

Regional Rambler

Living Skies Regional Council
The United Church of Canada



May 13, 2026 – 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. And, **deadlines** are highlighted in dark orange;

1. Living Skies Regional Council News:

NEW: Pastoral Relations Ponderings - [Pastoral Relations Pondering Vol 70](#). Updates from the Pastoral Relations desk.

Today Cuba: Between Crisis and Hope – A Speaking event **May 13 at 11 am PT / 2 pm ET**

At this critical moment, you are warmly invited to join The United Church of Canada, Canada Cuba Solidarity Network and Common Frontiers on **May 13** to hear the latest on how the blockade and economic crisis are impacting Cuban daily life and how churches, ecumenical organizations and labour groups are accompanying communities. Time will be included for questions and discussion, with a focus on practical solidarity, building connections and accompaniment. Please RSVP to cneufeldt@united-church.ca. Join on zoom at <https://united-church.zoom.us/j/83778743047>

Last Chance-Rekindling Hope: Reimagining Being and Doing Church in a Changing World - May 23 -

24 Living Skies Region invites you to a meaningful weekend, designed to refresh your spirit and be reminded that you do not do this work alone! Beginning at **10am on Saturday, May 23**, connect with others, worship together, and take part in engaging workshops that equip and encourage. Grounded in the theme **Toward 2035**, we will dream and discern together for the church we are being called to become in the years ahead. Whether you're seeking inspiration, practical tools, or new resources for church leadership, this weekend offers space to grow, listen, and be renewed together. Bring a group from your congregation or come and make some new friends!

Participation in Saturday's event is free, although there will be a free-will offering for lunch. [Here is a poster](#) to help with publicity. Mileage reimbursement is available for travel

Banquet: Saturday evening, beginning at **6:00pm**, will be our **Celebration of Ministry banquet**.

Tickets are \$30 per person and must be purchased in advance [at the registration link](#).

Registration deadline: for both Saturday's event and the banquet **is May 13**.

Worship Service: The weekend will close with the **Celebration of Ministry worship service** at **10:30am on Sunday, May 24**, again at Grace United Church (210 Third St. NE.) in Weyburn.

NEW: Affirming news and events update is out and about

The latest [tri-Region Affirming newsletter is out](#), focused on events and resources by, for, and with 2SLGBTQIA+ people and allies. Pride month is coming up and a lot is happening! If you didn't receive it and want to, get thee hence to the mailing list by contacting staff support Julie Graham, jgraham@united-church.ca

Living Skies Region is Hiring for the Summer!

We are excited to be hiring for three summer positions funded by the Canada Summer Jobs program. Successful candidates must be between the ages of 15-30 and legally eligible to work in Canada. Application deadline is **Friday May 15**. [See here for more information](#) .

Invitation: National Moosehide Campaign against violence, 14 May

Canada is in the midst of an ongoing national crisis of violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2S-LGBTQIA+ people. The Moosehide Campaign is a call to all people in Canada to take a stand against racism and for justice. This year we are hoping for a record United Church turn-out at the virtual events, local walks to end violence, and fasts to end violence. [See all information about the national campaign here](#). National events include a sunrise ceremony, educational plenary, and workshops (all available via livestream). You can register [here](#) for virtual events (including livestream links to all the national campaign day events). Local marches are being organized across the country. Find your local march on the map located [here](#), or register [here](#) to become a community steward and organize your own events.

Updated: Minute for Reconciliation from RNOM

Regina Native Outreach Ministry (RNOM) has prepared material to help bring awareness to the *Moose Hide Campaign* (**May 14** / to be used on **Sun., May 17**). That material can be [found here](#).

NEW: Gather Round Curriculum for Day Camp or VBS

Our friends at First Third Ministry have created a gorgeous camping curriculum for 2026 and have generously offered it for free to any United Church ministries that can use it! It is designed for use in a variety of settings including summer camps, day camps, Vacation Bible School, or any event throughout the year that involves kids and faith formation. Check it out here <https://firstthirdcampingcurriculum.ca/> and let Lindsay know if you're going to use it (and if we can support in any way) at livingskiesyaya@united-church.ca .

Updated: Inventions of Summer – a summer worship gift from your Regional Council.

