



NORTHERN SPIRIT REGIONAL COUNCIL

The United Church of Canada

Regional Council News

August 23, 2022

Articles and Information of interest to the people of the Northern Spirit Region.

If you have news to share, please write a short article, and send it to Kathy Jackson, Office Administrator: kjackson@united-church.ca. We are unable to include posters or other attachments, but links to further information may be included. Our Community of Faith Events Calendar is open 24/7 for posting events that are open to the public. Events can be posted directly to the Newsfeed: <https://northernspiritrc.ca/add-your-community-event/>. Upcoming deadlines: Friday, August 26, for the next Events issue; and Friday, September 2, for the next News issue.

Family News

Ernest Kline

We received news of the death of Ernie Kline on July 13, 2022. Ernie was the husband of our Regional Council Treasurer, Donna Kline. A Celebration of Ernie's life was held on August 13, at Trinity United Church, Edmonton. We offer our sincere condolences and prayers to Donna and their family.

Catherine Anne Pype

We also received news of the death of Anne Pype on July 31, 2022. Anne was the wife of the Rev. David Pype, retired Ministry Personnel, currently residing in Barrhead. A funeral service is planned for August 25, 2022. We offer our sincere condolences and prayers to David and their family.

News from the Pews ... and other Ministries

Faith United Church, Edgerton AB: Community Support

As part of Edgerton's Sports Days, on July 9, Faith United Church sponsored a pancake breakfast. Donations for the local Food Bank were collected instead of charging for the breakfast, and around \$850.00 was raised. The breakfast was well supported by the community, and the community was well supported by Faith United Church. Well done!

Kirk Centre, Edmonton AB: Volunteer Program Official Launch

Kirk Centre has officially launched its volunteer program! Proud to have once been Kirk United Church, Kirk Centre now serves the community as a grass-roots, non-profit organization that provides an open, safe, diverse, inclusive, and accessible facility for community groups, worship groups, and small businesses in NW Edmonton. They are seeking volunteers to join the team and help bring their mission to life. A variety of positions are available for people of all ages, interests, and skill levels. Build community and make new friends by becoming a volunteer today! Please visit the web site: www.kirkcentre.ca/volunteer; Phone: 780-438-6619; or Email: kirkcentrevolunteers@gmail.com.

Robertson-Wesley United Church, Edmonton AB: R-W Ringers Seeking Handbell Musician

The R-W Ringers are looking for an experienced handbell musician to fill an opening in their 5-octave handbell choir, beginning in September! If you are interested please contact Dr. Allan Bevan, music@rwuc.org, for more information.

Robertson-Wesley United Church, Edmonton AB: Spirited Art Studio Director Position

The Spirited Arts Movement of Robertson-Wesley United Church, Edmonton, is committed to bringing people together, and creating space for all ages to be inspired and to have their artistic selves unleashed. We believe that the world can be healed and transformed and that justice can be served through self-expression, through visual arts, drama, writing, movement, voicing, music, and digital arts. This is a movement and one that is ever changing and evolving AND definitely one you want to be a part of. We are seeking a Spirited Art Studio Director for a 10-month contract, beginning September 1. [Click here for information about the job and the application process.](#)

Waterton United Church, Waterton National Park

From *God's Mission Our Gifts*, the newsletter of United Church Philanthropy Unit, comes this Mission and Service story about Waterton United Church, located in the townsite of Waterton National Park in southern Alberta. This beautiful church, located in a beautiful mountain setting offers a unique ministry to visitors to the national park, and an opportunity for Ministry Personnel to lead worship services and retreats, while enjoying a slice of Canada's natural wonders. Please [click here to read the full story](#), and other stories in the newsletter.

Featured News ...

