To access a link in this newsletter, please press CTRL + mouse click on the highlighted link.

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| |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [View this newsletter in your browser](https://mailchi.mp/f03f455e53ea/mid-february-newsletter?e=%5bUNIQID%5d)  Next Deadline for submissions: February 24 (March 1 Issue) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/images/6cd3126c-5714-4f23-9491-3c5303fc9cbf.jpg](https://arwrcucc.ca/) | | | |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | ***Q***: Do you know how to find the Congregational Support Toolkits on the website? The Pastoral Support Toolkits? ***A***: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Yes/No\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. | | | |
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Isn’t that where we were on our faith journey in 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic was visited upon us? Whatever else any of us, either individually or as a community of faith, may have chosen to give up for Lent, who among us could have imagined that a government mandated lockdown would force all of us “to give up” in person worship in our sanctuaries during Lent? | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/images/7f5dea67-fdf8-4848-a348-c24a4b95b3bb.jpg |  |  | | --- | | And so, it went throughout that season and Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter, Pentecost and on into the summer season. In the fall, sanctuaries were allowed to open again, albeit with restricted seating. Hallelujah, but not for long. A second lockdown at | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Christmas forced us “to give up” in person worship again. At the time of this writing hope is on the horizon. It’s possible that communities of faith in some regions of the province will be able to reopen their sanctuaries for in person worship by the first Sunday in Lent. Time will tell. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Thanks to the worldwide web, many communities of faith have found that their online worship services offering a spiritual feast of good news, joy, wonder and hope are reaching more people than expected this past year. Worship attendance is growing! Church connections are being made with people beyond local geography, spanning the continent and skipping across “the pond” to countries in other parts of the world! Wow! Thanks to technology members and friends of local communities of faith are still able to connect with each other.Even though we have had no choice but to “give up” worshipping inside our churches and for good reason since Lent 2020, we have “not given up!” We have kept the faith, still living the mission of the church, still striving to live love, seek justice and love kindness.This Lent as I wander along the path of my own faith journey the words of hymnist Ken K. Wehlander come to mind: "In you there is a vision, in you we learn to dream. When all we see is desert may you be our living stream. In you there is a future, in you we find our way. When hope has shed its brightness may you show us a new day." (# 84 More Voices, v. 2)May it be so for you throughout these Lenten days and nights.  In Faith & Hope, *https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/images/ff3f5a42-4f2b-4bbf-96e4-5f9f377bb839.png* President, Antler River Watershed Regional Council | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **United Fresh Start continues into May** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | The Human Resources Commissions of our regional councils want to help new (or continuing) pastoral relationships get off to a healthy beginning by inviting you and your minister to take part in the [United Fresh Start](https://www.unitedfreshstart.ca/) program.   There are over 20 modules of resources to support learning together. A couple of the core modules, ‘Entering a New System’ plus one called ‘Habits, Norms and Expectations,’ will be offered this winter and spring by Zoom.  ***We invite you to register a group from your community of faith, including your minister, for these modules.***   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **MODULE & Registration** | **DATE** | **TIME** | | [Entering A New System](https://regionalcouncil789.formstack.com/forms/ufs07) | Tuesday, March 2 | 7 - 9 pm | | [Entering A New System](https://regionalcouncil789.formstack.com/forms/ufs07) | Saturday, March 20 | 9 - 11 am | | [Habits, Norms, Expectations](https://regionalcouncil789.formstack.com/forms/ufs12) | Tuesday, April 6 | 7 - 9 pm | | [Habits, Norms, Expectations](https://regionalcouncil789.formstack.com/forms/ufs12) | Saturday, April 24 | 9 - 11 am | | [Family Systems](https://regionalcouncil789.formstack.com/forms/ufs10) | Tuesday, May 4 | 7 - 9 pm |   Facilitators are prepared to offer modules of United Fresh Start to individual congregations as well. If you are interested in this, please contact [Diane Blanchard](mailto:dblanchard@united-church.ca?subject=United%20Fresh%20Start), Minister, Pastoral Relations, for a list of UFS facilitators. The schedule above is offered without charge. Engaging a facilitator for your community of faith alone has a suggested fee of $221 per module, negotiated with and payable to the facilitator. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **'The Basics' A Ministry & Personnel Workshop With Diane Blanchard, Minister, Pastoral Relations** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Spring is the time for flowers, new beginnings and the time of year when new members are elected to vital M&P committees of our communities of faith. There is lots to learn about these crucial roles. These workshops are open to members from Western Ontario Waterways, Antler River Watershed and Horseshoe Falls Regional Councils! More experienced members of Ministry & Personnel Committees are welcome to take this refresher, especially if you haven’t done a workshop recently.  There are two days/times offered through Zoom, click on a date to register:   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | **DATE** | **TIME** |  | |  | [Thursday, March 11](https://regionalcouncil789.formstack.com/forms/mp_workshops) | 7:00 - 9:00 pm |  | |  | [Saturday, April 10](https://regionalcouncil789.formstack.com/forms/mp_workshops) | 9:00 - 11:00 am |  |   Facilitators are prepared to offer modules of United Fresh Start to individual congregations as well. If you are interested in this, please contact [Diane Blanchard](mailto:dblanchard@united-church.ca?subject=United%20Fresh%20Start), Minister, Pastoral Relations, for a list of UFS facilitators. The schedule above is offered without charge. Engaging a facilitator for your community of faith alone has a suggested fee of $221 per module, negotiated with and payable to the facilitator. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Holding a Virtual Annual Meeting** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Annual Meeting** Once again, United Church congregations are using creativity, imagination and teamwork to find ways to hold congregational meetings in the midst of a pandemic. An idea that would have seemed like science-fiction a year ago is becoming reality for many of our communities of faith, but there are still many challenges and questions about how to hold a successful annual meeting online. Our colleagues at Shining Waters Regional Council have put together an excellent collection of resources outlining the steps to holding an online annual meeting. You can access this under “Annual Meetings” on their [webpage](https://shiningwatersregionalcouncil.ca/communities-of-faith/annual-meetings/). Please share your own learnings and wisdom on the [Facebook Group](https://www.facebook.com/groups/arwrcucc/) (https://www.facebook.com/groups/hfrcucc/) (https://www.facebook.com/groups/wowrcucc1/) so that we can continue to support one another. .  **Are You Missing Out?** If your contact information is out-of-date on ChurchHub you will miss out on important emails and regular mail from the regional council office and the United Church office. If the information on your community of faith's ChurchHub.ca account still includes the address of a former staff person, or someone who is no longer a member of your community of faith, then you will miss out on updates and resources. If your community of faith has not yet set up your ChurchHub account, please email [ministry@united-church.ca](mailto:ministry@united-church.ca?subject=Churchhub%20link) and request a temporary password to access your account and update contact information. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Refugee Advocate Needed from the desk of Diane Matheson-Jimenez** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | During these crazy COVID days, too many of us are grieving lost opportunities to hold our family members close. This is a story about a family whose son has been lost to them for two years with little hope of being reunited.  Our small community of Carlisle and Kilbride has received a cry for help from a Syrian refugee family now living in Hamilton, Ontario. The family, consisting of mother, father and five children, sought asylum in Turkey after fleeing their war- ravaged homeland. Two years ago, the family was granted refugee status and came to this country under a federally regulated resettlement program. This sounds like a good news story but one son, now 22 years of age, was denied the necessary documentation to enter Canada and the family was forced to leave him behind in Turkey, where he still lives in unsafe and deplorable conditions. The family believe his application was rejected due to miscommunication during the final interview process.  In November 2020, the father wrote a letter of appeal to the Canadian Department of Immigration and received the response that the ministry would review the appeal. They have heard nothing since.  We can feel the pain of this family, who, like many refugees, have lost their home, their livelihood, their status and now feel that their son is permanently lost to them. We write this, inspired by the confidence that there is a wonderful person or group out there with the knowledge and the contacts that will offer to advocate on behalf of this family to have their appeal heard and work to reunite them with their son.  If you are that wonderful person or group, please contact [Rev. Allison Playfair](mailto:revaplayfair@hotmail.com?subject=Refugee%20Family), or [Catherine Swatten](mailto:swatten@sympatico.ca?subject=Refugee%20Family). We are reminded that during His first days on earth, Jesus was also a refugee, forced to flee to Egypt with his earthly parents to escape the tyranny of Rome. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Hellos & Goodbyes** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | The fall has seen many changes in pastoral relations. | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Gabrielle Heidinger-Baerg, candidate, began an SME with Courtright-Sixth Line in October.  