A simple, creative, theologically rich companion for a Summer Sabbath or Worship Series from **Prayer Bench**, the folks that shared Advent resources with us last fall. *Inventions of Summer* is a four-week, ready-to-use Summer Sabbath booklet and worship series inviting you to enrich your summer through simple reflections on sunflowers, string beans, mosquitoes, and fireflies. Designed for flexible use as a creative summer workshop series. This series is offered as a gift to leaders and communities of faith through a Regional License **purchased by Living Skies Regional Council**. Here is the [Access Link to access the materials](#). When you sign up, you will receive access to the booklet, the worship notes and additional resources.

Regional Council Annual Report (Docket)

In anticipation of the Living Skies Regional Council (LSRC) Online General Meeting in **November**, Bev Diebert in the LSRC Office will happily accept submissions now from our working groups, staff, partners and friends for the regional council's annual report. The *Biographies* section will be the first posted on the [Regional Gathering](#) page of our website, highlighting those being honoured and recognized at the Celebration of Ministry banquet and worship service in May (see above). The [draft agenda for the day](#) and a poster for advertising are also there.

M&P Committee deep dive

If you are newly elected to the M&P Committee in your community of faith or want a reminder of what your responsibilities are in this important role, please join Tracy Murton on **May 28 at 7pm** on Zoom. Bring your questions, openness, and care for the staff you support. Contact Bev Diebert at bdiebert@united-church.ca to register.

2. Wider Church Information:

NEW: This week's E-ssentials – See [this week's national newsletter](#), which offers 'essentials' from The United Church of Canada and highlights national work.

NEW: Take action for Guaranteed Livable Income

Everyone deserves to live with dignity. Across the country, people are struggling to afford basic necessities. That's why the United Church is calling on the federal government to create a Guaranteed Livable Income program. It's a practical, compassionate solution that would help ensure no one is left behind. By providing a consistent income floor, it can reduce poverty, improve health outcomes, and give people the stability they need to thrive.

You can help make this change happen. We've made it easy to contact the Senate Committee who is reviewing Bill S-206 for the creation of a Guaranteed Livable Income. Add your voice today with just a few clicks: <https://united-church.ca/social-action/act-now/create-guaranteed-livable-income-program>.

Together, our voices can help build a more just and compassionate Canada.

Webinar: A BIG bold idea to reduce poverty May 19, 2026 12:00 PM in Saskatchewan

Join us for a conversation about Basic Income Guarantee (BIG). This webinar will provide you with an introduction to basic income and its social return on investment, and examine it as a solution for stronger, healthier communities. You'll hear updates on current advocacy efforts, the national movement, and learn how you can get involved. You will also hear from those with lived experience. Together, we'll explore what meaningful income security could look like in practice and how it could make a difference in Saskatchewan. The webinar runs from 12:00-1:00 pm, with an option to stay for 15 min for further discussion. [Register here](#).

NEW: Canadian Foodgrains Bank appeal for Sudan

The United Church is a founding member of the CFGB and many in our Region are involved in its ministry. Executive Director Andy Harrington writes, "Last month, I travelled to Sudan and South Sudan and met people living through the world's largest humanitarian crisis. I saw firsthand what it means to survive without reliable access to food, shelter, healthcare, or safety. The suffering is overwhelming.

After 3 years of conflict, millions of families are unable to access food or basic necessities needed to survive. The United Nations (UN) is reporting 33.7 million people in Sudan – around three-quarters of Canada's population – need humanitarian assistance right now. The situation is grim. And yet, even in the midst of such devastation, I continued to see signs of hope and humanity.

Communities sharing what little they have. Neighbours looking out for one another. Humanitarian workers doing everything they can to bring relief, often at great risk to their own safety.

From now until **Sunday, May 31**, your donation will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$250,000 to help fund emergency food assistance, thanks to a generous private donor who cares deeply about the people living through this crisis." To give, [please visit the CFGB website](#).

3. Upcoming Opportunities:

Community of Faith Calendar

Please check out our CoF calendar for upcoming local events. 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!!**

NEW: [Social Media and Hate: A Virtual Workshop](#) May 21, 2026 at 6pm MT / 8pm ET with 1 hour + Q&A We've all seen hate show up in our social media feeds. But understanding how these messages spread online - and why they can sometimes be difficult to recognize at first - takes more than good intentions. Join us for a virtual workshop with Hazel Woodrow, Education Program Manager at the [Canadian Anti-Hate Network](#), as she walks us through the strategies hate movements use to spread messaging online, how those strategies affect different communities, and what each of us can do to push back. Link: tinyurl.com/social-media-hate

4. Reminders:

Weekly 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 10a-m Central / 9am 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)