



February 8, 2023

DEEP SPIRITUALITY - BOLD DISCIPLESHIP - DARING JUSTICE

IDENTITY AND PURPOSE: BEING WHO WE ARE (by Judy Coffin, Communications)

For those who haven't heard yet, my father passed away on January 30. As my family grieves, we also reflect on who my dad was as a person, and on how he followed the call to share his unique gifts and talents in the circles in which he moved. For me, my dad deeply embodied the following reflections posted by SALT Project a few weeks ago about being salt and light in the world:



Our identity and purpose — who we are and what we're meant to do — are virtually one and the same. Like salt and light, God made you as a small thing that can make a big difference for a larger whole. God made you to spice things up — not to overpower the dish, but to enliven it, enhancing and highlighting its other flavors. And likewise, God made you to shine, as only you can: a flame that can light up an entire room, or help guide a lost traveler home.

*Jesus isn't giving his listeners a new role to play here; rather, he's naming who we already are. We don't have to work to become salt and light. God made us this way, blessing us with gifts that can bless the world. But we do have to claim and embrace and live out these gifts. We do have to actually be salty and luminous, fulfilling and embodying what our gifts make possible. **We do have to be who we are.***

As we continue to move forward together as a regional council, we are being called to understand and express **who we are** as individuals, as communities of faith, as a regional council. Other regional councils have their own identities and purpose; we are being called to express **who we are** as part of the body of Christ, as part of the larger church in the world, and in discerning how elements of the new strategic plan for The United Church of Canada as a whole might be expressed locally in meaningful ways, through deep spirituality, bold discipleship and daring justice. We will be talking about this more in coming days, but in the meantime, I invite you to reflect on this question: **Who do you say that we are?**

Learn more: <https://www.saltproject.org/progressive-christian-blog/2020/2/3/salt-and-light-salts-lectionary-commentary-for-epiphany-5>

The United Church Of Canada Call and Vision:

<https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/welcome-united-church-canada/our-call-and-our-vision>

REMINDER - Resources for 2023

- 2023 Manual: <https://united-church.ca/handbooks-and-guidelines>
- Worship resources: <https://united-church.ca/worship-resources>
- Special dates in 2023: <https://united-church.ca/sites/default/files/2022-06/special-sundays-2023.pdf>

REGIONAL COUNCIL NEWS

Upcoming Video Interview with Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly

On **Thursday, February 16th**, communications staff, Karen Wilson (ECORC), Anita Jansman (EOORC) and I will be conducting a video interview with our new Executive Minister, Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly. We are asking members of our Regional Councils for input. Is there a question you would like us to ask Rev. Éric?

We will choose questions from each of the three regions and try to get in as many as possible in a one-hour interview. The video will be posted on the Nakonha:ka YouTube channel and will be promoted in the newsletter and on social media. Please note that not all questions may be answered in the interview, but will be shared with Éric. Please submit your questions by **Tuesday, February 14th** to jcoffin@united-church.ca.

Other opportunities coming soon to participate and share your input!

- Submission form for Regional Council Directory
- Communications Survey (part 1 of 3)



REGIONAL COUNCIL GATHERINGS

REMINDER

Tentative dates for upcoming Regional Council meetings

- **March 24-25*** (online)
- **June 3** (in person)
- ***CHANGE OF DATE* November 24-25** (online)

***ANNUAL REPORTS:** A notice has already been sent out to individuals, but please be mindful that annual reports from leadership teams, networks, clusters and regional council staff for the regional council report book should be submitted to Joel Miller **by February 24** at the latest (to allow time for translation before our upcoming regional council gathering in March.) Joel and the translation team are always extremely appreciative of early submissions! Submit reports: jmiller@united-church.ca

GRANTING AND ENABLING LEADERSHIP TEAM (GELT)

LAST CALL! - NEXT REGIONAL COUNCIL GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINE: **February 15, 2023**

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

MINISTRY PERSONNEL

Workshops for M&P Committees (Rev. Dan Hayward)

A series of four workshops will be offered to ministry personnel and faith communities in East Central Ontario, Eastern Ontario Outaouais and Nakonha:ka in coming months.