Susan Cameron, OM, completed her ministry with St. Paul’s, Petrolia in November and has accepted a supply appointment with Calvary United Church, London.  Cheryl Bolton, OM, concluded her ministry with the Glencoe-Appin Pastoral Charge and accepted a call to serve St. Andrew’s United Church in St. Thomas beginning in November.  George Bozanich, OM, completed his ministry with Leamington United Church and accepted a call to Emmanuel United, Windsor beginning in October.  George Rowaan, OM, has been called to the Kerwood-Bethesda Pastoral Charge, having served there by appointment while preparing to be admitted to the order of ministry in The United Church of Canada. Welcome, George!  Michael Shewbury, DLM, began ministry with Richwood United Church in September. Michael continues in his role as Executive Director at Five Oaks. |  |  | | --- | | Carey Wagner, DM-R, accepted a supply appointment with St. Paul’s, Petrolia in December.  Mark Perry, OM, has accepted a call to Dorchester United Church beginning in March. Mark will also continue to serve Union United, both being half-time positions.  Judith Fayter, OM, has requested a change of pastoral relations to retire from Erie Street, Ridgetown, effective June 30.  Matthew Penny, OM, will retire from Lambeth United Church in June.  Barbara Clarke, OM, has requested a change of pastoral relations from Ilderton United Church to retire in June.  https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/images/2a06f631-1424-48b3-9681-cb8e609c1968.jpg  We are grateful for the ministries of those who are seeking retirement or rest as well as those who are beginning new chapters in their life as ministers of The United Church of Canada. | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **EVENTS** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **The Season of Lent has Arrived** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/images/b8b6db27-0357-4818-a0db-10ca556971af.jpg | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Moderator Richard Bott's Ash Wednesday service was recorded and is available for viewing. There is a time of prayer, scripture and a preparation for our Lenten spiritual practice.  Worship Resources are [available here](https://united-church.ca/worship-liturgical-season). | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **February's Heart to Heart at Dunwich United Church** | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/images/7d5524f1-75f0-41b7-a9c0-8f1212a008fa.png |  |  | | --- | | Dunwich United Church Visioning & Stewardship Team, & West Elgin Daffodil Auxiliary, is launching a collection for a hygiene bank for women.  Items needed: tampons, pads, toilet paper, razors, body wash, shower poufs, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, body lotion, lip balm, band aids, hand sanitizer . . . Donation boxes at Dutton Foodland and back door of Dunwich United Church. Please contact [Sharon Mannering](mailto:mannering2@gmail.com?subject=Hygiene%20Bank) if donating by cash, cheques. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | And . . . watch for a collection of men's hygiene items in April. We are looking for knitters/crocheters to start working on items (hats, mittens, scarves, neck warmers, socks) for ***Share the Warmth*** which will take place this fall. If you would like material to work with, I have received donations of wool and will share! [Download the poster here](https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/files/8534cdd4-4b4b-4026-b05c-cd3ca68ad9d2/Heart_to_Heart.pdf). | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **United Church Rural Ministry Network Workshop: February 18 from 1 pm to 3 pm by Zoom** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **'Connecting rural stories with rural people across Canada'**  How are our practices in these days – our ways of being church “together while apart” – shaping us for newness? What are we discovering as an answer to the question, why is the church?  We’ll share practices that nourish and connect us and also how they open our hearts to something new. Tickets are $10 to help cover the cost of the workshop. [Registration](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/ashes-and-resurrection-how-are-covid-days-shaping-us-for-newness-tickets-136911777813) here.  Information also available on ‘[Practical Technology Possibilities for Rural Churches](https://mailchi.mp/d0791c74a164/summer-newsletter-from-ucrmn-7387481?e=6a545b6d4b)’ or send an email to [editor@ucrmn.ca](mailto:editor@ucrmn.ca). To sign up to receive the UCRMN newsletters send an email to [info@UCRMN.ca](mailto:info@UCRMN.ca). | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Tri-Regional United Church Women ‘A Step Toward Diversity’ Saturday, February 20 10:00 am by Zoom** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/images/8ef8e00f-41d3-460c-8172-195c6962809e.jpg | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | With a speaker, worship time and chat time. Leadership consists of Stephanie McClellan, Sandra Bendall and Thérèse Samuel. See [this poster](https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/files/b2eca82d-f3a7-4fd3-9700-a44472b7084b/Tri_RegionalUCW.pdf) for instructions on joining! Do not miss this! | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Introduction to Indigenous Lands & Issues in Canada February 20 – June 1** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Join us for a monthly series of online conversations starting February 20.  