

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity! Psalm 133 vs.1

Hello Fellow Travellers on the Way!

It is with great joy and eagerness and maybe just a bit of my church geekiness, that I welcome you all on this journey of fellowship as we explore "Life Together" during our weekend together! May the words of Psalm 133 verse 1, "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!", echo in our hearts and be reflected in our work and worship as we do God's work in our Communities of Faith, our Regional Councils and as the United Church of Canada.

For me the theme "Life Together" immediately brought to mind the concept of a family unit, which of course come in many different shapes and sizes. But ideally, families function as a unit. While they may operate as a unit they are, however, composed of individuals with their own distinctive personalities, perspectives, gifts and experiences. These distinct differences can prove to be a little challenging. Yet, it is these very challenges that allow us opportunities for growth, understanding, and genuine connection. Like branches of the family tree, we are bound together by a shared purpose, to be God's hands and feet in the world.

So during our weekend together, let us all take time to embrace the beauty of our differences and celebrate the richness we bring to our shared table. Let us seek to embody the spirit of unity and harmony as we celebrate "Life Together".

Yours in God's Peace,

Rev. Cheryl Botton

Rev. Cheryl Bolton

President, Antler River Watershed Regional Council