- **Ministry & Personnel Committee Workshop**
Saturday, March 18, 2023 (9:00 am – 12 noon)
- **Creating a Living Faith Story & Profile**
Wednesday, March 22, 2023 (7:00 – 9:00pm)
- **Healthy Church – Happy Church: Bridges & Roadblocks to Good Communication**
Wednesday, May 3, 2023 (7:00 – 9:00pm)
- **Conducting Annual Evaluations of Staff and Programs**
Wednesday, May 17, 2023 (7:00 – 9:00pm)

Learn more: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/blog/2023/02/13/ministry-and-personnel-workshops-2023/>

*****PLEASE SHARE THIS LINK WITH YOUR MINISTRY PERSONNEL AND M&P COMMITTEE*****

A Message to Current and Future Voluntary Associate Ministers (Joel Miller)

The deadline for submitting the VAM form is **July 1st, 2023**. The form (covering the period beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024) is now available on the Nakonha:ka website (link below).

Completed forms should be sent to Joel Miller, Program Assistant to Executive Minister, via email jmiller@united-church.ca or by regular mail to 225 50th avenue, Lachine, Québec, H8T 2T7. Telephone inquiries accepted at 1.800.268.3781, extension 6152.

Download form: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/resources/policies/>

Additional information: See Policy for Voluntary Associate Ministers (p. 28-29)

<https://nakonhakaucc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Governance-Handbook-Version-March-12-2022.pdf>

DECEASED: Rev. Doreen (Doyle) Canavan

Our sympathies go out to the family and friends of Rev. Doreen Canavan, who died on **January 11, 2023**. Doreen was ordained as a Minister of The United Church of Canada later in life, after raising her three boys; To the best of my knowledge, she and her family were one-time members at Union Church (Ste. Anne de Bellevue) and Doreen completed part of her studies as a student minister at Ste. Genevieve United Church, with an internship at Montreal City Mission.

Learn more: <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/en-ca/obituaries/pointe-claire-qc/doreen-doyle-11105226>

Online Ministry Support Group

Next meeting is **Tuesday, March 7 at 1:30 pm.** (Other dates for 2023: April 11, May 2 and June 6.)

Learn more: dhayward@united-church.ca

REMINDER - Annual Declarations (shared by The Office of Vocation)

We'd like to advise ministry personnel that the 2023 Annual Declaration is now open **until May 19, 2023.** **It's free and only takes a few minutes.** Log into ChurchHub.ca to make your Annual Declaration about whether you've had criminal charges in the last year or not. Also, please note, if you make your Annual Declaration each year, you do not need to get a new police records check!

Need help accessing ChurchHub? Please contact ministry@united-church.ca

REMINDER - Revisions to the Regional Cost-of-Living Group Assignments / 2023 Pulpit Supply Rates

Learn more: <https://united-church.ca/leadership/church-administration/compensation-and-benefits/ministers-salary-schedule-and-cost>

STAFF

Sympathies

On behalf of the regional council, we would like to extend sympathies to our official translator, Clara Maranzano, on the death of her father on January 7. Our prayers go out to her and her family as they mourn his death and celebrate his life.

On a personal note, I would like to say thanks to all for the sympathies and prayers of support that have already been expressed to me (Judy) after the death of my father, Garth Coffin, on January 30.



STEWARDSHIP

REMINDER - Getting Started in Stewardship

Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 1pm (Zoom)

Join United Church people from across the country to learn some stewardship first principles.

Start with an on-line 2-hour course that answers questions like: What is stewardship all about anyway? Isn't stewardship just a churchy word for fundraising? Why do people give, and why would they give to our church? What can we do to encourage greater generosity?

