



CONSEIL RÉGIONAL
NAKONHA:KA
REGIONAL COUNCIL



THEME: Celebrating Mother Earth

Bridging the gap between Earth Week and Mother's Day weekend, this edition of the newsletter kicks off with an environmental focus, celebrating Mother Earth (and highlighting the Climate Justice segment of the fish diagram shared at our last regional council meeting.)

CLIMATE JUSTICE

The United Church of Canada shows marked progress in climate actions

On the heels of Earth Week, The United Church of Canada released its second *Sustainability Report*, which highlights the work it is doing to combat the climate crisis through a lens of four climate pillars: putting its own house in order, connecting with the earth, raising spirited voices, and responding to climate impact.

Learn more: <https://united-church.ca/news/united-church-canada-shows-marked-progress-climate-actions>

The End of the World as We Know It

For Earth Week, Moderator Carmen Lansdowne wrote about actions and choices for climate justice that may preserve our future: <https://united-church.ca/blogs/round-table/end-world-we-know-it>

FOR THE LOVE OF CREATION

Earth Week Activities

Congratulations to the following communities of faith and environmental ministries within Conseil régional Nakhonha:ka Regional Council who offered activities supporting Climate Justice as part of Earth Week 2023:

- Retrofit Tour: **Cedar Park United Church**, Pointe-Claire
- Resurrect Your Bike: **Ste. Genevieve United Church**, Dollard-des-Ormeaux
- Earth Sunday Service: **Beaconsfield United Church**, Beaconsfield
- Water Runs Through Us - Online Action Hour: **GreenFaith Montreal**

Faithful Climate Conversations - Climate Action Discernment Process

To encourage dialogue on climate change, For the Love of Creation developed *Faithful Climate Conversations*, a series of guides to facilitate small group conversations and action discernment on climate change. The goal of its newest guide, *Climate Action Discernment Process*, is to help groups move towards concrete action while at the same time building a foundation from which future action can emerge...

Learn more: <https://forthe loveofcreation.ca/resources/>

FAITHFUL FOOTPRINTS - Project Insights: Trinity United Church (Cookshire - Eaton, QC)

Received a grant in support of the installation of two heat pumps on the back of the building to serve its sanctuary, church hall and kitchen.



Project Insights

Trinity United Church (Cookshire - Eaton, QC)

OTHER RESOURCES

Green Churches Network: Earth Day video: <https://mailchi.mp/4245adb9dff5/green-churches-newsletter-6273203>

DEEP SPIRITUALITY - BOLD DISCIPLESHIP - DARING JUSTICE

REM REFLECTIONS

A new series of reflections by our Regional Executive Minister, Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly, will be posted on the web site as they are available. Here are links to the first two posts:



Recognizing Hope (as shared at St. Lambert United Church) :

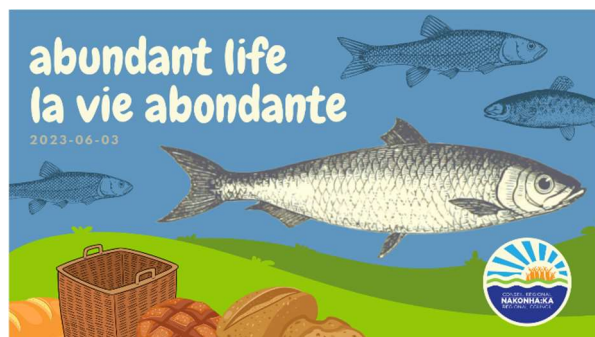
<https://nakonhakaucc.ca/blog/2023/05/07/rem-reflection-recognizing-hope/>

Préparer le chemin malgré tout (as shared at Église Unie Saint-Jean and Église Unie Camino de Émaus - in French):

<https://nakonhakaucc.ca/fr/2023/05/08/reflexions-du-rem-preparer-le-chemin-malgre-tout/>

REGIONAL COUNCIL NEWS

REGIONAL COUNCIL GATHERINGS



JUNE 2023 MEETING

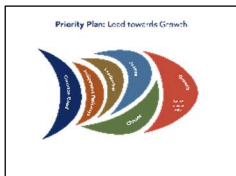
We are going to explore the idea of abundant life together at our next hybrid regional council meeting on **Saturday, June 3** (hosted by Plymouth Trinity United Church in Sherbrooke). **Full details are available on the event page of the web site.**

Learn more: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/event/regional-council-gathering-june-2023/>

NOTE: Please register ASAP so we know how many people to plan for, in person and online.

SAVE THE DATE - 2023 FALL MEETING: November 24-25 (online)

VISIONACTION



Summary of responses to fish diagram

At the last meeting of the Regional Council, the VisionAction team introduced a process to create a strategic plan for our regional council. After exploring *The United Church of Canada Strategic Plan 2023-2025* (available to download at https://united-church.ca/sites/default/files/2022-12/strategic-plan-final_nov-2022.pdf), participants were asked to respond to several questions including: What in the plan feels hopeful/what causes concern? What could growth look like, and where is it already happening?

[Click here for a summary of your responses](#)

Three Places Open for Diversification of VisionAction Team

There was a strong opinion that the VisionAction team was not diverse enough to truly hear all the voices clearly, so three seats have been opened for voices that are missing from the team. Diversity, in terms of racial and ethnic background, life stage, language, gender identity, sexual orientation, physical abilities, vocational or economic status makes us strong. As a church committed to proactively address inequities and exclusion, we encourage you to volunteer to join the team. Please contact Rev. Helen Hliaras at helenhliaras@hotmail.com before **May 30, 2023**.

