



Events Newsletter: May 10, 2023



Upcoming events of interest to the people of the Northern Spirit Region.

If you have news or events to share, please write a short description, with a clear headline and a link to more information, and send it to northernspirit@united-church.ca.



★ Add your local events to our Northern Spirit events calendar! ★
[Click here to view upcoming events.](#) And [click here to submit your event.](#)

News From the Pews & Other Ministries

★ **New Pastoral Relations Minister for Northern Spirit, August 1**



As Pastoral Relations Minister Rev Earl Reaburn prepares to retire June 30, we're making plans for a celebration for Earl- and a welcome to our **new Pastoral Relations Minister, Rev Adam Hall!** Adam was born and raised in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and is a life long member of The United Church of Canada. He received a Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of Saskatchewan and a Masters of Divinity from St. Andrew's College. Upon ordination in 2010 he was settled to the communities of Holden and Tofield, Alberta, and has served at Tofield United Church (formerly Beaver Pastoral charge) for the last 13 years.

Adam enjoys spending time with his wife Stephanie and their three sons. He makes time for camping and fishing and being in the outdoors. He loves watching NFL football - go Denver Broncos go!!! - and is an avid collector of sports cards and anything related to the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. He will take on this new role August 1, 2023. **Welcome, Adam!**

★ **Chinook Winds' The Politics of Jesus: An Election Series**

With a provincial election on the horizon, the Chinook Winds Regional Council's Executive has seriously pondered the implications of how our Christian faith calls us to respond to the social and economic issues of our times. As the Alberta election approaches, [click here](#) to read the introduction to this thoughtful series, as well as the meditations posted so far, [on dissent and risk](#), [on homelessness](#), and [on healthcare](#).

★ **CAVEAT: An ad for a Yamaha Grand Piano for adoption was posted in last week's Weekly News.** The Regional Office was under the impression that it was a donation like other requests we received. However, several people noted that the request is a possible scam. We strongly advise you not to make any arrangements, pay or provide your personal or financial information. We apologize for any ensuing problems this may have caused our readers.

Events & Learning Opportunities

★ Throughout May, **Asian Heritage Month** continues. [Click here](#) for many excellent worship and personal devotions resources. **May 14** is Rural Life Sunday ([click here for resources](#)) and Christian Family Sunday ([click here for resources](#)).

Join the Moose Hide Campaign on May 11

The [Moose Hide Campaign](#) is an Indigenous-led grassroots movement of men, boys, and all Canadians who are standing up against violence towards women, girls, and Two Spirit people. By wearing a moose hide pin and participating in Moose Hide Campaign

Day on **May 11**, Canadians are making meaningful progress towards reconciliation and the creation of a country where violence against women and children is no longer allowed to flourish in the shadows. [Take a tangible action to end gender based violence in Canada.](#)

★ **Ministry Personnel Lunch: Wed., May 24, 1 p.m.**

All clergy within the Northern Spirit Regional Council of the United Church of Canada are invited to bring their hunger for food and company to the picnic site at the Broadmoor Lake Park in Sherwood Park. Lunch is provided and is being paid for by the region. To help organize how much food will be needed, please contact Catherine MacLean (catherinefaithmaclean@gmail.com), Blaine Gregg (revtbg@hotmail.com), or Britt Aerhart (revvedtoo@gmail.com) to say if you plan to attend.

★ **How Is It Going? Sat. May 27, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Edmonton**

An invitation to Edmonton and area United Churches (clergy and lay) to gather and share around the health and viability of their Community of Faith, at McDougall United Church, 10086 Macdonald Drive (south entrance), Edmonton AB, from 10 am – 2 pm. Please bring your own lunch. Coffee, tea and snacks will be provided. Free parking. What consumes your energy now? What is happening with leadership, both clergy and lay? Are there ways we can share resources? What's next? **RSVP** to finance@mcdougallunited.com / 780-428-1818 by **May 19th**.