New Moderator for The United Church of Canada

We offer a warm welcome and congratulations to the Right Reverend Dr. Carmen Lansdowne, Kwisa'lakw, who was elected as our 44th United Church Moderator. She was installed on August 7, and will be the church's spiritual leader for the next three years. Click [here for an introduction to Dr. Lansdowne](#) and [here for news about the service of installation on August 7](#). You can [watch the full installation service here](#). On Sunday, August 21, the Moderator was interviewed by Shauna Powers, on CBC Saskatchewan Weekend. You can [listen to the interview here](#).

Providing Safe Environments for Work, Worship and Study

The United Church has revised its *Workplace Discrimination, Harassment, and Violence Response Policy*, and it is now available for download from the United Church web site. This policy applies to all Communities of Faith, and to the Regional Council and General Council offices. The intent of the policy is to provide safe environments that are free from discrimination, harassment and violence. Please [click here for more information](#) and to view/download the policy.

Return to In-Person Annual Meetings

During the pandemic, the General Council issued a temporary amendment of the Bylaws re Pastoral Relations and Congregational Annual Meetings. This temporary amendment expired as of July 1, 2022. As of that date, Communities of Faith are required to revert to the decision-making polity and procedures prescribed in [The Manual, 2022](#), relating to pastoral Relations and annual meetings. With the peak of the Omicron variant behind us, many of the COVID-19 related public health restrictions and workplace safety measures have been lifted across Canada. Communities of Faith are once again in a

position to hold in-person meetings with their entire membership, while remaining mindful of the rules with respect to gatherings set by their local public health authorities. Please click this link for more specific [information about relevant United Church Bylaws](#).

United Church Representation at the World Council of Churches

The United Church of Canada will be well-represented at the upcoming World Council of Churches (WCC) Assembly in Frankfurt, Germany. The United Church delegation will include two members of the Northern Spirit Regional Council: the Rev. Dr. Catherine MacLean, Ministry Personnel at St. Paul's United Church, Edmonton; and Gail Allen, Lay Representative from Garneau United Church, Edmonton. Click [here for more information about the Assembly](#), and links to information about the WCC.

Mission Support Grants: Applications Being Received until September 30

The Regional Council Executive and the Grants Committee are gearing up to consider applications for Grants to support the Mission and Ministry of Communities of Faith in 2023. The process for applying for Mission Support Grants is relatively straightforward. Grant information and the Application Form can be downloaded [here, from the Regional Council web site](#) (found under the "Regional Council" bar). Completed applications and required supporting documentation can be mailed (13535 122 Street NW, Edmonton AB T5L 2V7) or emailed (northernspirit@united-church.ca) to the Regional Council Office. The Grants Committee will review applications and make recommendations to the Regional Council Executive for decisions re 2023 Mission and Ministry Grants. The deadline for submission of Mission Support Grant applications is **September 30, 2022**.

In Other News ...

Didn't Our Hearts Burn within Us? Biblical Storytelling Retreat

Come away to the Rocky Mountains and spend time learning to tell Scripture this fall! The Network of Biblical Storytellers Canada is hosting a retreat at King's Fold Retreat and Renewal Centre, near Cochrane, Alberta, for those who want to learn about by-heart scripture telling. Linnea Good and Ken Quiring, accredited and master tellers, respectively, will facilitate. The retreat is ecumenical in nature and will focus on by-heart learning the Emmaus Road story. It is open to beginners, and seasoned tellers. There will be a contemplative as well as a teaching element to the retreat being held **October 14-16, 2022**. Linnea and her husband, David, will provide musical moments as only they can. For more information, visit the web site: [King's Fold Telling Retreat | NBSCanada](#). The Early Bird deadline, with a discount, is **July 5, 2022**.

Fill Your Cup: Nourish and Restore Yourself: Church Office Administrators Retreat

All church office administrators are welcome to attend this retreat at Queens House Retreat and Renewal Centre, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. The retreat will run from **October 4-7, 2022**. Further information and details will be coming soon to this newsletter. For questions or further information, contact Brandy Emmerich, by E-mail, office@smartinsuc.com, or by phone, 306-343-7101. The deadline for registration is **August 31, 2022**.

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