



## *News from the Region: October 1, 2025*



### **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](mailto:northernspirit@united-church.ca).

### **Short reminders of our history for this Centennial year**

*Throughout 2025, we'll be featuring very short stories about United Church history. Thanks to historian Gayle Simonson in Edmonton, we can also offer 100-word history vignettes for use in your own community! Here are [history short stories 1-8](#) / [vignettes 9- 17](#) / [vignettes 18-22](#) / [vignettes 23-30](#). And, brand new, [vignettes 31 to 40](#)! (Word format; when you click, the file will save automatically to your Downloads folder. For our next vignette (#17), she writes:*

Though all English-speaking Congregationalist churches in Canada became part of the United Church, some of those who worshipped in other languages did not. One German congregation that did join the United Church was Salem in Medicine Hat. After 1948, they shared a building with Memorial United Church but continued to function as a separate congregation. The bilingual Rev. George Spady served both for ten years. Memorial had both Methodist and Presbyterian roots (Washington Avenue Methodist and Knox Memorial Presbyterian) so as Memorial Salem, when they combined boards in the 1970s, they were believed to be the only Alberta church that had roots in all three denominations. Memorial Salem has since amalgamated with Fifth Avenue.

★ 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

### ★ Northern Spirit Job Posting: First Third Ministry Animator

Northern Spirit Regional Council is seeking an individual to fill the role of First Third Ministry Animator on a Permanent Part-time basis (17.5 hours per week). The First Third Ministry Animator collaborates with the other First Third Ministry Animators in Chinook Winds Regional Council and Pacific Mountain Regional Council to create opportunities for children, youth, and families to experience excellence in programs and events that engage faith and justice conversations, build safer, welcoming community, and respond to the longings of young people in this current time. [View the full job posting and apply at this link](#). Closing date for applications is **October 6**.

### Looking for SHORT-TERM, FOCUSED VOLUNTEERS for Advocacy Support

The **Affirming committee** is deeply concerned about the impact of recent Alberta legislation and implementation. It's working on some letter/ postcard writing and storytelling focused on: the intrusive gender confirmation requirement for young female athletes; book bans; changes to disabilities funding and anti-immigrant actions. It's a lot and we need help. Can you help us edit some short personal stories about the impacts, sharpen our advocacy asks, or help us with creative content? All members of our Region are invited; you don't need to live in AB to help. Please contact chair Mickey Wilson for this short-term focused task: [revmickeywilson@gmail.com](mailto:revmickeywilson@gmail.com)

### Pastoral Charge Supervisors Needed

Northern Spirit is looking for people, lay or ordered, who are willing to act as Pastoral Charge Supervisors. Supervisors offer support to churches without Called or Appointed ministry personnel. Please reach out to [Adam Hall](#) if you would be willing to take on this role.

*Interested but unsure of what this role requires?* [Email the office](#) if you are interested in attending a training and Q&A session on the evening of **October 8**, for current and potential Pastoral Charge Supervisors.

---

## Wider Church News & Resources

### ★ United in Learning upcoming programs

Here's the [latest newsletter from the national church's online education, action and community program](#). Upcoming opportunities include a cross-country check up, and much more. Please also see the [very handy latest national newsletter, E-ssentials](#), which goes over highlights for national work.

## ★ World Food Day (October 16) resources from the Canadian Foodgrains Bank

This year, CFGB invites churches, groups and individuals to mark World Food Day with a variety of thoughtful resources that can be incorporated into church services, used in small group gatherings, or personal reflection. Drawing from the story of Gladys in our new film called [A Legacy Taking Root](#), which will be released to the public this fall, our resources invite to pray, learn, advocate, and give. The collection of worship resources on the [World Food Day website – Until All Are Fed](#) includes calls to worship, prayers, videos, scripture readings, group discussion guides, sermon starters, and diverse activities for children. You can also find a [postcard action for food security here](#).

★ Northern Spirit minister Rev. Dr. Neville Smith has also offered a reflection for World Food Day. [Read it at this link](#), and share it with credit to Rev. Smith.

## 100 Tables local projects continues!

The United Church of Canada's [100 Tables](#) project really took off this summer. As of August 22, there are [109 communities of faith registered as hosts of a table](#) in their town or city. Part of our 100th anniversary celebrations, this an initiative that turns ordinary picnic tables into extraordinary places of welcome, and part of our campaign to create [A Place at the Table](#) for all to join. Rooted in justice, compassion, and radical belonging, 100 Tables invites communities to create tables that reflect local priorities, whether those are food security, care for creation, 2S and LGBTQIA+ inclusion, or reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. Consider what your community can offer!

---

## *In Case You Missed It...*

### Seeds of Hope Grant Applications Now Open!

The Foundation's Fall 2025 *Seeds of Hope* granting cycle is now accepting [applications](#)! The Seeds of Hope granting program supports innovative, unique projects which enable us to live out the New Creed's call to seek justice, live with respect in Creation, and love and serve others. Deadline: Applications must be submitted by 11:55 p.m. on **October 15, 2025**. [Apply today!](#)

---

## *Worship Resources:*

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

[Creation Time 4 - October 5, 2025](#)

[World Communion Sunday - October 5, 2025](#)

[Creation Time 5 - October 12, 2025](#)

[Thanksgiving Sunday - October 12, 2025](#)

[International Day for the Eradication of Poverty - October 17, 2025](#)

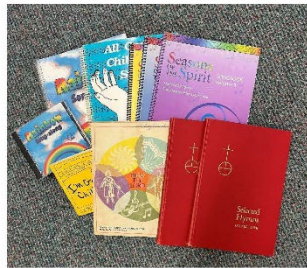
[World Food Sunday - October 19, 2025](#)

[Nineteenth after Pentecost - October 19, 2025](#)

\* [Click here to access Northern Spirit's 2025 Prayer Cycle](#)

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

---



### ***Available:***

Community United Church (in Warburg, AB) has disbanded, our building has been decommissioned and will be sold in the coming months. We have a small list of church-related items that we would like to share with our faith community, in the hopes that some of the items may find themselves re-homed with a new faith family and renewed purpose. If there is anything on the list of which you would be interested in or wish to have more information, please reach out through email at [communityunitedchurch2016@gmail.com](mailto:communityunitedchurch2016@gmail.com) or call/text Shauna @ 403-575-0426. Please see the attached document with pictures of a few available items.

- Worship Resources
  - Seasons of the Spirit curriculum 2006-2022 - printed version
  - Gathering magazine - printed version
  - Minister's Manual - preaching & planning books
  - Piece By Piece - children's ministry program
- Mandate & Observer magazines
- Congregational Stewardship resources & programs (i.e Salt & Light)
- UCC Yearbook & Directory 2009-2020
- Asst. Children's songbooks (WeeSing, Seasons of Spirit, Rainbow Songbook)
- Hymn Books
  - 2 large print selected hymns
  - 2 Music Leader's Edition - Voices United
- Hymn board with numbers/letters

- Seasonal banners
  - Baptismal font
  - Assorted pictures (Jesus, Last Supper, etc.)
- 



Image credits: *Image credit:* Photo by [Anneal K Hardcastle](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Northern Spirit Regional Council Office  
8510 95 Ave NW Edmonton Alberta  
**1-587-407-0330**  
[northernspirit@united-church.ca](mailto:northernspirit@united-church.ca)  
[www.northernspirित्रc.ca](http://www.northernspirित्रc.ca)

*Copyright © 2025 Northern Spirit Regional Council, All rights reserved.*  
[Click here to subscribe to receive this newsletter via email.](#)