



Events Newsletter: November 5, 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

♥ Covenanting: Fort St. John: St. Luke's Pastoral Charge and Ozioma Obijiofor, November 9

There will be a Covenanting Service on Sunday, Nov 9 at 10 a.m. between Ozioma Obijiofor, St. Luke's (Fort St John) and Northern Spirit Region with Rev. Marilyn Carroll officiating. Communion to be held. A light lunch will follow. All are welcome. If any Ministers or guests plan to attend from NSRC, [please let the church know](#). For those who can't attend in person, please hold this congregation and their new minister in your hearts & prayers!

★ **Christmas Comes Early: An Advent Gift to all of our Northern Spirit congregations**
Northern Spirit has purchased a license for an **Advent Small Group Study with Four**

Worship Services, as a gift for all of our congregations and churches to access for free this Advent season.

We never tire of the story. Each Advent, we set out the beloved figures of the creche and are invited again into the mystery of incarnation. In this small group study and worship series, we look more closely at the figures and what they reveal about the human journey of faith, the bigger picture of Love, and the Divine Longing at the heart of Christmas.

Alongside four study sessions, you'll also receive complete Advent worship services—rich with liturgy, Advent candle-lighting, all-ages activities, Scripture, reflections, prayers, and music suggestions. Together, they invite us to approach the creche with fresh wonder, to notice who is present (and who is missing), and to be shaped by Love that is already here and still arriving.

This series is provided by *Prayer Bench* and offered as a gift to leaders and communities of faith through a **Regional License**. You can [sign up to access these Advent resources through this link](#). Merry Christmas! ♥♥

★ Preparing a records transfer for the archives this winter?

*Contact the archivist to receive forms and guides.

* Schedule a transfer date with the archivist.

*Consider sending a box to Edmonton.

It's been a busy year sourcing and sharing historical information about our Communities of Faith. Before you put everything back on the shelf in the storage closet, consider what is unique and irreplaceable. What should be copied before it is hung back on the wall?

The archivist, Leanne Templeton, is looking forward to speaking with communities about their record keeping. Please reach out to Leanne if you are planning an office tidy-up this winter, or if you would like to prepare a deposit to send to the archives. ****Please do not drop off records without an appointment.*** Leanne works part time at the Provincial Archives of Alberta and the best way to connect with her is via email: Ltempleton@united-church.ca.

100 Centennial Events Continue: Thank you for all the local Anniversary events - send us your stories, photos, and video links! We are happy to feature your celebrations in newsletters for the rest of our Centennial year. Materials can be sent to chburns@united-church.ca.

New & Featured Events

★ **Affirming Leaders Day, *Saturday November 15, online***

Hey friends! ☼ It's that time again - [Affirming Leaders Day](#) is back! Join us *online* on Saturday, November 15, for a day to refresh, recharge, and reconnect around the vibrant intersections of faith and 2SLGBTQIA+ life. This isn't your average conference - it's a space to be inspired, challenged, and renewed by bold changemakers, artists, and theologians who are helping shape a more inclusive world. 🇨🇦 Special offer: Use code [JOURNEY](#) for 30% off all tickets *and* the recording package. Let's gather online Saturday, November 15 to learn, connect, and re-ignite our Affirming spirit together!

★ **Join the Conversation at the Next Cross-Country Check-In, *November 18, 6:00 ET / 4:00 MT, online***

Connect with church leaders! The Moderator, The Right Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath, and General Secretary, Rev. Michael Blair, invite you to a live online [Cross Country Check-in](#) with the General Council Executive (GCE) on November 18, 6:00–7:30 p.m. ET. This is an opportunity to put faces to names and engage directly with the GCE soon after their meeting, enriching preparations for GC45 and other key leadership meetings. [Register today!](#)

Upcoming Events and Learning Opportunities

Conversations Worth Having: Forum for Spiritual Leaders, *November 11 and 13, 6:30 - 9 pm EST, online*

The CWH Institute is hosting a Forum for Spiritual Leaders with the vision of bringing together faith leaders, both clergy and lay, to equip them to lead a shift in how their communities of faith talk with each other. If you are a spiritual leader, or have a spiritual leader in your circle who could benefit from this training that builds trust and engagement, please pass on the invitation. There are scholarships available that cuts the cost of the workshop in half. We are holding the two-part Conversation Forum for Spiritual Leaders on November 11 and 13, 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. EST. For more information and registration, [follow this link](#).

Luncheon for Retired Ministry Personnel, *Thursday, Nov. 13, 2025, 12:00 noon, Mill Woods United Church, 15 Grand Meadow Crescent NW, Edmonton.*

All Northern Spirit retired ministers should have received an (emailed) invitation to the Fall luncheon. This gathering is an opportunity to catch up with friends that we might not have connected with for a while. For the full details, [view the invite at this link](#). And please [RSVP to the office](#) by November 10!

★ **Transgender Week of Awareness, Transgender Day of Remembrance, and an online service of remembrance**

Transgender Week of Awareness culminates in Transgender Day of Remembrance. The week takes place from **November 13- 19**. Affirm United will share a story of an historical Transgender or Non-Binary person or event each day in podcast and written formats. They will be posted to the [Affirm United/S'affirmer Ensemble social media and website](#).

On **November 20 at 3 pm ET / 1 pm MT**, you are invited to a service of remembrance online ([Register at this link](#)). The service will be pre-recorded, but we will have a time after the service for anyone who wishes to talk. This November let us all remember those who have lost their lives by violence or suicide. Let us remember those from the past who never stopped being themselves. Let us remember and share their light.

★ Online Intercultural Workshop and WIMN AGM - Beyond the Chinese Face: Challenges Faced by Chinese in Canada, Thursday, November 20, 2025, 11:30 AM PST, 12:30 PM MST, online

Join three UCC ministers from the Chinese Association of The United Church of Canada to hear their insights on aspects of Chinese culture, serving English congregations in Canada, and outreach to Hong Kong diaspora. Presenters: Rev. Dr. Alan Lai, Rev. Mini Choi, and Rev. Calin Lau. WIMN AGM follows. [Full details at this link!](#)

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



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