The practical assignments that follow will help you reflect on giving and generosity as part of your faith, gather and interpret some of the giving data from your community of faith, and build a stewardship team in order to start making stewardship a priority in your community of faith.

Completion of this course is a great first step before participating in *Called to Be the Church: The Journey* (Module 1), which will be offered next in **March 2023.**

Registration: <https://forms.office.com/r/idCxNLcBeq>

Any questions, please contact Roger Janes at rjanes@united-church.ca



BURSARIES

Hello? Hello!

The education of young people is important and our Church supports it. This year the scholarship committee will award at least fifteen Hugh Duncan scholarships for full-time university studies. **All the details and scholarship application forms will be available in March.** Don't miss your chance!

For any questions, please contact Monique Moser: monique.moser@umontreal.ca

EXECUTIVE

Next Executive meeting will be **February 15, 2023.** Once approved and translated, final minutes of Executive meetings are posted at: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/resources/minutes-and-reports/>

♥ **SAVE THE DATE!** Next Meeting of First Third Ministries Leadership Team: **Feb. 14 at 7:00 pm** ♥

ENVIRONMENT NETWORK

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/516855109486568>**Next Meeting of GreenFaith Montréal - Wednesday, February 15 from 11am-noon**

Please mark your calendars for the next online gathering of our Montreal GreenFaith Circle. Looking forward to reconnecting! A chance to reflect on highlights from the past year and to share hopes/dreams/ideas for engagement as we move into this next year.

For Zoom link, please contact Rev. Wendy Evans: evanswendy@gmail.com

United Church Calls for Release of Water Defenders

The United Church of Canada joins with 250 organizations from 29 countries to call on the Salvadoran government to drop the charges against leading Water Defenders arrested on January 11.

Learn more: <https://united-church.ca/news/united-church-calls-release-water-defenders>

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: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/living-into-right-relations-1051312>

EMPLOYMENT AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Director of Growth and Ministry Development - Closing Date: 2023-02-20

The United Church of Canada is seeking an individual to fill the role of Director of Growth in the Organizational Development and Strategy Unit on a permanent full-time basis (35 hours/week).

Learn more: <https://united-church.ca/opportunities/director-growth-and-ministry-development>

General Council Business Coordinator (volunteer) - Closing Date: 2023-03-23

The United Church of Canada is seeking someone to plan and oversee the faith-filled decision-making process of the 45th General Council. The Business Coordinator serves as a part of the Planning Committee to create a joyful, decisive, effective, and equitable General Council.

Learn more: <https://united-church.ca/opportunities/general-council-business-coordinator>

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

LEARNING NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

UNITED CHURCH STUDIES AT MONTREAL DIO - OPEN ENROLMENT COURSES WINTER 2023

These courses are aimed at anyone who is interested in deepening their Christian faith and knowledge, and cultivating leadership skills in the church. There is no homework or written assignments. All you need is a desire to learn and a willingness to participate.

*****CHANGE OF DATES*******Leer la Biblia: Antiguo Testamento – Un Dios fiel, promesa y liberación**

18 de marzo y 15 de abril de 2023, 9 h – 16 h

Learn more: <https://montrealdio.ca/courses/leer-la-biblia-antiguo-testamento-un-dios-fiel-promesa-y-liberacion/>

*****CHANGE OF DATES*******Leer la Biblia: Nuevo Testamento – Jesús, una alianza renovada con Dios**

13 de mayo y 10 de junio de 2023, 9 h – 16 h

Learn more: <https://montrealdio.ca/courses/leer-la-biblia-nuevo-testamento-jesus-una-alianza-renovada-con-dios%E2%80%AF/>

REMINDERS

Paul the Apostle

Wednesdays, March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29, 2023, 7:00pm to 8:30pm

Learn more: <https://montrealdio.ca/courses/paul-the-apostle/>

French for Ministry Intensive - May 8-12, 2023

Learn more: <https://montrealdio.ca/courses/french-for-ministry> or contact info@montrealdio.ca

CCS Fridays



**CENTRE FOR
CHRISTIAN STUDIES**
Imagine Church Differently

Online conversations offered by the [Centre for Christian Studies](#) to help us all to respond faithfully to emerging issues in local contexts. These workshops are open to anyone who might be interested. Each session will be on a **Friday from 12:00 to 1:00 CT** and in the form of a Zoom workshop. There will be a presentation that will be recorded for future viewing, plus opportunities to engage with the ideas in small groups.

