



Events Newsletter: June 4, 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.](#)



News from the Pews and Other Ministries

♥ **The Power of Prayer: call for daily prayer for wildfire impacts.**

Keewatin Circle, the Indigenous United Church in Manitoba, invites you to pray with them for all communities in Canada regarding the forest fire emergencies. **Praying will take place for 1 hour each evening beginning at 7:00pm CDT (Manitoba/NWO), 6:00pm Mountain and CST, 5:00 pm Pacific.** We are praying for the following:

- *Rain*
- *Safety of all communities*
- *Safety of evacuees*

- *Safety for all those responding to the needs of evacuees.*
- *Safety for those who are in communities fighting fires.*
- *As well as the animals both domestically and wild*

We are asking that all communities pray with us, as prayer is stronger when we come together in time of need.

♥ 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.

★ June is Two Spirit and LGBTQI+ Pride Month

The [United Church has resources available here](#). You're invited to be out and proud—show up for a parade, host a meal or special service, decorate your church inside and out, support your library or the local school's GSA (Genders and Sexualities Alliance)... and more. There are so many possibilities to offer a Public, Intentional, and Explicit welcome.

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.

New & Featured Events

★ **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!](#)

★ **Indigenous Day of Prayer June 15, and Indigenous Peoples' Day June 21**

June is Indigenous History Month and June 21 is National Indigenous Peoples' Day. This is a time to celebrate the outstanding achievements, history, cultures, and diversity of Indigenous peoples. This is also the time of summer solstice. Check to see what First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities and organizations in your area are doing to celebrate, and join in. Check to see how your municipality, schools, and libraries are marking this time. Take in the Indigenous programming on APTN (Aboriginal Peoples' Television Network) and the CBC.

This year, the United Church celebrates [National Indigenous Day of Prayer](#) on Sunday, June 15. New worship materials are available on the [United Church website](#). This year's resources feature an order of service from the perspectives of both Bible and Bundle by the Rev. Agnes Spence of Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation, and another marking the 10th anniversary of the release of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action from the Rev. Emma Seamone of Carberry, MB.

Upcoming Events and Learning Opportunities

★ **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

★ Choking Gaza: why aid isn't getting through, and what we can do. Thursday June 19, 7:00PM CST (SK).

Gaza's people are dying of imposed hunger and thirst. Its medical system is targeted for destruction, and people of all ages suffer continuous bombing. We'll learn about why aid isn't getting through, the terrible impact, and what Canadians can do through our donations and advocacy- because we can do something!

We are grateful to hear from Dr Deidre Nunan, a Saskatchewan-trained orthopaedic surgeon who primarily works in the international medical humanitarian field. She has served in Palestine five times for a total of two years, most recently in Gaza in April 2025. Zoom link (do not post this in online public spaces; share by email only): <https://united-church.zoom.us/j/88958792399?pwd=V46I0vsfe3OOrutWBCtOQwal6o05Fo.1>

Meeting ID: 889 5879 2399 / Password: 600297 / 1 855 703 8985 Canada Toll-free

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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