



Events Newsletter: May 21, 2025

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.](#)



AGM DETAILS & DOCUMENTS

We are looking forward to gathering, both in-person and online, next week at our annual meeting, Thursday May 29 - June 1. Everyone is welcome to join for our public Affirming event Friday evening, and our Celebration of Ministries & Centennial service on June 1 (details below).

A registration confirmation email will be going out this afternoon (Wednesday May 21). **If you believe you have registered but do not receive a confirmation email please [contact](#)**

[the office!](#)

A draft agenda for the meeting has now been posted on [our website meeting page](#).

Workbook documents and Reports have also been posted! Even if you are not attending the meeting, the reports are a great way to learn about what's happening in the Region.

[Access the full workbook documents here.](#)

Or read the Reports -

1. [Reports from the Region and Wider Church](#) (includes Staff, Commissions, and Committees)
2. [Reports from Networks and Clusters](#)
3. [Reports from Community, Outreach, and Education Partners](#)

News from the Pews and Other Ministries

♥ Join *Living Spirit United Church* for their Centennial High Tea on **Saturday, June 7**, from 1 - 3 pm, at the Clean Energy Technology Center in Drayton Valley (5400 22nd Avenue). RSVP by June 2 to: livingspirituniteddv@gmail.com.

♥ There will be a 100 Year Anniversary Celebration for *Daysland and Rosalind United Churches*, including the former Bawlf, Kelsey, and Ohaton churches, on **May 25**. A joint DKR United service will be held at 10:30 a.m. with lunch to follow, all at the Daysland Sunbeam Drop-In Centre. Beef, buns, and anniversary cake will be provided; potluck is requested for salads, side dishes, or desserts. Add your memories to be included in a book. Everyone is welcome.

♥ Good Morning! Prayers for Goodfish Lake members as they grieve the loss of their relatives. Wakes start today. Mary's Capon, her niece's 19-month daughter is one of the family that has passed away. Prayers also that one of their relatives who is lost is found safe. Mekwaceh maypaycik (the community is currently going through a lot). Because of this, both Mary Shirt and Marie Jackson have **cancelled the celebration at their church on May 25th**. Both Elders do not feel comfortable celebrating while there is so much loss in the community. The Elders may consider a later date for the celebration. Hai Hai for your understanding.

♥ We invite you to join Westlock and Rainbow Pastoral charges as we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the United Church of Canada. **June 15th, 2025** beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the Hazel Bluff United Church Highway 18, Westlock County. Old fashioned picnic lunch to follow (outside if weather permitting). Bring a lawn chair if possible. Ride share may be available. **RSVP by June 6th** to wuchurch@telus.net / 780-349-3556.

★ Centennial worship resources for your community of faith

Many elements of the June 8 national Centennial service are [now available on this resource page](#).

Have a look for the Northern Lights Centennial Service but also many other excellent resources on this page, to accompany your own local Spirit-led creativity.

If possible in your area, plan to participate together in the national service, which will be [livestreamed on YouTube here](#). Our Regional Council won't be offering a separate resources for worship, so that we can participate together as one United Church by using the gift of national resources.

★ Structural Change Evaluation Survey

In 2019, the United Church undertook a major restructuring moving from four courts to three councils with a commitment to evaluate the change against its intended outcomes after five years. That process is now underway and a survey has been forwarded to: all pastoral charges—to be completed at a meeting of the Board/Council; all ministry personnel; and all regional council staff, Office of Vocation staff, and General Council staff impacted by the change. If you did not receive the survey, please check your junk

email. Also please ensure that the correct email address is attached to your ChurchHub profile. **The survey will be open until June 15, 2025.** Please be sure to make time to respond. Your input is vital.

Updates on the United Church's 100th

We continue to update our [Regional Anniversary page and news feed here](#).

We've just added yet another set of stories generously written by Edmonton author and researcher Gayle Simonson. These are perfect for your bulletin, announcement, or PowerPoint.

We want your events too! [Click here to post your own event](#). Have a story from your community of faith you want to share? Send it to Chloe at chburns@united-church.ca or Julie at jgraham@united-church.ca

Financial Administrator for Northern Spirit, Living Skies, and Prairie to Pine Regional Councils

Northern Spirit, Living Skies, and Prairie to Pine Regional Councils are seeking a Financial Administrator on a full-time permanent basis (35 hours/week). This position is opening due to the upcoming retirement of Heather Dootoff, who has been a valued member of the three regional councils since 2019. We are grateful for Heather's contributions and look forward to welcoming someone to continue her work. [Please click here for the full job description and how to apply](#). **Deadline for applications is May 23, 2025.**

Job Opportunity: St. Paul's, Edmonton is looking for a bookkeeper

St. Paul's is hiring a part-time bookkeeper. For full details and qualifications, email office@stpaulsunited.org. Apply by **June 20, 2025**.

New & Featured Events

★ From the Heart: understanding the impacts of AB's anti-transgender laws, 30 May, 7:00-9:00PM, Riverbend United Church and [on YouTube at this link](#).