REMINDER - On **February 10**, CCS is pleased to be offering a free online workshop on **Personal Finances for Clergy**, led by Glenn Morison. This two-session online workshop will focus on things Glenn wished he knew about money earlier in his ministry career, including savings, pensions, investments, and budgeting. Session one will focus on theological approaches to personal finances. Session two, a month or so later, will focus on ways to make and improve your financial stability.

Learn more: <http://ccsonline.ca/2023/01/personal-finances-for-clergy>

LOCAL COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS

<https://nakonhakaucc.ca/events/>

UNION UNITED CHURCH (Montreal)

IN THE NEWS! Union United in Montreal: A Black community bedrock for more than a century (Broadview article by Ashley Okwuosa)

As we mark Black History Month, we were delighted to see that Union United Church Montreal was recently featured in Broadview magazine, celebrating this Black congregation as the oldest in The United Church of Canada, and highlighting their ongoing dedication to community service. An additional reflection on the article ("This Black congregation has much to teach a mostly white United Church") was shared recently by Julie McGonegal in *The Focus*, a new biweekly newsletter from Broadview that focuses specifically on news and analysis about The United Church of Canada.

Learn more: <https://broadview.org/union-united-montreal>

Subscribe to The Focus: <https://broadview.org/newsletter/>

MERGING WATERS UNITED CHURCH (Ste. Anne de Bellevue and Beaurepaire)



Spare Parts 20th Anniversary

In December 2002, the faith community of Union Church (Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue) faced a January 5 Epiphany Sunday with no-one to lead the music of worship. Two congregants fell into step one afternoon and one opined "Surely, with all the musical talent in this community we can scare up a respectable 'garage band'". Thirty seconds later the band was named "*Spare Parts*". Three weeks, many emails and 1-1/2 practises later, a small group of nervous amateur musicians assembled at the front of the sanctuary and led their friends in a service of contemporary music taken from the Pop, Rock

and Jazz canon. They have been doing it ever since. This past **January 8**, *Spare Parts* (now a respected member of the music program of Merging Waters United Church) celebrated its 20th anniversary where it all started. Here is a picture of the band that day with their new Pastor Lisa Byer-de Wever.

You can check in on that worship service at <https://www.Youtube.com/watch?v=qiVff7dlFbw> - they really do music you don't expect to hear in church!

Covenanting Service

On **Sunday, March 19**, Merging Waters United Church will hold a covenanting service to celebrate our new relationship with Lisa Byer-de Wever, Student Minister. Worship at 2:00 pm, with a reception to follow. All are welcome to join in this happy start down an exciting pathway! 24 Maple, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue.

Sympathies

Our sympathies go out to the family and friends of Valerie Strong, former elected lay representative of Merging Waters United Church. A memorial service was held on **February 11th, 2pm** at 24 Maple Avenue, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue. Donation in lieu of flowers to NOVA West Island.

Learn more: <https://montrealgazette.remembering.ca/obituary/valerie-strong-1087026332>

MONTREAL CITY MISSION (Montreal)

MCM GETS A TRANSPLANT!



For those familiar with the popular CTV series *Transplant*, featuring a Syrian refugee who is a doctor building a new life in Toronto, you will be happy to know that some members of our catering collective, Women Weaving Their Dreams - Vers un souffle nouveau, recently catered an event at McGill University sponsored by Doctors Without Borders and in honour of the television show, *Transplant*. The delicious spread was appreciated by one and all and the catering staff was delighted to meet some of the *Transplant* cast.

