

Regional Rambler

Living Skies Regional Council
The United Church of Canada



June 17, 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.

Living into Right Relations newsletter - [Reconciliation and Indigenous Justice News](#) from the UCC.

Updated: *Online Bible study - Wednesday at 1 pm (SK time) June 24 will be the **final session** until the fall. Click here to join: <https://bit.ly/41Vh93V> Watch the August issues for the starting date. *New participants always welcome!* Contact jcantwell@united-church.ca for more information.

***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) *The prayer sessions will continue through the summer.*

LAST CALL: Living into Radical Welcome: Rainbow Refugee Sponsorship

June 18th, 2026, 1:00 – 2:30 pm CDT, 12:00-1:30 pm MDT/ CST.

Around the world, many LGBTQIA+ individuals continue to face persecution. Faith communities across Canada have a unique opportunity to respond with compassion, accompaniment, and concrete action through **rainbow refugee sponsorship**. In recognition of the annual World Refugee Day, this interactive webinar invites communities of faith, refugee sponsorship groups, and justice-seeking individuals to explore how sponsorship can become a meaningful expression of radical welcome, solidarity, and faithful discipleship.

Whether your congregation is already sponsoring refugees, offering support programs, or just exploring how to get started, this webinar will provide practical guidance, real-life insights, and opportunities to connect. [Please see all details here.](#)

Save the date!!

'Tis the season to celebrate new beginnings! Please join the following covenanting service celebration: **St. Andrew's United Church (Eston), with Ryan Sawchuk – June 28, 10:30am**
Stay tuned for information regarding online participation!

This Month:

NEW: Forget where's Waldo... Where's your church!? 🗺️

If you have ever wondered if it is worth ensuring your community of faith's information is on Google Maps, this story might inspire you. In 2025, Bill Gillard updated the listing for St. Peter's on Google Maps, as it was incorrectly named. Since then, 5,000 visitors have viewed the updated profile, even though St. Peter's is in a small town. Recently, a colleague of mine was asked to visit a local community of faith to preach. When they got the email, they immediately went to Google to see how long the drive would be. But guess what? They couldn't find the church on Google! It took a couple of phone calls to track down their physical address because not even their ChurchHub account was up to date (they had accidentally entered their mailing address under physical address). If it's hard for a United Church staff person to find you, how much harder is it for new people seeking community! So, if you do one additional task this week, perhaps it should be this: Google your community of faith and make sure what's listed is correct (or that there is a listing at all!) [How to Edit your Google Listing](#) / [Claim your Google Listing](#) Email Jordan Cantwell for more ideas on how to strengthen your invitation - jcantwell@united-church.ca

NEW: We Say “NO” to U.S. Threats of War on Cuba. Why Doesn't the Canadian Government?

The United Church of Canada, Canadian churches, labour organizations, and civil society groups are calling on the Government of Canada to publicly reject escalating U.S. actions against Cuba and to support humanitarian assistance for the Cuban people. The statement comes as partners in Cuba continue to report severe shortages of fuel, food, water, and medical supplies.

We hold in prayer all the Cuban peoples affected by the ongoing crisis and call for peace, justice, and humanitarian support. [Read the full news story](#) and learn more.

Updated: 100 Tables Returns Nationwide

As spring blooms and our centennial year draws to a close, we are excited to once again invite all United Church communities of faith to take part in 100 Tables!

New ideas for projects and favourites from last year are welcome, and we highly encourage both communities who participated in 2025 and those who couldn't make it to join in the fun.

Communities who haven't yet received a \$225 RONA gift card to purchase their picnic table are still eligible to do so. Participants from last year will receive more information in the coming weeks. [Please read more here!](#)

NEW: Living Skies' Affirming Committee is offering \$225 per table from their budget to support your work. They invite you to reflect on this: **How will your table intentionally embody belonging, accessibility, and affirmation for those who have often been excluded or marginalized?**

Interested? Get in touch with Bev Diebert at the Regional office, and she can put you in touch with the committee: bdiebert@united-church.ca or 1-639-396-0200.

We'll have a form and more info up soon.

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](#). Together, our voices can help build a more just and compassionate Canada.

Collective 2026 – a national youth event – August 12 – 15, 2026

[Collective 2026](#) - **Extended registration deadline – June 30, 2026** 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](https://collective-gathering.ca).**

Next Month:

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.

Into the Future:

NEW: YOUTH CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Grades 7-12 are invited to go through the confirmation class together with other youth from around the region, and then return to their home communities of faith to be confirmed. If you have youth in your community of faith that might be interested in this kind of weekend experience, please contact Rev. Lindsay Mohn at lmohn@united-church.ca. Date and location will be determined in consultation with the participants.

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). A [basic agenda](#) and [a letter of invitation](#) contain more details. **Registration deadline is August 1, 2026.**

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

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](#).

Joyful Resistance: Intercultural Worship Arts for Bold Discipleship

November 19 - 21, 2026 at the Providence Renewal Centre, Edmonton AB

Join the Western Intercultural Ministries Network in an immersive, intercultural worship-arts conference. This will be hosted by the five Western Regional Councils, and is open to everyone anywhere in the country. We'll explore **joy as a form of resistance** that sustains bold discipleship and justice-oriented ministry. Join in plenary, rotating stations, theological reflection with hands-on musical and arts. We'll combine theological reflection with hands-on musical and artistic practice. **HOLD THE DATE** - more details to come, including cost and full program. [All details will be posted here.](#)