



NORTHERN SPIRIT
REGIONAL COUNCIL
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA



News from the Region: August 23, 2023



News 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.](#)

Family News

♥ *We hold our neighbours in the Northwest Territories & in British Columbia in our prayers and hearts*, as many communities are currently being evacuated and some have been destroyed in their current state of emergency. [Click here to read letters of support from our Chair & Moderator.](#)

★ **An opportunity to take another step on the path of reconciliation:** A request has come from Charlene Burns, General Council Community Capacity Development Co-ordinator for the West, related to the Central Alberta Spiritual Circle/Center and Interconnect Foundation (the new Indigenous community of faith being established in the former Beverly United Church in Edmonton). Charlene wrote: "*I am asking for contributions from friends far and wide to purchase 100 orange shirts to use as a fundraiser for Interconnect and the Central Alberta Spiritual Circle. They will have the logo for the Center on them and be sold for \$30 each. The cost will roughly be \$2700-2800 for 100 T-shirts with all the set up and GST. We would like to order the t-shirts to have on hand by the next Central Alberta Spiritual teaching Circle on Sept. 16th and for the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on Sept. 30th. *Financial contributions can be made by cash or cheque to Interconnect, Red Deer Office, 4825-47 street #300, Red Deer T4N 1R3 or to Interconnect at 11910-40 street NW Edmonton T5W 2K9 with a note re Orange shirts.* This is also an official invitation to Interconnect 'Orange Shirt Day', **Sept. 30th** at 5439-47 Street Red Deer. Further details to come.*"

Featured News

★ **An invitation to active Ministry Personnel from The Right Reverend Dr. Carmen Landsdowne....**

If you've been following me on social media or read E-ssentials digital newsletter, you'll know that part of my Flourishing project was a **pilot leadership school: (Re)Generate: Invigorating Leadership**. I'm happy to say that the nomination/application form is now available on the UCC website. The program is for ministry personnel, is 3 weeks per year in 2024 & 2025, with a cost of up to \$1,500/year, for a total of \$3,000 over two years (all-inclusive, covering travel, accommodation, and meals for in-person gatherings). To enhance the diversity of participants (including part-time ministers), and to fulfill our commitments to equity, some participants could contribute less, or apply for funds towards child care, or other expenses that would help facilitate their participation. **Deadline for all applications is September 30th.** [Click here for more information and to access the application form.](#) If you would like to nominate someone, please do so **before September 6th** by clicking the link above, or share the link with a nominee so they can fill out the application directly.

★ **Save the Date! An Invitation from the Chinook Winds Administrators' Association: October 15 & 16, 2023, Sylvan Lake, AB**

The Chinook Winds Region Administrators Association is inviting Northern Spirit church administrators to join them for an overnight retreat, **October 15 - 16**, at Camp Kasota West, Sylvan Lake. The retreat will include team building, round table discussions, a boundaries workshop, and more. More details & registration info will be shared soon!

In-person Boundaries Training and Ministry Retreat, September 26-27, St. Albert, AB

The Ministry Support Committee of Northern Spirit Region invites all active clergy to join them for one or both of the following events: **In-person Boundaries Refresher: Social Media**, on September 26th, at St. Albert United Church, facilitated by Vocational Minister, Laura Fohse, AND **Stronger Together: a gathering for active ministers in Northern Spirit Region**, from September 26-27, at the Star of the North Retreat Centre, facilitated by Pastoral Relations Minister, Adam Hall and Vocational Minister, Laura Fohse. This is a time to meet new colleagues and renew connections. [To register for either event & for more details, click here!](#) **Registration Deadline for this event is September 7*.**

2024 Mission Support and Regional Council Grant application

The 2024 Mission Support and Regional Council Grant application is now open. Please click [here](#) for more information or visit our [regional website](#). Deadline for applications is **August 31, 2023.**

Wider Church News & Resources

★ COP28: UN Climate Change Young Adult Delegation

The United Church of Canada is sending a small delegation of [young adults to COP28](#), the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Delegates will participate, learn, and advocate at COP and share to the wider church and beyond to bring attention to and grow support for climate justice. Please circulate this opportunity to interested young adults (ages 19-35). **Deadline: September 13, 2023.**

★ New Mission and Service Offering Envelopes

Mission and Service offering envelopes have been redesigned to reflect the hope and aid that your Mission and Service gifts provide. They can be used in any special service or event in your community of faith's life where you want to make a positive impact in the world. The envelopes come in packages of 25 and are free. And shipping is free for Mission and Service resources as well! [Get yours now from the United Church Bookstore.](#)

★ New Pathways now launching at St. Andrew's College!

Applications are open and flowing into our new [Lifelong Learning certificate programs](#), as well as our [renewed degree programs](#). Whether you are in training for ministry, looking for ongoing educational engagement and support, or just plain curious about theology, we have something for you! For more information, please be in touch with the College Recruitment Officer at shawn.sanfordbeck@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca (306-441-6367).

In Case You Missed It...

Welcome to our new Pastoral Relations Minister: Adam Hall!

Rev. Adam Hall has officially begun his work as Pastoral Relations Minister! To contact Adam for Pastoral Relations questions, you can:

- contact the office: **780.435.3995** / northernspirit@united-church.ca
- call Adam's direct line: **1(800) 268-3781** ext. **6443**
- or send Adam an email: AHall2@united-church.ca

Welcome, Adam! 😊

Worship Resources:

See United Church [Worship Resources](#) for upcoming Sundays and special celebrations.

[Thirteenth after Pentecost – August 27, 2023](#)

[Fourteenth after Pentecost – September 3, 2023](#)

[Creation Time 1 – September 10, 2023](#)

[Creation Time 2 – September 17, 2023](#)

[World Week for Peace in Palestine and Israel – September 17, 2023](#)

[UN International Day of Peace – September 21, 2023](#)

[Creation Time 3 – September 24, 2023](#)

[Creation Time 4 – October 1, 2023](#)

[World Communion Sunday – October 1, 2023](#)

[Thanksgiving Sunday – October 8, 2023](#)

** Votes for the remit process now underway!* We invite you to learn more and explore the [remit process](#). Please also see a new post on the Northern Spirit website with answers to frequently asked questions & further resources, [here](#). The remit vote deadline date is March 31, 2024.

- [Click here to access past Newsletter issues.](#)
-



Northern Spirit Regional Council Office

13535 122 Avenue NW Edmonton Alberta

780.435.3995

northernspirit@united-church.ca

www.northernspiritr.ca



Image Credits: Photo by [Tim Mossholder](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Copyright © 2023 Northern Spirit Regional Council, All rights reserved.

[Sign-up to receive the Newsletter by email by clicking here.](#)