

SASK. UCCW NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2026

“For where two or three come together in my name, I am there with them.”

Matthew 18: 20

As we gather back together let us be hopeful and let us always remember to be KIND.

Sunday School Roundtable and Curriculum Ideas

As you are planning for the fall, check out the list of [favourite curriculum options](#) to use in ministry with children and youth. Be in touch with Lindsay at livingskiesyaya@united-church.ca

University of Saskatchewan Ecumenical Chaplaincy

If you know students, staff, or faculty that are back to the University of Saskatchewan this fall, make sure to tell them about the Ecumenical Chaplaincy! With community, conversation, and of course good food, it will be worth the trek across the chaos of the College Drive construction. [Read more about the chaplaincy and their amazing work](#) and find specific information about their events on their [Facebook page](#).

National Meeting of United Church Women in Mississauga

This week UCW women from across the country are meeting in Mississauga, Ontario for their annual meeting. Our representatives from Living Skies Region are the co-chairs of Sask. UCCW: Debz Ferber and Susan Dokken and our Sask. UCCW Treasurer who is also the national UCW communications chair, Phyllis Robinson. Next month's newsletter will have reports from them.

ORANGE SHIRT DAY – September 30

National Day of Truth and Reconciliation /Orange Shirt Day

September 30 is the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, and Sunday October 4 is the national day in support of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two Spirit people. [Resources have been prepared and your presence and good words are important.](#) Please do what you can in your context to honour these days, survivors, and all our relations. The **National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation is offering dedicated and free educational programming:** [Lunch and Learn series Sept. 21-25](#), as part of Truth and Reconciliation Week.

Today we wear orange to remember and honour all the Indigenous children who went to residential schools. Today we wear orange and we pray for the residential school and intergenerational survivors who are still struggling. Today we wear orange and we are

thankful for those who speak the truth, and who work to shine a light on injustice. Today we wear orange in the name of compassion and the spirit of truth and reconciliation. Help us, God, to remember and act on this this every day. Amen. —This prayer was inspired by Honarine Scott's Orange Shirt Day blog.

THANK YOUR MINISTER

October is Clergy Appreciation Month! Take time to pray for your minister/ministers and those in church leadership. Send a thank you card, e-mail, letter of appreciation or give them a phone call.

New Chaplain at NSHC

Northern Saskatchewan Hospital Chaplaincy Committee is pleased to announce the appointment of Rev. Dale Worrall as our new chaplain effective July 1, 2026. Dale described himself as one "who is deeply called to pastoral ministry — walking alongside people with compassion, offering care and support, and sharing faith." He has served the wider church in a variety of roles for many years as well. Contact information for the Chaplaincy remains the same and he can be reached at 306 227-8707. He would be glad to assist if you have need of a chaplain. Please remember to text or call him directly if someone you know is ambulated in from outside Saskatoon and would like a visit from our chaplain. Hospitals no longer provide the contact service automatically.

Youth Trek Junior Youth Retreat

Junior Youth (ages 13-15) from across Living Skies Region are invited to a retreat in Camrose Alberta October 23-25! A carpool is being organized and there's financial support available. More information available here (<https://livingskiesrc.ca/youth-trek-2026/>) and make sure you touch base with Lindsay at livingskiesyaya@united-church.ca if you know of someone who would be interested in going!

Scott Woods HO HO Hoedown

Here are the dates of Scott Woods Ho Ho Hoedown at United Churches in Living Skies Region:

November 9 at 7 p.m. At St. Andrew's United Church in Yorkton

November 10 at 7 p.m. At Melfort United Church in Melfort

November 25 at at 7 p.m. At Heritage United Church in Regina

A Prayer As We Wear Orange

Creator,

You made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them.

You made us as people, as communities, and as families.

You intend for us to grow and flourish together.

You command us to do good works, to be generous, and to build a good life for all.

Some of us wear orange today to say that we did not always experience what you want for us,

because we were taken away from our families and communities against our will.

Some of us wear orange today to acknowledge that we are not yet who you intend us to be,

and that we have not lived up to your commandments.

All of us are wearing orange today to say that Every Child Matters,

and that we want to help create a future that values all Indigenous peoples.

Our prayers today are not simple expressions of hope for justice, they are our commitment to create your justice on earth.

We pray

... to acknowledge the harm caused by residential institutions and to honour all who were taken

... for the end of racial discrimination against Indigenous children

... for the end of racist colonial systems that continue to harm all Indigenous peoples

... for the humility to open ourselves to the task before us, and the courage to work together.

You tell us to build up a good foundation for the future,

so that we might “take hold of the life that is really life.”

We wear orange today, and we commit to the life that you intend us to live together.

Amen.

Scriptural references: Psalm 146; 1 Timothy 6:6–19

By Sara Stratton, Reconciliation and Indigenous Justice Animator

A Closer Look at Thanksgiving

Joyce Rupp writes in the book “The Circle of Life” that Thanksgiving is a time to look beneath our external lives for the unwavering love, the ceaseless peace, and the enduring strength that lie in the deep waters of our soul. The more we trust the 'unknowable depths” of our existence, the more the power of gratitude becomes a song we daily sing. With what do you struggle today? What might lie beneath that struggle for which you can give thanks?

If you look at a sunset, you might see only the disappearance of daylight.
If you look beneath, you may see darkness opening the splendor of stars.
If you look at illness and disease, you might see only physical dimishment.
If you look beneath, you may see it as a teacher bringing you vital wisdom.
If you look at a broken relationship, you might see only a harsh ending.
If you look beneath, you may see the courageous seeds of new growth.
If you look at lost dreams, you might see only disappointment and doubt.
If you look beneath, you may see the stuff that new dreams contain.
If you look at the death of a loved one, you might see only pervasive sorrow.
If you look beneath, you may see that love lives on forever in the heart.
If you look at the planet's pain and creatures' woe, you might see only despair.
If you look beneath, you may see hope woven in the compassionate care of many.
If you look at yourself, you might see only tarnished unfinishedness.
If you look beneath, you may see your basic goodness shining there.
If you look for the divine being you might see mostly unresolved questions.
If you look beneath, you may be astounded at the availability of divine love.

Happy Thanksgiving,
Mary