Nous remercions nos partenaires, Médecins Sans Frontières, d'avoir rendu hommage à cette série qui sensibilise le public aux enjeux de l'intégration et de nous avoir inclus dans la célébration!

GO! HABS! GO!



Thanks to the Montreal Canadiens Children's Foundation, we were able to treat a group of young girls from our community of friends, one of whom had just arrived from Sudan, to their first hockey game... in a VIP box!

Quelle soirée émouvante pour ces jeunes filles; et quelle opportunité enrichissante pour apprendre à connaître la culture canadienne via notre sport national! The best way to integrate Canadian culture and make new friends!

Merci encore à nos partenaires à la Fondation des Canadiens pour l'Enfance pour cette belle soirée!



Request re *More Voices* hymn books

If any communities of faith have copies of *More Voices* that they will not be using in future, please contact Judy at jcoffin@united-church.ca to help them find a loving home!

RIVERSIDE UNITED CHURCH PRESENTS:

Good Courage

A Lenten study that "aims to inspire with honest testimonies from people who have had the courage to follow their hearts, to hope against hope, and to faithfully work towards a better world."



Starting on **March 2**, join us every Thursday night during Lent at

WHEN: 7:00pm as we reflect and explore courageous hope and the new life that can come from it.

WHERE: On Zoom. Zoom link emailed out upon request.

For more information email: riversideunitedchurch@hotmail.com
please contact us at: website: riversideunited.org



Celtic Night
Saturday
March 18th, 2023
7:30pm

Join us for an evening of music and fun

\$15.00/person
includes coffee/tea and dessert
(BJOB)



Roxboro United Church
116 Cartier, Roxboro
www.roxborounitedchurch.org
for tickets please call 514-685-4956

BEACONSFIELD UNITED CHURCH
presents:
FOUR SUNDAY PROGRAMS FOR
Black History
MONTH 2023

1ST SUNDAY: SYMPOSIUM: BLACK HISTORY: THE GOOD AND OUR FUTURE GUEST SPEAKERS: RITA NDUONOFIT & ADENIYI YETUNDE MODERATOR: ADEDEJI SUNDAY AKINTAYO	2ND SUNDAY: RECONCILIATION WITH THE PAST - PASTOR NANDOM GUNEN FROM PLATEAU STATE, NIGERIA/ CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
3RD SUNDAY: CREATED IN THE IMAGE OF GOD - REV MUSA DAUDA FROM KADUNA STATE, NIGERIA/MCGILL UNIVERSITY	4TH SUNDAY: BLACKS AND FORGIVING THE PAST- ADEDEJI SUNDAY AKINTAYO

TIME: 10:00AM TO 11:00AM DATE: FEBRUARY 5TH, 12TH, 19TH & 26TH.
202 Woodside Rd, Beaconsfield, Quebec H9W 2P1
Powered By: Beaconsfield United Church Refugee Integration Support Program
#7community@beaconsfield.com www.beaconsfieldunitedchurch.com

Ionkwatkwatonhatie
The Kanesatake United Church cordially invites you to a very important event!
Dedication of the 1st Complete Mohawk Bible Dedication and Launch

Date: Saturday September 9, 2023
Time: 11:00am
Location: Kanesatake United Church
209 Des Anges
Kanesatake, Qc
J0N 1E0

Meal banquet to follow at
Lalonde Reception Hall
Time: 12:30pm
862 Montée Laurin,
Saint-Eustache, Quebec, J7R 0J2

RSVP by MAY 2023 FOR BANQUET TO: saterwas.karenhacasgabriel@gmail.com

UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA NEWS AND EVENTS

REMINDER - NEW! Relief Fund for Thriving Congregations

This granting fund will provide the opportunity for congregations that have plans to continue to be of service to their communities and that have vibrant programs and outreach to receive a grant to help alleviate the pressure of debt. We will be accepting applications for this grant from **15 January to 15 April 2023**. The application, and additional details, is available on the Foundation website.