Adrian Jacobs, Sandy Salteaux Spiritual Centre (SSSC) Keeper of the Circle, and Indigenous elders from across Canada, invite you to explore the cultural and historic foundations to today’s headlines. Join us for a series of online conversations in response to the Indigenous education mandates from Canada’s Truth and Reconciliation Final Report.   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | **SESSION** | **TIME** | **TOPIC** | |  | February 20 | 11  - 1 pm (AST) | Mi’kma’kik Lobster Fishing | |  | March 20 | 10  - 12 pm (EST) | 1492 Back Lane Land Conflict | |  | April 17 | 9  - 11 am (CST) | Indigenous Child Welfare | |  | May 15 | 8  – 10 am (MST) | Indigenous People & Resource Development | |  | June 19 | 8 - 10 am (PST) | Traditional Lands & Environmental Protection |   [Registration](https://sandysaulteaux.ca/event/introduction-to-indigenous-lands-and-issues-in-canada). Registration is $25/session or $75 for the 5-part series. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **EDGY Conversations February 22 at 1:00 pm: West Island LGBTQ2+ Centre** | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/images/0ed01e29-1a41-453a-9590-fc9f4c85265f.png |  |  | | --- | | Every Monday in February Joshua Fernandes and a story-teller from across the country share stories of what their ministry is up to.  For more information, email Joshua at [jfernandes@united-church.ca](mailto:jfernandes@united-church.ca?subject=storytelling). See what else is [scheduled](http://edge-ucc.ca/calendar/action~month/exact_date~1612155600/request_format~json/). | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Children & Youth Ministry Webinars Project Round Table: February 22 & Death Café: March 16** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Easter Program/Project Round Table, February 22**: A round table inviting folks to share/listen in 2-5 minutes, an idea/resource/program for Easter. With guest host, Mary Nichol, Regional Minister, First Third Ministry, Pacific Mountain Regional Council.  **Death Café (Experiential Learning), March 16**: The aim is to normalize conversations around death. Death Cafés may offer personal insights about yourself, and may be a useful tool to use in your ministry. We gather in a safe, relaxed setting to discuss death & celebrate life.  Two times are available for each webinar, send an email to [kdouglas@united-church.ca](mailto:kdouglas@united-church.ca?subject=children%20%26%20youth%20webinars). [Download flyer](https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/images/ce452131-ecd3-4206-a049-a1a401d077a3.jpg). | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/images/b5bceff9-13d8-4962-ba50-17ec1136a6e5.png](https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/images/ce452131-ecd3-4206-a049-a1a401d077a3.jpg) | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **A Taste of Palestine: Taste Food, Hear Stories, Make Change!  February 23 and March 9** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Two-parts left of this event: with Live Cooking with Fatma and Claire from Palestine (Zoom) Find out [more about the cooks](https://unjppi.org/taste-of-palestine.html). Cooking Demo that you can follow along & enjoy the flavours.  **February 23, 9:30 am** - Claire Anastas, a Palesinian Christian, lives in Bethlehem in the shadow of the wall. Join her as she cooks mansaf. **March 9, 9:30 am** - Learn about the work of United Network for Justice and Peace in Palestine Israel  Download and [share the poster](https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/files/f0d95ab1-4966-41e2-8507-e83d54248a57/TasteofPalestine.pdf). Click here to [register by Zoom](https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEkf-igqzoiHNF9kLQNabHBvGHZmoxTUAAH). | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Rural Churches and Community Space Tuesday, February 23 from 10:00 - 11:30 am** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Rural Churches and Community Space is one-and-a-half-hour virtual conference addressing the loss of faith in buildings and what this means for communities in a rural context.  Faith & the Common Good's ground-breaking research report, entitled "[No Space for Community](https://www.faithcommongood.org/community_spaces_faith_places_survey_results)", provides the starting point for the conversation. The conference takes place on Tuesday, February 23 from 10:00 - 11:30 am. Tickets are free and can be [reserved here](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/rural-churches-and-community-space-virtual-conference-tickets-138769626689). [Download the flyer](https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/files/71c8949f-5c19-4cb7-a367-57db2fd4c4a0/Rural_Churches_Community_Space.pdf). | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Hopeful Economics unConference Join us from March 3-5** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Hopeful Economics** is a way of looking at the assets and abundance of the world and making that work for everyone. **unConference** is when topics and discussions are informed by the people who show up. Help lead the direction of the conversation!  With an incredible lineup of speakers, dive into the relationship between social enterprise and faith. Learn about the economic impact of churches and how to pitch your community of faith to form new partnerships. And participate in fun and interactive sessions that challenge you to work with unsuspecting partners.  