of Mission and Service possible.

Jordan Cantwell, *Growth Animator* - jcantwell@united-church.ca

Sarah Giles, *Stewardship Animator* - sgiles@united-church.ca

Next Month:

NEW: Easter: A Place at the Table for New Life ([a message from your Growth Animator](#))

Easter is God's great yes to life—spoken into places of fear, grief, uncertainty, and waiting. The stone is rolled away not so the story can end, but so new life can begin. What might that look like in your community of faith?

NEW: Reflect and pray each day this Easter

As a gift to the United Church community, Growth Animator Sharon Ballantyne (Atlantic Regions), has written a 50-day Eastertide devotional. These seven weeks of prompts focus on sharing the story of Resurrection, ministry as a community, and living a life of discipleship. Explore it personally or as part of a group. Access the [booklet formatted PDF](#) (Printing instructions: select double-sided, print on long-edge). Access the [simple Word Doc version](#). For questions about formatting or printing contact tmullin@united-church.ca.

NEW: Has winter got you down? May is coming!

It will be warmer. It will be sunnier. It will be PAR month! A time to invite your Community of Faith to greater generosity and regular monthly giving. All the resources you need are at: <https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/get-involved/ways-give/giving-monthly-through-par> #UCCan #DeepBoldDaring #MissionAndService #PAR

NEW: Collective national youth event Info Session

Thursday April 15, 11 am SK time, hosted by coordinators from the event from the UCC and the Presbyterian Church in Canada. If you are considering attending or sending a group, [please join this call](#) and also let Lindsay know of your interest at livingskiesyaya@united-church.ca.

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](#).

Living Skies Youth Retreat - April 24-26 in Prince Albert!

Make friends with other youth from across the United Church's Living Skies Region while exploring faith life through worship, song, and interactive theme times. This event is open to youth Grades 7-12. For registration and more details see <https://livingskiesrc.ca/yayac-spring-retreat-2026/>.

NEW: Camping Sunday Resources:

Sunday April 26 is designated "Camping Sunday" but it's great to lift up our amazing camps any time of the year. Check out our list of resources here: <https://livingskiesrc.ca/programs/yayac/camps/>

NEW: VBS and Summer Day Camps

Is your community of faith considering hosting a day camp for kids and families this summer? Please email Lindsay at livingskiesyaya@united-church.ca to indicate interest, and we will organize a zoom to share resources and ideas!

Into the Future:

NEW: Godly Play Core Training Intensive 2026

Get ready to enter the stories of our faith In person **May 7 – 10, 2026 (6 pm May 7 to 5:30 pm, May 10 PDT)** Through an action/reflection model of learning you will learn more about creating sacred space, building and working in community, nurturing spiritual development, using silence, story and play to make meaning. All learning takes place in a prayerful and playful atmosphere with creative and experienced Godly Play trainers. **Space is limited to 18 people. Cost:** \$350 CDN to register for all sessions. *For more information or to register:*

<https://godlyplaybcevents.weebly.com/onsite-core-intensive-2026.html>

Save the Date

On **May 23-24**, the Regional Council Executive invites you to join them in a weekend of connection, learning, and fun. A day of worship, learning and opportunities for networking, followed by the Celebration of Ministry service banquet on **Saturday, May 23**, and closing with the Celebration of Ministry worship service on **Sunday, May 24**, all hosted by Grace United Church in Weyburn. Details to follow, but for now, mark the time in your calendar!

Learning on Purpose:

The Centre for Christian Studies' transformative two-week leadership development course is coming to the Five Oaks Retreat Centre in Paris, ON, **June 15-26, 2026**. Whether you are discerning a call to ministry, starting a program of diaconal formation, building your skills for lay leadership, connecting your community engagement and your faith, or just trying to figure out what your purpose is, Learning on Purpose is for you. For more information, [visit here](#) .

NEW: Whitehorse (Yukon) Worship Arts Festival & Contemplative Retreat

Join us in the Yukon for a four-day immersive gathering, **July 2-5, 2026**, designed to heal and inspire. A partnership of the Anglican, Lutheran, and United Church traditions, this practice-forward retreat offers a restorative balance of **deep contemplation and vibrant, embodied worship**. Click [here](#) for more information and registration.

Collective 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](#).**