

Regional Rambler

Living Skies Regional Council
The United Church of Canada



May 6, 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.

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:

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

The latest [United in Learning newsletter is now posted here](#), and it has lots of opportunities for online community and learning. Scroll through, as events are not listed chronologically, but are instead arranged by series and networks.

***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 10am 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)

Updated: Minute for Reconciliation from RNOM

Regina Native Outreach Ministry (RNOM) has prepared material to help bring awareness to *Bear Witness Day* (**May 10**) and *Moose Hide Campaign* (**May 14**). All material can be [found here](#).

Reminder: Tuesday Ministry Personnel Gatherings

The online facilitated ministry personnel gathering is set for **May 12**. The calendar on the website has been updated.

This Month:

NEW: PrePARE to PAR-ticipate in PAR month!

It's a-PAR-ent that PAR month works. In **May of 2025**, 392 Communities of Faith that had on average a 6.3% increase in giving for their local ministry. How PAR-fait is that?

Don't miss the op-PAR-tunity to do your PAR-t. Together our generosity is un-PAR-alleled!

[Learn more here](#). #UCCan #DeepBoldDaring #MissionAndService #PAR

Contact Sarah Giles, Stewardship Support at sgiles@united-church.ca or 249-480-0393

Preparing for Pride - Affirming open forum, Tuesday May 12, 7:00 - 8:30 MDT / CST, 8:00 - 9:30PM

Central Daylight Time June is Pride Month and Indigenous Peoples' Month. Join us for a community conversation on Pride festivals, and church plans for being Public, Intentional and Explicit supporters of Pride. Come with your ideas and questions. All people of goodwill, and all Affirming/ Affirming-curious ministries welcome. Thank you to Prairie to Pine's Equity and Diversity Committee for hosting this space for everyone!

<https://united-church.zoom.us/j/84351884794?pwd=Ks94rXZSnDjvwFZAUriDfai1hcRyF1.1>

Meeting ID: 843 5188 4794 Password: 474411 1- 855 703 8985 Canada Toll-free

NEW: 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. Featured speakers will be Rev. Dora Arce Valentín, a Mission and Service partner, General Secretary of the Presbyterian Reformed Church of Cuba and the Alliance of Presbyterian and Reformed Churches of Latin America, visiting from Cuba and a representative (TBD) from CoDevelopment Canada's "Strengthening Solidarity: May Day Celebration in Havana" delegation to Cuba taking place right now.

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>

Updated - Rekindling Hope: Reimagining Being and Doing Church in a Changing World - May 23 - 24

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

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**.

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

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.

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.

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](#) .

NEW: 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](#).

Visit of Filipino partner to Regina, Saskatoon, & North Battleford, May 21 - 22 and May 23 - 24

Danilo Ramos is a leader in the Filipino peasant farmers' movement. He is visiting Canada with several partner groups that have United Church connections, and we are invited to join in planned public events and possibly farm visits. He'll be talking about the struggle of farmers in the Philippines, and strong concerns about a recently announced military alliance between Canada and the Philippines. The planners would love to make some United Church connections. Please email Julie Graham, jgraham@united-church.ca, as the schedule is still being confirmed.

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.

Arbor Day / Week in Saskatchewan – May 29 / May 25 - 31, 2026

All the Arbor Day / Week suggestions shared in the Rambler over the last six months have been collated [into a post](#) on the front/home page Living Skies Regional Council website. *See if there is something* on the list that might use to celebrate trees in our part of the world.

If you have new suggestions to add, please contact Bev Diebert at bdiebert@united-church.ca .

Next Month:

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.

Ladies' "Shagabec" Day

Ladies' "Shagabec" Day will be held in Swift Current, **Tuesday, June 9** at First United Church (223 3rd Ave. NE., Swift Current). At this time the program is not finalized but watch the Sask UCC Women's Network Newsletter posted on the Living Skies website on the 15th of each month for more details.

“Seeking the Extra in Ordinary” July 27 – 31

Join pilgrimage guides Carolyn & Blaine Woodall and GreenSpirit Chaplain Shawn Sanford Beck, in partnership with the Oliver & Gruchy Learning Centre at St. Andrew’s College, for a five-day spiritual exploration of Saskatoon, its beautiful river, and its surrounding lands.

Space is limited to nine pilgrims, who are also eligible to earn a Certificate in Spiritual Exploration through St. Andrew’s College if so desired. **Registration deadline is June 1**, so sign up soon!

[See here for more information](#), or to register, please contact Rev. Carolyn Woodall at carolynsparlingwoodall@gmail.com or 780-385-5124 (text is a great way to connect).

Camp Tapawingo Women’s Camp

Camp Tapawingo is pleased to be hosting the Women’s Camp on **June 12 to 13, 2026**. Please see the [Sask UCC Women’s newsletter](#) for details about the camp. To register, see the [Camp Tapawingo website](#). Moneys from the silent auction will go to the camp.

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](#).

Into the Future:**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.**

Advance notice: 150th anniversary of the signing of Treaty Six, 20 - 23 August, Fort Carlton

This August, we begin a series of commemorations marking 150 years of Treaty Six, which covers a significant part of our Regional Council, and like all treaties, holds all of us in relationship to this day. When plans are ready, they will be posted to the [Treaty Six 150 site](#), and in the meantime, you can RSVP and have a look at your schedule. Here’s some [more background](#).

SAVE THE DATE: UCC Office Admin Conference! October 5 - 9, 2026

The next Office Administrators Conference, open to all United Church of Canada Office Administrators, will take place at St. Martin’s United Church in Saskatoon from **Monday, October 5 to Friday, October 9, 2026**. Thanks to the generous support of several Regional Councils, the cost of attending has been partially subsidized. **Costs** (per person) are: \$325 (no accommodation); \$525 (shared accommodation) and \$750 (private accommodation). **Registration deadline is August 1, 2026**. A [basic agenda](#) and [a letter of invitation](#) contain more details.

For further information, contact Chantal Winslow at cwinslow@united-church.ca or Brandy Emmerich at office@stmartinsuc.com