Learn more: <https://www.unitedchurchfoundation.ca/grants/general-grant-opportunities/>

Recent newsletters from United Church of Canada:

- Broadview newsletter: https://mailchi.mp/0f2f9e739d04/forest_biomass
- Embracing the Spirit: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/embracing-the-spirit-1051348>
- E-ssentials: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/es231220-1051388>
- Philanthropy News: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/gods-mission-our-gifts-1051288>
- UCC Foundation News: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/faithful-steward-webinar-8708947>
- United Church Bookstore (UCRD): <https://mailchi.mp/ucrdstore.ca/ash-wednesday-is-just-two-weeks-away>
- UC Rural Ministry Network: <https://mailchi.mp/ac444387fbba/summer-newsletter-from-ucrmn-13536748>
- United in Learning: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/united-in-learning-1051328>



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Abonnez-vous à l'info-lettre de l'Église Unie du Canada : <https://bit.ly/EgliseUnie-infolettre-Subscribe>

LA TABLE DES MINISTÈRES EN FRANÇAIS

RAPPEL - Prepdication – le mercredi matin dès 8 h – l'occasion de discuter avec d'autres personnes des textes bibliques du lectionnaire de la semaine, en vue de l'animation d'un culte ou par intérêt personnel.

Bienvenue à toute et à tous :

Lien Zoom : <https://united-church.zoom.us/j/99002453642?pwd=UXc4c3Zod250ekhZb1dDNTB2TjJldz09>

ID: 990 0245 3642 Password: 838314

RAPPEL - Mois de l'histoire des personnes d'ascendance africaine : pour tous les détails de la programmation de cette année, visitez le site Web <https://egliseunie.ca/mois-de-lhistoire-des-personnes-dascendance-africaine-2023/>

RAPPEL - AGA de la Table : Le **samedi 25 février prochain, de 9 h à 12 h**. Pour vous inscrire et recevoir le lien de participation Zoom ainsi que toute la documentation dont vous aurez besoin, [cliquez ici](#).

RAPPEL - Voyage « Venez voir » en Terre sainte

La date limite pour signifier votre intérêt est le **28 février**. <https://egliseunie.ca/venezvoir/>

Infolettre : <https://mailchi.mp/egliseunie/infolettre-6-fevrier-2023>

OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

SPECIAL APPEAL: Urgent appeal for Stem Cell Donors in Canada

(Virginia Wallace, Pastor Mount Bruno - Richelieu Valley United Churches)

Hello friends, my brother, Chris, is in urgent need of a stem cell transplant. He is suffering from a deadly form of leukemia called Myelofibrosis. My sister and I are currently being tested as donors for our brother, as siblings are usually the best possible match, but there are so many others suffering from various diseases that could be cured by stem cell donations. If you are between the ages of 17-35 (in Canada), I urge you to go to <https://www.blood.ca/en> or <https://www.hema-quebec.qc.ca/index.en.html> to request your cheek swab test kit. It's that simple. Once your cheek swab is analyzed and you are accepted, you may find out that your stem cells could save someone's life. If you are not in the age range (you probably know someone who is - so spread the word), by signing the back of your driver's licence as an organ donor, or by giving blood regularly (my brother is currently receiving 2 pints of blood almost every week now) you may be saving someone's life.

REMINDER - Anglican Diocese of Montreal: Black History 365

On **Saturday February 18th, at 9:30am we** are having Coffee, Croissants, and Conference in Fulford Hall (1444 Union Ave, Montreal, QC H3A 2B8) with Black speakers sharing stories and answering question about what a post-colonial world would actually look like, followed by a Black Heritage Celebration worship service in Christ Church Cathedral with some very good music. We want all in the United Church to feel welcome!

Learn more: <https://www.facebook.com/events/898065928286490>

NEXT NEWSLETTER: February 22, 2023

Send stories: jcoffin@united-church.ca

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: February 17, 2023

Submit events: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/events/community/add>