



**NORTHERN SPIRIT REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
The United Church of Canada  
**Learning and Gathering**

December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022

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Here are your weekly 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 [northernspirit@united-church.ca](mailto:northernspirit@united-church.ca). 100 word limit and please include a clear headline and link to more info.

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**News from the Pews ... and other Ministries**

**Weekly ministry personnel gatherings continue, Tuesdays through Advent**

All Ministry Personnel are invited to join colleagues every Tuesday at 1pm over Zoom for conversation, support and information sharing. Vocational Minister, Laura Fohse, will be hosting the gatherings while Earl is away. NOTE: we will not meet on December 27th. Join the Zoom meeting at: <https://united-church.zoom.us/j/87847286336?pwd=Si9rbzJYWjlJS0IKSnhPeDN1T05vdz09>

**Lunch Invitation to Northern Spirit Ministry Personnel, December 7**

Join your colleagues Catherine, Britt and Blaine for an informal holiday gathering on Wednesday, December 7th at 1pm at the Muttart Conservatory in Edmonton. Lunch will be served. Must RSVP as space is booked: [catherine@stpaulsunited.org](mailto:catherine@stpaulsunited.org).

**Calling all Admins....You're Invited to a Christmas Potluck!**

The Northern Spirit Council Administrator's Association is hosting a Christmas Potluck on Tuesday December 13th from 12-2pm for all administrators in the region. We will visit, eat and maybe even bust out a carol or two! Sylvia, at Pilgrim United Church in Edmonton (9008 135 Ave) has graciously offered to host us. Please let us know if you can make it by email at [nsrcaa@gmail.com](mailto:nsrcaa@gmail.com).

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**Events and Learning Opportunities, wider church**

### **Worship resources for upcoming Sundays and special themes:**

[All resources](#)

[National Day of Action and Remembrance on Violence Against Women](#), 6 Dec

[UN Human Rights Day, 10 December](#)

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, January 18-25 2023. Theme: "Do good; seek justice" (Isaiah 1:17). [Click here for resources](#).

**Advent Unwrapped continues.** This national online program brings together people and resources from across Canada and around the world for our Advent journey. Sign up for the [Advent Unwrapped Newsletter here](#).

### **What Are We Waiting For? Ecumenical Advent series with Canadian church**

**leaders.** Thursdays throughout Advent at 6:00PM Central, 5:00PM Mountain, via Zoom.

Attendees to the gathering will be able to ask questions during the online conversation. [Click here for details and registration](#).

**Living in Transformative Change, Sunday, January 15, 2023, 1:00-3:00PM Central.** Join us for a conversation about making institutional change in times of rapid cultural change with **Michael Blair** General Secretary, The United Church of Canada and **Mary Rowe** President and CEO, Canadian Urban Institute and Animator, **Rob Dalglish**. [Click here to register](#).

**Get Support to Create your Stewardship Campaign! January 2023 sessions.** If your congregation hasn't undertaken a stewardship campaign in a while, consider registering for a 2-week learning module on creating a congregational giving program with Called to be the Church: The Journey. There are 2 opportunities to participate in the program coming up in January 2023, dates TBA. [Learn more here](#).

**Stewardship Best Practices workshops, Friday January 13, 27 & February 10;** 12:30 pm Mountain. [Click here for details](#) about this opportunity for your community of faith!

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## **Local events: communities of faith and more**

**Reminder:** Our local events calendar for United Church ministries is coming back to life! [Click here to view it](#). And [click here to submit your event](#). Have a street address and a nice photo ready.

**Talking Hands Spirited Arts Writing Workshop, Wednesday December 7,** 7:00 to 9:00 pm, Club Room at Robertson-Wesley 10209 123 St, Edmonton. This workshop will use simple

hand gestures as our starting point to explore past and present together and to create written conversations, stories, poems, or other language pieces.

**Advent Quiet Day: December 10 from 9:30am – 3:30pm, Vegreville United Church.**

Call 780-632-2338 or email [veguuc@telusplanet.net](mailto:veguuc@telusplanet.net). More information at [their website](#): or on [Facebook at Vegreville United Church](#).

**A Service of Lessons & Carols, December 11 at 4:00 pm, Robertson-Wesley United,**

**10209 123 St, Edmonton.** This gentle candlelight service is a classic tradition, with a series of scripture readings that take us through the story of God's promise. In person and online at [www.youtube.com/user/RWUnitedChurch/live](http://www.youtube.com/user/RWUnitedChurch/live)

**Blue Christmas, December 18 at 7:00 pm at Robertson-Wesley United Church,**

10209 123 St, Edmonton. Christmas is a holy time that can bring up so many memories that heighten our feelings of grief or sadness, pain or loneliness. This is a service of quiet reflection, remembrance and peace. We hope that this service will bring a sense of peace in this sacred season with quiet music, scripture, silence and candle light. Everyone is welcome. In person and online at [www.youtube.com/user/RWUnitedChurch/live](http://www.youtube.com/user/RWUnitedChurch/live)

**An Interfaith Service of Lament & Light: Covid Sorrows, Covid Blessings, Sunday, December 18, 2022 - 4:00 pm**

at McDougall United Church, 10025 – 101 Street, Edmonton. In partnership with the Interfaith Centre for Education & Action, and the Muslim Association of Canada. This will be an Interfaith Service of Remembrance, Compassion and Community as we seek healing from Covid and all that it has taken from us, and who it has taken from us. This will be an in-person service, also via Zoom (visit [www.mcdougallunited.com](http://www.mcdougallunited.com)), a reception will follow, parking is free, and masking is strongly recommended as we respect the care and well-being of all. For information, please follow the link or contact [pastuckma@gmail.com](mailto:pastuckma@gmail.com) or call 780-428-1818.