



NORTHERN SPIRIT REGIONAL COUNCIL

The United Church of Canada

Learning and Gathering

August 30, 2022

Announcements 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://northernspiritr.ca/add-your-community-event/>. Upcoming Newsletter deadlines: Friday, September 2, for the next News issue; and Friday, September 9, for the next Events issue.

Family News

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**.

Save the Date: Fourth Annual Northern Spirit Regional Council Meeting

The Regional Council will gather via Zoom on **October 14 and 15, 2022**. As plans unfold and further details emerge, information will be shared in this newsletter, and on the Annual Meeting page of the Regional Council web site: <https://northernspiritr.ca/news/regional-council-meeting/>. Stay tuned ... **Attention Communities of Faith**: please submit the names and contact information for your current Lay Representatives to the Regional Council Office as soon as possible.

Seeds of Hope Grants: Application Deadline

October 15, 2022, 11:55 PM (EDT)

The Fall 2022 Seeds of Hope granting cycle is now open! Completed applications must be received by the above deadline to be considered by the Joint Grants Committee. Please e-mail grants@united-church.ca for more information, and sign up for The United Church of Canada Foundation newsletter by e-mailing fdn@united-church.ca to stay up to date with the latest granting and Foundation news.

News from the Pews ... and other Ministries

Morinville United Church: Seeking a Sermon Writer

The Morinville United Church congregation is currently in the process of getting ready to search for new Ministry Personnel. In the meantime, they are looking to hire someone who would provide sermon/message-writing support. Lay leaders are able to put together the service format, hymns, prayers, etc., and to deliver the sermon/message. This position would entail writing only, not worship leadership or preaching. They would consider active or retired Ministry Personnel, a student, or a lay person. For more information, or to express an interest, please email Debi: debiat84@gmail.com.

St. Andrew's United Church, Spruce Grove: 100+ Years - our Continuing Journey

Saturday, September 24, 2022; 4 pm (MDT) Refreshments & Social, **6 pm** Dinner, **8 pm** Program & Entertainment

You are invited to join in as St. Andrew's celebrates its Centennial Milestone, and looks towards its future! Tickets are \$45 per person (\$13 for 12 and under), available until **September 6**. call 780-962-0488 to reserve tickets. If you are able, please join in a special worship service on **Sunday, September 25**, 10:00 a.m., followed by fellowship and cake! (Limited billeting is available.) St. Andrew's United Church is located at 1A Fieldstone Drive, Spruce Grove, Alberta.

Events and Learning Opportunities ...

St. Andrew's College 3rd Annual #NoGalaGala

September 9, 2022 (digital release); [promo video](#), and [more information and tickets \(\\$30 each\)](#)

Coming this fall! St. Andrew's College will host its 3rd Annual NoGalaGala, featuring Brenda Baker on Faith, Folk, and Feminism. This will be an amazing event, filled with musical performances and thought-provoking conversations ... not to be missed! As a registrant for this fundraiser, you will be able to access this content exclusively on YouTube for six months following the digital release. You can watch on your own, or organize an evening with family, friends and/or congregants. Your support for the college is appreciated, as is your ongoing trust to help St. Andrew's prepare disciples called to go out into the world boldly and humbly.

Capital Region Interfaith Housing Plenary

Thursday, September 15, 9:30 am to 12 noon, St. Matthias Anglican Parish, Edmonton; [Information and Registration here](#).

Every year, the Capital Region Interfaith Housing community gets together to discuss the work they've been doing together as people of many faiths. Housing and homelessness challenges are on the rise for so many of our neighbours. Come join in to reflect on the work that has been done in the last while, and consider where to focus energies in the next while. All interested people are welcome to attend.

International Day of Peace Labyrinth Walk

Wednesday, September 21, 10:30 am to 2:30 pm (Drop-in hours).

Mark *United Nations International Day of Peace* by walking the outdoor labyrinth at Providence Renewal Centre (3005 119 Street NW, Edmonton, Alberta) and pray for peace in our world, one step at a time. A pamphlet on how to walk a labyrinth will be available at the arbor. This is a free event open to everyone. No registration is required. For information about the centre and its programming, please visit the [Providence Renewal Centre web site](#).

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

September 30, 2022

[Orange Shirt Day](#)/the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is an important public space for truth telling and for commitments to challenging ongoing colonization. As a church who ran residential schools, we're urged to be part of this journey. People all across Canada will wear orange shirts on September 30 to remember and honour Indigenous children who were taken from their communities and families to residential institutions. While focused on children, all ages can participate. And your Community of Faith is an important part of that! Have a look at Indigenous Ministries and Justice's [new resource summary](#) and [prayer](#), and watch this newsletter and our Regional web site for more details. In the meantime, please plan on participating and supporting this day however you can, and begin the conversation in your community of faith. In honour of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, **the Regional Council Office will be closed on September 30.**

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

October 14- 16, 2022; King's Fold Retreat and Renewal Centre, Cochrane AB; Information and registration: [King's Fold Telling Retreat | NBSCanada](#).

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 to learn about by-heart scripture telling. Linnea Good and Ken Quiring, accredited and master tellers, respectively, will facilitate. The retreat is open to beginners and seasoned tellers, ecumenical in nature, and will focus on the Emmaus Road story. There will be a contemplative as well as a teaching element to the retreat. Linnea and her husband, David, will provide musical moments as only they can.

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