

### **DEEP SPIRITUALITY - BOLD DISCIPLESHIP - DARING JUSTICE**



## The Struggle for Sanctuary (by Shanna Bernier)

On November 8, 2021, an auspicious, autumnal Monday, the Rodriguez-Flores family moved into the chapel space at Plymouth-Trinity United Church in Sherbrooke, Quebec. This room that formally hosted intimate prayer meetings is now living quarters for a family that has been sheltering in place against the proposed deportation to their native city of Torreón, Mexico. Instead of getting on a plane, they made one final plea to a local church, seeking sanctuary from probable violence from members of powerful drug cartels and possible death...

It was quite the miraculous leap of faith for my church community, whose demographics are primarily older, to say yes to this endeavour. Our culture for the past few years has been one of letting go of big exhausting projects and coming to terms with the energy levels of the community diminishing...

Jesus asked us to welcome the stranger. Jesus asked us to protect the innocent and defend the one who was unfairly judged. We never know where or when we will find Christ amongst us, but it is clear to me that the single most important act I have participated in as a Christian was saying yes without hesitation when this family, who were at the time strangers, asked for help. I pray daily for them to be released and to be able to go forward and bless the community with their massive gifts and creative spirit. I cannot imagine them spending another Christmas inside the walls of our church building, and so I pray that their extended season of Advent transforms into Christmas—a Christmas delivering fresh starts and miracles in humble human spaces.

You can help by participating in our letter-writing campaign, contributing to the family legal fund, or by sharing their story widely....

Read article: https://united-church.ca/blogs/round-table/struggle-sanctuary

**Learn more about The United Church Of Canada Call and Vision:** <a href="https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/welcome-united-church-canada/our-call-and-our-vision">https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/welcome-united-church-canada/our-call-and-our-vision</a>

## **REGIONAL COUNCIL NEWS**

#### **REGIONAL COUNCIL GATHERINGS**



**LAST CALL – November 18-19, 2022** 

### Fall 2022 Regional Council Meeting (ONLINE)

The next regional council meeting will be held **online** on Friday evening (**Nov. 18**) and Saturday morning (**Nov. 19**) and will focus on the theme of *Deep Spirituality*.

The meeting will include presentations and table group discussions on spiritual practices, an opportunity to celebrate Executive Minister Rev. Rosemary Lambie's retirement and covenanting with our LLWLs (licensed lay worship leaders). The

presentation and discussion of the proposed 2023 budgets for the Finance and Extension Board and the Regional Council will also be an important part of the business at this meeting; an advance learning session was held on **November 8** to give an opportunity to learn more and ask questions about the budget process (link to recording below). Budget documents and draft agenda for the meeting are available to download on the website.

Recording of budget conversation: <a href="https://bit.ly/2022-11-08-Conversation-Budget2023">https://bit.ly/2022-11-08-Conversation-Budget2023</a>
Registration/documents: <a href="https://nakonhakaucc.ca/event/november-2022-regional-council-gathering-online/">https://nakonhakaucc.ca/event/november-2022-regional-council-gathering-online/</a>

### **STEWARDSHIP**

## **Stewardship Update - November 2022**

Roger Janes, the staff person supporting stewardship for our regional council, has sent an important update about the following topics (please download PDF for more details):

- Gifts with Vision
  - Gifts with Vision turns gift giving into an opportunity to do something extra for our church partners.
- Get Support to Create your Stewardship Campaign
   Two learning opportunities are coming up in January 2023
- Deadline for Mission & Service Transfers Changed
   As of 2023, the deadline for pastoral charges to make their final 2022 Mission & Service transfer is January 15, 2023.
- Book a time to talk about stewardship
   Don't know where to start? Book a phone or Zoom conversation with Roger today!

Download PDF: https://bit.ly/2022-11-16-StewardshipUpdates

#### **PASTORAL RELATIONS**

#### **REMINDER - Online Ministry Support Group**

Next meeting is Tuesday, December 6 at 1:30 pm. Learn more: dhayward@united-church.ca

#### **GRANTING AND ENABLING LEADERSHIP TEAM (GELT)**



## Light a Spark Program - videos

Further to a conversation and questions about the Light a Spark program during the recent budget conversation, links to four videos from a range of Light a Spark program participants have been posted to the regional council website.

Learn more: https://nakonhakaucc.ca/resources/granting-and-enabling/

### REMINDER - NEXT REGIONAL COUNCIL GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 15, 2023

Learn more: https://nakonhakaucc.ca/resources/granting-and-enabling/

## STAFF UPDATES

#### **REMINDER - Acting Executive Minister**

Please note that Rev. Dan Hayward will be serving as acting Executive Minister for Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council upon Rev. Rosemary Lambie's retirement earlier this week until a new Executive Minister is hired. You can reach Dan at <a href="mailto:dhayward@united-church.cg">dhayward@united-church.cg</a> or 1-800-268-3781 ext. 6150.

