

General Meeting of the Northern Spirit Regional Council May 4 & 6, 2021

**Stewardship Animator for Pacific Mountain, Chinook Winds, Northern Spirit, Living Skies and Prairie to Pine Regions
Philanthropy Unit, General Council Office**



Greetings,

Generosity is a practical expression of love. Gary Inrig.

My name is Vicki Nelson and I am the new Stewardship Animator serving Northern Spirit Regional Council. I live in Regina Saskatchewan, and am looking forward to the opportunity to get to know the people and communities in Northern Spirit.

My role is to provide resources and support to individuals, communities of faith, and other ministries in the areas of stewardship, congregational giving, Mission & Service, and the work of the United Church Foundation. If you have ideas, questions or inspiration to share, please get in contact [with me](#).

One way we may connect is through an online learning program, **Called to be the Church: The Journey**. These trainings are designed for congregational leaders, working as a team, to learn and develop a stewardship plan to help increase giving and deepen connections within your community of faith. Cohorts are currently being assembled for [Module 1: Stewardship Best Practices](#). After 4 weekly gatherings, participants will have developed a custom stewardship plan for their community of faith. Following that we will work together to realize this plan, inviting more people to make generous use of the gifts God has given and expressing gratitude for shared abundance. If this type of training would be valuable in your faith community, please [reach out](#) and we will find a time that works for you.

Speaking of gratitude for shared abundance, the Mission & Service Fund is our Church's most powerful vehicle for helping to save and transform lives, inspire meaning and purpose, and build a better world. Together we can do more than we can do alone. In 2020, Mission & Service funding supported life changing and life saving work in Northern Spirit Region. From *The Bissell Centre* to *The Inner City Pastoral Ministry*, the vulnerable are being cared for and their worth celebrated. Your Mission & Service also supported ministries focused on children and youth—*Camp Whitney* and *Camp Maskepetoon* had programs generously funded. Your donations to Mission & Service are changing the lives of your neighbours—both here in Northern Spirit, and around the globe. Thank you for your gifts.

Sharing stories about Mission & Service is an effective way to hold up and celebrate this amazing work, and to encourage generosity in your community of faith. The pandemic has changed many things, including the way Minutes for Mission are distributed and told, however they certainly have not gone away. New stories are frequently [posted](#). For those who utilize videos in worship, there are also [videos](#) that tell personal stories of the life changing work of Mission & Service. If you want to bring more Mission & Service inspiration into your community of faith, and would like help finding resources, please let me know.

Finally, I want to thank you all. It has been a hard year, with lots of uncertainty, but you have persisted. You have found meaningful ways to be a person of faith during a dark time, and are still generously giving of yourself to provide leadership to this Regional Council. It is amazing. Thank you.

In gratitude,