★ **Decolonizing Ourselves: Legislating Broken Promises, Past and Present: Tuesday, May 30 at 7:00PM Mountain Daylight.** *Hosted by KAIROS Prairies North Decolonization Group and the SK Treaty Land Sharing Network.*

Join us online to learn about the Natural Resources Transfer Acts of 1930 and reflect on how these continue to have a major impact today. We'll use the lenses of inherent Indigenous rights, Treaties, the Alberta Sovereignty Act and Saskatchewan First Act to better understand how these Acts are still shaping our relationships and laws. With: Mary Culbertson, Treaty Commissioner of SK; Roger Epp, Professor, University of Alberta. [Click here for full details and free registration.](#)

★ **Refugee Sponsorship national webinar, Wednesday May 31, 11:00AM-1:00PM MDT.**

First in a series. Join The United Church of Canada's Refugee Sponsorship staff to address the challenges of Refugee Sponsorship in the current political climate, and share strategies that are working. Bring your questions and find support in the wider community that takes on the often daunting but always life- giving commitment to support people seeking refuge. [Click here to register](#)- you will need to create a free ChurchX account. This one-time sign up gives you access to many different webinars through United in Learning and many others.

Into the Future...

reVITALize Conference: June 7 - 9, 2023, Halifax

reVITALize is a gathering for ministry leaders and lay people to REFRESH, LEARN, and BE SUPPORTED. Speakers talk about what is revitalizing them at the moment, and time is given for people to gather with friends and colleagues and meet new folks. All denominations and traditions welcome! [Learn more & register by clicking here.](#)

The 8th Canadian Forum on Inter-Church Dialogues, June 8-10, 2023, Edmonton

The Commission on Faith and Witness of [The Canadian Council of Churches](#) has periodically organized the CFICD for those engaged and interested in ecumenical dialogues in Canada. This year's theme, *ᐱᕐᕈᕐᕐ / Péhonân – A Gathering-Waiting Place: Voices of Indigenous Followers of Jesus in the Ecumenical Movement* calls us into a deeper understanding and appreciation of the wisdom, gifts, and experiences that Indigenous followers of Jesus can offer the ecumenical movement. We invite you to [learn more](#) about or [register](#) for this important gathering.

★ Decolonizing our churches, reweaving our lives conference, June 20 - 22, 2023, Saskatoon

The College of Emmanuel & St. Chad, Lutheran Theological Seminary, St. Andrew's College, and St. Thomas More College are excited to host this conference exploring the theme of decolonization with a particular focus on the role and responsibility of our various churches in working toward truth, reconciliation, right relationship, justice, and healing. [Click here for registration.](#) And [click here for all conference details.](#) If you have further questions, please connect with our event coordinator at colleen.walker@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca

Registration now open for Community & Connection 2SLGBTQIA+ Advocacy Conference, June 22-24, Edmonton

The [Community & Connection Conference](#) will be taking place **June 22 - 24**, at Robertson-Wesley United Church in Edmonton. This Conference will bring together individuals and agencies in the 2SLGBTQIA+ community to share their experiences, challenges and hopes. [Join us for 3 days of Community, Connection, and Hope.](#)

Alberta Engage Difference! Deepening Understanding for Intercultural Ministry: July 10-14, 2023: St. Stephen's College University of Alberta, Edmonton AB

Engage Difference! Deepening Understanding for Intercultural Ministry (DUIM) is a 5-day interactive and engaging program with practical ideas for implementation in your own context. DUIM is for ministry leaders and community members nurturing cultural relevance, understanding, and awareness in their communities. 5 Days focused on faith, heart, mind, and skills for the art of intercultural ministry. *****Register by June 12***** [More information and registration here.](#)

The School of Earth & Soul – Celtic Wisdom 3: July 25–27, In-person, Alumni Hall, Victoria College

Please join us for a three-day retreat on Celtic Wisdom with **John Philip Newell** and **Cami Twilling**. In 2016, John Philip Newell began a teaching initiative that is called The School of Earth & Soul. Its purpose is to reawaken awareness of the sacred in all things through the recovery of Celtic wisdom for today and to help translate this awareness into compassionate action. In July, Emmanuel College's Centre for Religion and Its Contexts is hosting the **Celtic Wisdom 3: Sacred Imagination** retreat, where participants will be invited to reawaken to the sacredness of the human imagination and compassionate action. [Please visit the Centre's website for bios, fees, registration and schedule.](#)

★ **Save the Date:** the [2023 Lester Randall Preaching Fellowship](#) will take place at Yorkminster Park Church in Toronto from October 22-24.

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- [Click here to view our regional events calendar.](#)
 - [Click here to view the United Church's main online events service, United in Learning.](#)
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