New ideas and connections guaranteed! Full details (including agenda) and [registration here](https://whova.com/web/virtu20_202012/?utm_source=E-Newsletters&utm_campaign=57d6e371d9-ETS_171011_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_53a49c9e28-57d6e371d9-188942713&mc_cid=57d6e371d9&mc_eid=1807891ded). | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **St. Andrew’s College ReJUNEvation June 16 – 18, 2021** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Rev. Canon Dr. Scott Sharman presents on “***Now it Springs Forth: Looking for Ecumenical Movement with Fresh Eyes***.” Sharman invites participants to reflect on interesting and promising new directions heading into the 21st century – an “ecumenical spring” – in the Canadian context.  ReJUNEvation features online workshops and conversations. For more information, [please visit this website](https://stu.usask.ca/standrews/students/rejunevation.php). Registration information will be available soon. Please download and [share this poster](https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/images/8a2cf1a1-8b81-4d60-8254-e5539463975e.jpg). | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **MISSION & SERVICE** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Mission & Service** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | 1. [united-church.ca/stewardship](https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/get-involved/stewardship)  Welcome to the **NEW** home for all your stewardship solutions. Ideas, samples, Called to be the Church giving program resources, narrative budgets, videos, you name it. This site is replacing the stewardshiptoolkit.ca site. 2. Called to Be the Church: The Journey **“This is one of the best stewardship things I have ever been a part of. So much better than just resources arriving in the mail. I learned more in this than I did in seminary.”** -Rev. Jenny Carter, First United Church, Salmon Arm, BC  Introducing **Called to Be the Church: The Journey**—tailored and topical modules with coaching and ongoing support to meet your stewardship needs.  **Module 1: Stewardship Best Practices** is launching in many regions this spring. Four 2-hour online classes to dive into these vital best practices:    * Claim Your Mission –its really why people give to you    * Cultivate Generosity –practical ways to increase giving    * Create A Culture of Gratitude –saying thank-you is critical    * Stewardship Is Discipleship –integrate stewardship in all your spiritual growth programming   Module 1 also includes a **Stewardship Analysis report**, customised with your community of faith’s giving and stewardship data. Along with ongoing coaching and support after the four classes, the recommendations in the report will help you set solid, achievable, stewardship next steps.   1. Called to Be the Church: The Giving Program The new version of Called to Be the Church: the giving program will be arriving in the mailbox of your community of faith any day! Five weeks to use any time during the year to explore Discipleship is Stewardship. Full liturgies, sermons, kids/youth resources and Stewardship@Home materials. Inspire, Invite & Thank to grow generosity and increase revenue.   [Download this flyer](https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/files/acc5f433-dbf3-4638-9d9c-b080ec689a71/M_S.docx). | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **RESOURCES** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Storytelling, Deep Listening & Disengaging Expectations** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Explore the challenge of making decisions together as a diverse community with Erik Law of the Kaleidoscope Institute and Adrian Jacobs of the Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Centre sharing Haudenausonee teachings. | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/images/502a0af6-b60f-4c1b-95f0-fbcbe1ebd536.jpg |  |  | | --- | | Eric shares insights into what can help diverse groups communicate, plan and make decisions together. Adrian shares the Haudenosaunee teaching on the 'two row wampum' and how it connects to interculturalism.  This episode of the OpenOut Podcast Commencing series runs about 45 minutes. [Listen to it here](https://www.buzzsprout.com/917410/6370405) or through the [OpenOut](http://openout.ca/" \t "_blank) website. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **United in Learning has much to Offer YOU** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Check out these [webinars](https://www.united-in-learning.com/index.php/webinars) on offer:   * Congregational Finances During the Pandemic * Personal and Professional Boundaries for Church Leaders * Licensed Lay Worship Leader Training * Racial Justice Workshop * Faith on the Move - an online journey through Lent * Discernment for Ministry -- Webinar Series * Pension Information Seminar   And that's just to name a few. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Faith On The Move - an online journey through Lent: Daily Reflections on Hope & Change** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Are you aching for a community of friends to walk through Lent with this year? Yearning for a few wise souls to share the risky, surprised-filled adventure and explore the places that will challenge you and stretch you to your limit?  