Join us for personal stories of the impacts of Bills 26, 28, and 29 on Albertan athletes, teachers, parents, children, and church members. Learn together how we can take action in support of gender-diverse people. Behind the headlines and debates, what is happening for transgender people in Alberta? This isn't only a legal and legislative matter; it has lived impacts on people's bodies, minds, hearts, and spirit. We thank our speakers, who are joining us to describe the impact on their lives. We invite you to come with an open mind and heart, and hear their stories, no matter your opinion on this legislation. [Please see all details here.](#)

★ **Celebration of Ministries and 100th Anniversary service, 1 June, 10:30-12:30:** Join us in person at Riverbend United Church, and online [via this YouTube link](#), as we honour past and future with prayer, worship, and song. General Secretary Rev Michael Blair will offer the sermon. We anticipate that we will welcome people into the order of ministry in the United Church via admission from other denominations. For those attending in person: a community choir will be part of our service. All welcome! [More details will be shared here as they are finalised](#).

Upcoming Events and Learning Opportunities

★ Upcoming online [events for United in Learning are listed here](#). There are a lot of great opportunities coming up, from a cross-country check in to a Rural Town Halls series on theology, a focus on the federal election and another on global LGBTQIA rights, and series on stewardship, church property, church tech support, and more!

★ **Love, Faith and Bold Action national global justice series: Faith in Action - Transformative Hope and Spirit of Justice** – *Tuesday May 27, 2025 5:00-6:30PM MDT/ CST; 6:00-7:30PM CDT*. [Register on CHURCHx for these upcoming sessions](#).

★ **Final Mod's Book Squad!** *Thursday May 29, 5:30- 7:00PM Central Daylight, 4:30-6:00PM Mountain Daylight/ Central Standard*.

You're invited to the final session of The Mod's Book Squad with The Right Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne, Moderator of The United Church of Canada, in conversation with special guest Janet Gear. Together, they'll reflect on *Undivided Love*, Janet's powerful exploration of faith and vocation. Register now in [CHURCHx](#) and get your copy of [Undivided Love at the United Church Bookstore](#).

★ **100th Anniversary celebration at Fort Edmonton Park, June 8, Fort Edmonton**

Please join us for the celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the United Church of Canada at Fort Edmonton Park on June 8th. There will be a 10:30 worship service at the Big Top (Midway) for folks who do not have a home congregation, Worship services at McDougall Methodist church at 2pm and 4pm, and Cake in the Big Top at 3pm. Guests will inform the Admissions Attendant they are with the United Church 100th Anniversary event and they will receive their 20% discount on admission tickets. Alternatively, guests can use the code **2025FEPUCC** to pre-purchase their passes online [here](#). More information about this event [here](#)!

KAIROS: G7 Jubilee People's Forum, June 12-15 Calgary

You are all warmly invited to come to Calgary for the [G7 Jubilee People's Forum](#) and/or to send one or two representatives from your local group/congregation/community/

region. Subsidies are available for students and low-income people. This forum includes: sessions with Global South partners, Indigenous partners, and network leaders covering the breadth and depth of the Jubilee campaign, connections to land, ecology, migration, gender and more. With incorporation of the arts! A trip to Stoney Nakoda land to gather around the Medicine Wheel outside for a prayer session with Stoney Nakoda elders about the G7 proceedings. On the final day: a public demonstration in downtown Calgary, bringing the Jubilee message to the G7, presenting the petitions. [Registration is here.](#) Funding is available!

2025 Our Whole Society Conference, June 15-17, Winnipeg

The [2025 Our Whole Society Conference](#), held in Winnipeg from June 15-17, is hosted by the [Canadian Interfaith Conversation](#) under the theme: **Fostering Hope in a Divided World.** Bringing together public figures, social activists, academics, religious leaders, and members of the general public, we will examine the sources of hope in relation to major themes of importance to Canadian society such as reconciliation, climate change, polarization, human rights, and international affairs. Please visit [this page for full details.](#) | [Register at this link.](#)

★ UNJPPI Webinar: Palestine justice proposals for General Council, June 18, 4pm EST / 2 pm MT, online

You are invited to learn about the six proposals related to Palestine that are going to the United Church General Council. This online webinar is for anyone interested in learning whether you are attending the GC meetings, involved in grassroots advocacy or just want to know more about the issues. There will be a brief presentation by each of the proposal proponents followed by a Q&A. To learn more about the United Church of Canada General Council and what it does, [visit their website.](#) This webinar will be recorded and shared with those unable to attend. [Join the Zoom meeting here](#) / Meeting ID: 823 2472 3808 / Passcode: 631384

★ Save the date: Launch of Centennial exhibition: Here From the Beginning 27 July, Pilgrim United Church

★ United Church of Canada Apology to Two Spirit and LGBTQIA+ / queer / gender-diverse people: Friday, August 8th at 9:00AM Mountain Daylight, Knox United Church, Calgary and via livestream.

This is an advance notice of a very important commitment by the United Church to offer a public apology, with more details to come from the General Council 45 planners. This worship service is open to all. If you are considering attending in person, please contact your Regional office or regional justice minister Julie Graham at jgraham@united-church.ca so that the Regional Affirming Committees can be aware of who wishes to attend, and can look at carpooling as needed.

***United Church 100th anniversary event map:** Is your church community planning something special to commemorate this milestone? [Submit your event details](#) on the National [Centennial event map!](#)

[*Past Newsletter issues are archived on our website.](#)



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