



## *News from the Region: October 15, 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:*

Of 139 Canadian residential schools for Indigenous students, fifteen were managed by the United Church. While funded by the government, that funding was inadequate and conditions were poor. As well, the schools failed to acknowledge the importance of cultural identities. The United Church began a national consultation with Indigenous peoples in 1980. In 1986, the United Church General Council issued an apology for its earlier denial of their spirituality. A Healing Fund was established in 1994. In 1998, an apology was issued to former students of United Church-run residential schools. The United Church crest was modified in 2012 to include the four colours of the medicine wheel and a Mohawk phrase meaning "All my relations."



★ 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 Climate Contacts

If your church passionate about climate justice? Do you have special climate-related projects or a justice team working on climate-related issues? The Northern Spirit office & Executive is working on assembling a contact list for communicating key climate-related actions and events. Please [contact the office](#) if your church has any contacts who would appreciate being on this list!

### ★ Doughnuts and Timbits: Edmonton and area Affirming support day, November 1, 10:00AM-2:30 pm at Southminster-Steinhauer United Church, Edmonton. - [Registration now open](#)\*

The Affirming Committee is trying something new! Come join them for a day of Affirming support, planning, and community (and presumably doughnuts). The entire Region is welcome; the focus is the doughnut circle around Edmonton, and the timbit that is Edmonton itself. [Please see the website listing for details.](#) This event is free-sponsored by your Mission and Service givings and your community of faith's Regional assessment.

## Wider Church News & Resources

★ **The 2026 Minimum Salaries & Reimbursements for Ministry**

**Personnel** document is now available online. You can find it in the Downloads section at the bottom of the [Ministers' Salary Schedule and Cost of Living Groups webpage](#). *The increases to salaries of ministry personnel are not automatically made by ADP. General Council Office staff do not update ADP with minimum salary data. Your pastoral charge ADP administrator must update the minister's salary in TeamPay or inform ADP of the new salary amount for the pay period beginning January 1.*

★ **40 Days of Engagement on Anti-Racism Live: Fostering Anti-Racist Children's Ministries: TODAY, 4 p.m. MT / 6 p.m. ET, online**

The [40 Days of Engagement on Anti-Racism](#) is now underway for 2025!

Please [join us online](#) TODAY, Wednesday, October 15, at 6:00 p.m. ET for **Fostering Anti-Racist Children's Ministries**. This session is for anyone involved in children and youth ministries! Sign up for free on [CHURCHx](#).

★ **Leave a Legacy of Change | The United Church of Canada Foundation**

Legacy giving has long been a tradition and foundation for the United Church of Canada. [Watch this video](#) to hear voices from across the Church reflect on the impact of legacy giving and why **your congregation should join the Centennial Legacy Campaign**. Support ministry into the future, visit [centennialcampaign.ca](#) to learn more and get involved today.

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*In Case You Missed It...*

- **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.

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*Worship Resources:*

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

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

[World Food Sunday - October 19, 2025](#)  
[Nineteenth after Pentecost - October 19, 2025](#)  
[Reformation Sunday - October 26, 2025](#)  
[Peace Sunday - October 26, 2025](#)  
[Twenty-first after Pentecost - November 2, 2025](#)  
[Twenty-second after Pentecost - November 9, 2025](#)  
[Remembrance Day - November 11, 2025](#)

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

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

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(History blurb).

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