NORTHERN SPIRIT REGIONAL COUNCIL
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

News from the Region: October 14, 2026

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.
Check out our local events calendar, and submit your own community events!

Family News

♥ **Covenanting Service:** In honor of **Rev. Dr. Lloyd Nyarota with Vermilion River Pastoral Charge** (congregations of First United Church in Vermilion, McQueen Memorial United Church in Mannville, and Wesley United Church in Kitscoty). Together we will worship **Sunday, October 18, 3 p.m.,** First United Church, 4918-52 Ave. Vermilion, Alberta. We would love to have you share this special occasion with us& welcome Rev. Dr. Lloyd Nyarota as we begin this journey together. Please join us for refreshments & fellowship following the Service.

♥ **Happy Clergy Appreciation Month** to all ministers in Northern Spirit! Blessings on your October, and thank you for all the work you do in our Region and beyond.

★ 2027 Minimum Salaries & Reimbursements for Ministry Personnel

The 2027 Minimum Salaries & Reimbursements for Ministry Personnel (Pastoral Relations system), which reflects the Annual Economic Adjustments, is now live on the General Council website and can be found at this link (at the bottom of the page).

★ Alberta Referendum work continues: be sure to tell us about your good work

The countdown continues, and advance voting begins this week. In this tense time, thank you to the many ministries who are offering spaces for learning and reflection. If your community of faith is offering space for this, or for getting the vote out- we want to hear about it! We welcome website articles, and if you're offering a public event or service, please post it here.
All referendum resources can be found here, and a number are in a shared public folder, so we can update as we go. This includes a new library of images for social media and church use, inviting us to express how faith calls us to vote for the common good. Please use widely; they are copyright free and prepared by the task group and Affirming Committee members, not by AI!

★ Reflection on Food

Rev. Dr. Neville Smith, a retired minister in Northern Spirit, has offered this reflection on food, in this time of Thanksgiving and in recognition of World Food Sunday.

Wider Church News & Resources

CiRCLe M Seed Money for Community Projects

The Centre for Rural Community Leadership and Ministry (CiRCLe M) (www.circle-m.ca) is offering communities of faith seed money of up to $4,000 for a project that connects you to your community. If interested, a grant description and an application form are available from Chairperson, Catherine Christie, christiecatherine4@gmail.com.

Worship Resources:

See United Church Worship Resources for upcoming Sundays and special celebrations.

International Day for the Eradiction of Poverty - October 17, 2026
Twenty-first after Pentecost- October 18, 2026
World Food Sunday - October 18, 2026
Peace Sunday - October 25, 2026
Reformation Sunday - October 25, 2026
Twenty-Third after Pentecost - November 1, 2026

Twenty-Fourth after Pentecost - November 8, 2026
Remembrance Day - November 11, 2026

* *Click here to access Northern Spirit's 2026 Prayer Cycle*

● Click here to access past Newsletter issues

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