Find out more at [United-In-Learning](https://www.united-in-learning.com/index.php/webinars/369-faith-on-the-move?mc_cid=cf8bf00541&mc_eid=1807891ded). This year's Lenten book is full of reflections on hope and change to help us cherish the complex stories of the Bible. It's good to read by itself; it's even more exciting to read together with others! We'll meet every Tuesday at 1:00 pm:   * February 23 * March 2 * March 9 * March 16 * March 23 * March 30 | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Palestinian Speaker for your Worship Service** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | If your faith community is already doing online worship because of COVID-19, but you miss having special sermons and discovering new things then enrich your Sunday experience with a sermon from the perspective of a Palestinian Christian guest speaker?  Sign up for ***Encounter***, a virtual liturgy program that gives you early access to sermons, special prayers, and music by Palestinian faith leaders. The sermon will correspond to the common lectionary, and will be 8-10 minutes in length and sent 2-3 weeks in advance as YouTube and Zoom videos.  More information on the program [found here](https://friendsofsabeel.ca/featured/encounter-the-holy-land/). | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **SOCIAL JUSTICE** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Commitment to Becoming an Anti-Racist Denomination** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | The newest commitment to becoming an anti-racist denomination was adopted October 2020. What does this mean for me? As taken from the document [Working Towards Becoming an Anti-Racist Denomination](https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/files/68ae8f90-3bd8-4a90-8616-fb5b8cae3276/Working_Towards_Becoming_An_Anti_Racist_Denomination.pdf)  **“An anti-racist denomination is one that actively works at dismantling racism and White supremacy at all levels of the church, continues to work at decolonizing its theology, and strives to redistribute racial power more fairly. It does this anti-racism work so that people from all racial backgrounds can participate in the church’s life fully and freely”.**  Adele Halliday discussed the following seven named actions listed:   * continuous effort * all parts of the church * equipping leaders * engaging with anti-racist practices * building on history * reflecting on theology * a concrete strategy   A video series and a study guide for anti-racism work, are among the initial resources and materials that are in development. | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/video_thumbnails_new/83850a471b7db223937dbb31ed39b952.png](https://youtu.be/zcD8pRb71kA) | | Watch the EDGY Conversation with Adele Halliday, the Anti-Racism and Equity Officer in the Office of the Moderator and General Secretary | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **United Network for Justice and Peace in Palestine and Israel** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Go to the [UNJPPI website](https://www.unjppi.org/index.html) to find out about the latest news and activities. We talk about Apartheid, Air B&Bs, Advocacy Letters, Children’s Rights, Canada’s New Foreign Minister and current Campaigns.. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [Sign up](https://us6.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=7f4ab9a5a57204972eba6a8cf&id=3ebd6591af) to receive the United Network for Justice & Peace in Palestine & Israel newsletter to your Inbox. We welcome your questions and requests for more information [by email](mailto:unitednetwork4justpeace@gmail.com). | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **LOCAL NEWS** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Oxford Connections** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | The February edition of the [Oxford Connections](https://mcusercontent.com/ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b/files/bef5f19e-e6b7-40f6-bc9b-69b32df57b9b/FebruaryOxfordCONNECTIONS.pdf) offers a needed connection as we experience the fragility of our earth home during this pandemic. We are part of creation and community. | | | |
| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | |  | | --- | |  | | |
| |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | The Antler River Watershed Regional Council newsletter welcomes submissions of upcoming events, regional news and educational opportunities. This is also the place to keep up-to-date on information from the regional office.  Check out the [https://mcusercontent.com/3430c44e426848fe31d8afb4b/images/cab77de6-f20d-465d-bca4-5af8cefd0b43.png](https://www.facebook.com/groups/arwrcucc/) page and the [https://mcusercontent.com/3430c44e426848fe31d8afb4b/images/114af828-242c-42b9-a93f-07bc3a02816b.png](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtNUcub3St5941GPwyu7yOA/) channel! | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Holding and Encouraging Communities of Faith  Antler River Watershed Regional Council The United Church of Canada | | | |
| |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [SUBSCRIBE!](https://mailchi.mp/adbd57d173e1/antler-river-watershed-regional-council-newsletter-sign-up) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Copyright © 2021 The United Church of Canada, All rights reserved.  Want to change how you receive these emails? You can [update your preferences](https://arwrcucc.us20.list-manage.com/profile?u=ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b&id=afa2614952&e=%5bUNIQID%5d&c=607794f034) or [unsubscribe from this list](https://arwrcucc.us20.list-manage.com/unsubscribe?u=ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b&id=afa2614952&e=%5bUNIQID%5d&c=607794f034).  [Email Marketing Powered by Mailchimp](http://www.mailchimp.com/email-referral/?utm_source=freemium_newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=referral_marketing&aid=ee15470ca4eab124ea964929b&afl=1) | | | |