



NORTHERN SPIRIT REGIONAL COUNCIL

The United Church of Canada

Learning and Gathering

June 20, 2022

Announcements of interest to the people of the Northern Spirit Region.

If you have information about an upcoming event or learning opportunity, please write a short article, and send it to Kathy Jackson, Administrative Support: kjackson@united-church.ca. We are unable to include posters or other attachments, but links to further information may be included. Alternatively, our Community of Faith Events Calendar is open 24/7 for posting about events that are open to the public. Events can also be posted directly to the Newsfeed: <https://northernspiritrc.ca/add-your-community-event/>. Upcoming deadline: Friday, June 24 for the next News issue.

Please note that there will not be regularly scheduled Newsletters during July and August, as the Editors will be seeking rest and relaxation during vacation times. Urgent, breaking news will be shared if needed. In the meantime we wish for all of our readers a safe, restful and enjoyable summer!

Family News

Condolences

We have received word in the Regional Council Office of the death of John Wright, who was a long-time lay member of the former Edmonton Presbytery. John was also involved in the former Alberta and Northwest Conference, particularly in Ecumenical and InterFaith Ministries. He was a founding member of the Edmonton District Council of Churches, and stayed involved well into his nineties. We offer our sincere prayers and sympathy to John's family and friends.

Appreciation and Farewell

As retired Ministry Personnel Bruce Jackson and Cecile Fausak have moved from Athabasca to Lacombe, they wish to thank the United Church folk of northern Alberta for a wonderful 20 years, and look forward to renewing and making new friendships in the Chinook Winds Region. Cecile will still be active with the Inter-region Being Good Relations Network, and Bruce will make good trouble with the Keepers of the Water. They welcome anyone to stop for refreshment on their way south on Highway 2 - phone 780-675-7753.

Appreciation and Congratulations

We take this opportunity to express our congratulations to the Rev. Heather Koots, who will retire at the end of July, after 37 years of ordained ministry in The United Church of Canada. We offer Heather our sincere appreciation for her ministry, and many blessings on her years of retirement.

Events and Learning Opportunities ...

Journey into Indigenous Allyship Workshop

June 6 to June 27, 7:00 PM (MDT), [Click here for details and registration](#)

Hosted by Chinook Winds Regional Council, this four-part series with Indigenous knowledge keepers explores what it means to be a Treaty person and how to build your Indigenous ally toolkit.

Alvin Dixon Memorial Fun Run/Walk 2022: It's not too late ...

June 17 to July 25; [Click here for details](#)

In association with General Council 44, this is an event to raise money for the Alvin Dixon Memorial Fund for Indigenous post secondary students, especially those attending places like the Vancouver School of Theology and Sandy Sauteaux Spiritual Centre. Alvin was a respected elder, teacher, bridge builder, and advocate from the Heiltsuk First Nation, who contributed deeply to the Indigenous church and to the wider United Church of Canada. When? Anytime between June 17 (the official opening) and July 25. All ages and abilities are welcome.

National Indigenous Peoples Day is Today!

Tuesday June 21

Please look carefully at local gatherings; show up whenever and however you can; use your community of faith signage, space, and budget to lend your public support.

National Gathering: Anti-Racism in the United Church

Wednesday, June 22, 12 noon to 1:30pm (MDT) [Register via Zoom now.](#)

Picking up from our last gathering, we will continue reflecting on what it means to decentre whiteness and to centre the needs of people of colour in our work, before discerning together what this network's role might be in the journey toward becoming an anti-racist denomination. In preparation for these conversations, we invite you to watch this video on [Becoming an Anti-Racist Church](#) as an example of what centring the needs and voices of people of colour could look like. This network and gathering are open to anyone in the Church who is actively engaged in anti-racism work in their ministry contexts. If you know others who might be interested, please have them [complete this brief form](#) to be added to our network.

Residential Schools: Introduction to Trauma Awareness and Strategies to Support Communities

Thursday, June 23, 12:30 to 2:00 PM (MDT);

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81021906932> Meeting ID: 810 2190 6932

In honour of Indigenous Month, please join discussion leaders, John Snow and Tony Snow, hosted by the Western Intercultural Ministries Network.

Building God's Beloved Community

Thursday, June 23, Online, 5:00 pm (MDT) [Further information and Registration](#)

Drawing on the expertise of theologians and ministers from across the United Church, *Building God's Beloved Community* is a new confirmation/new membership/discipleship resource that has been in development for the past four years, and was created to be comprehensive, yet accessible; suitable for use with both youth and adult audiences. Sixteen short chapters cover a range of topics, including theology, Bible, church history, worship, and spiritual practice, along with insight into United Church worship, tradition, doctrine and governance, and an introduction to our legacy of social justice as a lived

expression of faith. It is hoped that this exciting resource will serve to support discipleship within The United Church of Canada for years to come.

Southminster-Steinhauer United Church, Edmonton

Saturday, June 25, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

SSUC is excited to be holding its first garage sale since 2019! Please join us at Southminster-Steinhauer United Church, 10740-19 Avenue NW, Edmonton. Items will be accepted for the sale Monday, June 20th to Friday, June 24th. See information about accepted items [here](#), and see the [poster advertising the sale here](#). Masks are not required but encouraged.

United in Learning

See and share all the latest information about events from United-in-Learning! [Click here](#) to find out about all of the learning opportunities offered by United in Learning, including, *Webinars for Church Treasurers*, *Called to Be the Church - the Journey*, and more. There is always something new, so visit the site often. And, in case you missed something, you can view [recordings of past webinars here](#).

Edit as Event in August this week, then News for June 28

Healing the Healers

August 12-13, 2022; [link to further information](#).

Thank you to those of you who attended the information session on Tuesday, June 14, and to those who encouraged your Community of Faith members to attend also. The webinar, *Healing the Healers: Transforming Suffering in Ourselves and Those We Love*, was recorded, and can be [downloaded here](#).

Julie: this link doesn't seem to work in Word (probably our parental controls), but I did find that the URL

(<https://www.dropbox.com/s/l96iyxlvgl623/Healing%20the%20Healers%20Information%20Session.wmv?dl=0>) worked in a test email when I pasted directly into MailChimp. If you

don't get it to work, just have them contact me for the address, and maybe, by then, I'll have a better link from the Sacred Arts people. The recording is approximately 1.5 hours in length, and outlines the core principles of the Healing the Healers Series. Feel free to share this link with anyone in your congregation who is interested. In order to view the entire webinar, it will be necessary to download the webinar first. Opening the Link will only allow one to watch the first one hour.

Registration Form: <https://form.jotform.com/221706852050247>

Blanket Exercise

Thursday, August 25, 2022; for more information, email livingspirituniteddv@gmail.com

Living Spirit United Church, Drayton Valley, is excited to offer a second evening session of the Blanket Exercise. Facilitators will once again be Elder Wilson Bearhead and Seneca Dueck. We are grateful for a grant approved by the United Church of Canada Justice-Reconciliation-Fund permitting us to offer three sessions in our community in this calendar year. Our first gathering in April welcomed twenty-six participants, all whom expressed gratitude for the opportunity and learning they experienced.

Save the Date for Future Planning ...

**Fall Planning- Hold the Date! Intercultural Adventure Seminar 5:
*The Holy Spirit for Koreans in The United Church of Canada***

October 17, 18 and 19, 2022. [Details in English and Korean are here.](#)

This seminar will be held at the Edmonton Korean United Church. Financial support for attendance is available. The event will be bilingual, Korean and English. All are welcome!

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