## LIVING INTO RIGHT RELATIONS

rightrelationsnakonhaka@gmail.com

## **REMINDER - Invitation to Leadership Teams**

The Living into Right Relations Leadership Circle strongly encourages all members of leadership teams and the wider regional council to participate in upcoming learning sessions on right relations and reconciliation, including the blanket exercise and decolonizing settler mentality.

Learn more: rightrelationsnakonhaka@gmail.com

Living into Right Relations news: <a href="https://mailchi.mp/united-church/living-into-right-relations-1050636">https://mailchi.mp/united-church/living-into-right-relations-1050636</a>

#### UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

https://nakonhakaucc.ca/programs/ucw/

## **Keeping in Touch Newsletter – 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary**

Download PDF: <a href="https://nakonhakaucc.ca/programs/ucw/">https://nakonhakaucc.ca/programs/ucw/</a>

## **WEST ISLAND AND RIVERSIDE CLUSTER**











## **Shared Worship Service – October 30, 2022** (shared by David-Roger Gagnon)

- 1. Ste. Geneviève United Church was full for the West Island and Riverside "5th Sunday" Shared worship. Many of the communities of faith in the West Island and Riverside Cluster took part in a shared worship service Remembering the Saints and making space for healing.
- 2. Pasteure Joëlle Leduc leads the Territorial Acknowledgement at the beginning of the service.
- 3. Pasteure Joëlle Leduc and Rev. Linda Buchanan lead « Worship Our Way » or « WOW », talking about Super Heros in the Bible, like Samuel.
- 4. The choir of Merging Waters United Church offered an anthem, *Dust to Dust*, composed and arranged by Michael Woytiuk, Music Ministry Director for Merging Waters, in which we heard the words: "Stardust. Remember you are Stardust." *A Psalm of Autumn Homecoming*, by Edward Hayes, was read as a reflection during which people were invited to write the names of their loved ones who have joined the Communion of Saints.
- 5. All of the leaves with names of loved ones who were being remembered which were placed on a cross of remembrance.

### BEACONSFIELD UNITED CHURCH

## **Covenant Service with Rev. Linda Buchanan**

A worship service was held on **Sunday**, **November 13** to celebrate the covenant between Beaconsfield United Church and their new minister, Rev. Linda Buchanan.

## TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

## **Tables and Chairs**

Our church is looking for tables and folding chairs as our tables are falling apart. For more information, contact Diane Best: diane\_red-pink5@live.com

#### WESTMOUNT PARK UNITED CHURCH



REMINDER - RAISE THE ROOF! Sing-Along Worship for Churches in Nakonha:ka Region (in cooperation with St. James United Church)

Sunday, November 20 at 4:30 pm

4695 Blvd de Maisonneuve Ouest, Westmount, Qc H3Z 1L9

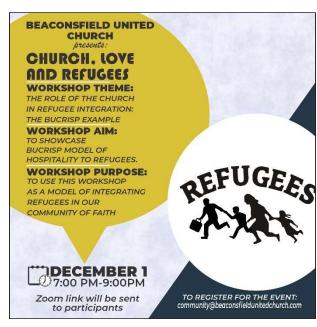
Come to re-live the intensity of great hymns and singing, to raise your spirit, as well as the roof. (Choirs are welcome. Please let us know in advance)

## SOUTHWEST UNITED CHURCH

### **REMINDER - Bibles available**

We have various editions of the Good News Bible to give away, free to a good home!!!

Learn more: <a href="mailto:southwestunited@gmail.com">southwestunited@gmail.com</a>











## **LEARNING NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES**

## **REMINDER - CENTRE FOR CHRISTIAN STUDIES (CCS)**

CCS Fridays are online conversations to help us all to respond faithfully to emerging issues in local contexts. These workshops are hosted by the Centre for Christian Studies and open to anyone who might be interested. Each session will be in the form of a Zoom workshop with a presentation that will be recorded for future viewing, plus opportunities to engage with the ideas in small groups.

The next CCS Friday is on **November 18 at noon (Central).** It will be a discussion of rapture and Matthew 24:36-44 (lectionary reading for the first Sunday in Advent, in time for your worship preparation at the end of the month) with Canadian Mennonite University professor Dan Epp-Tiessen.

The event is free but you must register at: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0pc-mpqTotGdA7luPcONaoDSd4i8kOj1iL">https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0pc-mpqTotGdA7luPcONaoDSd4i8kOj1iL</a>

#### **UNITED IN LEARNING**

See the entire line-up of learning opportunities for 2022 at: https://www.united-in-learning.com/

## **EMPLOYMENT AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Administrator/Church Secretary**

Mountainside United Church, now worshipping at the Birks Heritage Chapel, is seeking to recruit an office administrator/church secretary for our office located at The Presbyterian College, 3495 rue University.

The ideal candidate must have office experience which includes word processing, internet use, familiarity with Zoom, Word, Excel and Microsoft Office 365. While knowledge of French would be an asset, proficiency in both spoken and written English is required. A complete job description is available to those expressing interest. Training will include a 3 month probation with the possibility of renewal.

Candidates should forward their CV to Lynne Dawson, Chairperson of the Ministry and Personnel Committee: <a href="mailto:ldawson\_2002@yahoo.com">ldawson\_2002@yahoo.com</a>

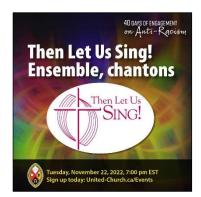
Additional employment and volunteer opportunities are available through United Church of Canada at <a href="https://united-church.ca/opportunities/">https://united-church.ca/opportunities/</a> or <a href="https://egliseunie.ca/engagement-et-formation/emplois-et-benevolat/">https://egliseunie.ca/engagement-et-formation/emplois-et-benevolat/</a>

# **UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA NEWS AND EVENTS**

## **Statement on United Church Maternity Homes**

The United Church of Canada has been named in a class-action lawsuit regarding forced adoptions and abuse at several of the maternity homes it ran from the 1920s to the 1980s.

Learn more: <a href="https://united-church.ca/news/statement-united-church-maternity-homes">https://united-church.ca/news/statement-united-church-maternity-homes</a>



### **REMINDER**

## 40 Days of Engagement on Anti-Racism

Are you ready? 40 Days of Engagement on Anti-Racism runs **until November 27**. Here's how you can participate:

- Read the daily written reflections on the 40 Days website
- · Be part of a 40 Days Live Event
- · Buy a book addressing anti-racism
- · Subscribe to the 40 Days of Engagement on Anti-Racism newsletter

Learn more: https://mailchi.mp/united-church/es221011-1050516

#### Recent newsletters from United Church of Canada:

- Broadview newsletter: <a href="https://mailchi.mp/61e011af6ebc/mother-struggles-son-military">https://mailchi.mp/61e011af6ebc/mother-struggles-son-military</a>
- Embracing the Spirit: https://mailchi.mp/united-church/embracing-the-spirit-1050760
- E-ssentials: <a href="https://mailchi.mp/united-church/es221115-1050808">https://mailchi.mp/united-church/es221115-1050808</a>
- Philanthropy News: https://mailchi.mp/united-church/gods-mission-our-gifts-1050584
- UCC Foundation News: https://mailchi.mp/united-church/nov-22-foundation-newsletter
- United Church Bookstore (UCRD): https://mailchi.mp/ucrdstore.ca/220919-1050772
- UC Rural Ministry Network: https://mailchi.mp/f8e2b2471f26/summer-newsletter-from-ucrmn-12142280
- United in Learning: https://mailchi.mp/united-church/united-in-learning-1050708



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## LA TABLE DES MINISTÈRES EN FRANÇAIS

ehebert@egliseunie.ca

## Ensemble, chantons! Comment chanter contre le racisme

Le 22 novembre à 19h, la dernière soirée des 40 jours contre le racisme sera dévouée à la musique. C'est une soirée bilingue avec traduction simultanée. Mettez-le à votre calendrier. L'inscription arrivera bientôt.

## Rappel de Prépdication – chaque mercredi matin

Souvenez-vous que tous les mercredis matins, des prédicateurs et prédicatrices se rassemblent pour parler des textes bibliques pour dimanche. C'est une excellente façon de se préparer pour la prédication! De 8h à 9h... le lien demeure toujours pareil :

https://united-church.zoom.us/j/99002453642?pwd=UXc4c3Zod250ekhZb1dDNTB2TjJIdz09

Infolettre: <a href="https://mailchi.mp/egliseunie/infolettre-7-novembre-2022">https://mailchi.mp/egliseunie/infolettre-7-novembre-2022</a>

# **OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS**

#### **Canadian Centre for Ecumenism**

The Great Ecumenical Celebration of Montreal will take place on **January 22**, **2023 at 3 pm** at St. Gregory the Illuminator Church, 615 Stuart Ave, Montréal, QC H2V 3H2. You and your choir are welcome to take part in the preparation of this event.

Learn more: https://mailchi.mp/oikoumene/infolettre-novembre-2022-newsletter-november-2022

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

## CONSEIL RÉGIONAL NAKONHA: KA REGIONAL COUNCIL (CrNRC)

1-800-268-3781

CrNRC Office (Lachine)

225 – 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Lachine, QC H8T 2T7

ALTERNATE PHONE NUMBER: (514) 634-7015

FAX: (514) 634-2489

Office of Vocation / EOORC Office (Carleton Place) 37 Franklin Street, Carleton Place, ON K7C 1R6 ALTERNATE PHONE NUMBER: (416) 231-7680

Staff contact information and profiles: <a href="https://nakonhakaucc.ca/about-us/staff/">https://nakonhakaucc.ca/about-us/staff/</a>



## SHARE YOUR NEWS!

Send stories: <u>icoffin@united-church.ca</u>

Submit events: <a href="https://nakonhakaucc.ca/events/community/add">https://nakonhakaucc.ca/events/community/add</a>

NEXT NEWSLETTER: November 30, 2022 SUBMISSION DEADLINE: November 25, 2022