NOMINATIONS

REMINDER - A Message from the Nominations Leadership Team

Have you wondered what the "Leadership Teams" are all about in our region? What are they? What do they do? Who is on them? To find out, follow this link: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/about-us/governance-leadership/>

If you are interested in joining one of our Leadership Teams click on the link below to fill out an "Expression of Interest" Form: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/resources/nominations/>



STAFF UPDATES

Welcome to new archivist, Sara DeMelo-Zare!

As mentioned in our previous newsletter, we have a new archivist! Sara began in her role on April 3rd, 2023. Please wish Sara a warm welcome at SDZare@united-church.ca.

Learn more: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/about-us/staff/>

MINISTRY PERSONNEL

Online Ministry Support Group - Tuesday, June 6 at 1:30 pm.

Medical Assistance in Dying has been legal in Canada for over six years. United Church people are faced with their loved ones choosing assistance in dying, or considering it themselves. How did we get here? How can the church support people who are challenged with these decisions? How has the MAID system evolved, and how will it change? What context can the church provide from our theology and faith tradition for thinking about this issue?

Learn more: dhayward@united-church.ca

Condolences

On behalf of Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council, we extend our sympathies to Rev. Tom Edmonds on the death of his wife, Rita-Claire, on April 28, 2023.

PLEASE SHARE THE FOLLOWING INVITATION WITH MINISTRY PERSONNEL / M&P COMMITTEE

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

The last in a series of four workshops will be offered to ministry personnel and faith communities in East Central Ontario, Eastern Ontario Outaouais and Nakonha:ka shortly.

- **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/>

LAST CALL - Annual Declarations (shared by The Office of Vocation)

We'd like to advise ministry personnel that the 2023 Annual Declaration is open **until May 19, 2023**.

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

REMINDER - Sabbatical Leave 2024 - CALL FOR REQUESTS

The Sabbatical Leave Committee, which is a committee of the Finance & Extension Board, is presently inviting requests for sabbatical leave from ministry personnel for 2024. If this is in your plans, please contact Diane Campbell (dj.campbell@sympatico.ca) and/or submit a preliminary proposal to the Sabbatical Leave Committee by **June 1, 2023**. This preliminary proposal should include a plan, the reasons for requesting sabbatical leave, timelines, and a draft budget. Learn more: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/resources/sabbatical-leave/>

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

The deadline for submitting the VAM form is **July 1st, 2023**.

Completed forms should be sent to Joel Miller at jmiller@united-church.ca or by regular mail to 225 50th avenue, Lachine, Québec, H8T 2T7. (Telephone: 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>

REMINDER - Bilingual Ministers' Retreat - September 29 & 30 and October 1, 2023

(at Manoir D'Youville on l'île Bernard in Châteauguay)

- **September 29** – Retreat Day for Ordered Ministers
- **September 30** – Co-Learning Day for Ordered Ministers, DLMs and LLWLs
- **October 1st** – Retreat Day for DLMs and LLWLs

If you would like to be part of the planning team, please contact:

Dan Hayward: dhayward@united-church.ca or David-Roger Gagnon: DRGagnon@united-church.ca



BURSARIES

REMINDER - 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 are now available at <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/resources/bursaries/>.

NOTE: Completed forms should be submitted to Brian Ruse (bruse@united-church.ca) **before June 2, 2023**. Don't miss your chance!

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

GRANTING AND ENABLING LEADERSHIP TEAM (GELT)

LAST CALL - Next Regional Council Grant Application Deadline: May 15, 2023

Grant application forms and information: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/resources/granting-and-enabling/>

PROPERTY & FINANCE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Regional Policy on outside charitable donations

The Basis of Union of the United Church of Canada requires that United Church Trustees use their funds strictly for United Church purposes. The Trustees' Handbook invites Regional Councils to establish policies to define what outside charitable donations are permitted for Trustees under such Regional Councils. Our Regional Council has responded with a new policy that defines the general principle that only donations within the United Church and its partners are permitted and spells out the limited exceptions. The idea here is not to shut down the activities of Congregations to support local charities but to provide oversight for this type of support. The text of the Policy can be found in Appendix C of the Minutes of the Executive meeting on February 15, 2023 (<https://nakonhakaucc.ca/resources/minutes-and-reports/>). Any questions should be directed to the Property & Finance Leadership Team through its staff support Brian Ruse at bruse@united-church.ca.

EXECUTIVE

Next Executive meeting will be **May 25, 2023**. Once approved and translated, final minutes of Executive meetings are posted at: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/resources/minutes-and-reports/>

LIVING INTO RIGHT RELATIONS

rightrelationsnakonhaka@gmail.com

Red Dress Day - May 5, 2023

A gathering was held in Cabot Square on May 5 to mark Red Dress Day and present a new MMIWG2S+ research partnership between Iskweu Project, Professor Audrey Rousseau (UQO) and Quebec Native Women (QNW).

[Download press release](#)

Learn more about Red Dress Day: <https://fashionmagazine.com/flare/identity-politics/red-dress-day>

Moose Hide Campaign Day – May 11, 2023

Started along Canada's infamous Highway of Tears, the Moose Hide Campaign is an Indigenous-led grassroots movement of men, boys and all Canadians who are standing up against violence towards women, girls, and 2S people.

Indigenous Ministries and Justice urges individuals and communities of faith to participate in Moose Hide Campaign Day, and to raise awareness of the campaign through the year.

Learn more: <https://united-church.ca/social-action/act-now/participate-moose-hide-campaign-combat-violence-and-call-justice>

PRIDE & FRIENDS NETWORK

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/463343757798001>

Journée sur l'accueil des personnes LGBTQ+ en Église

Le projet Avenir du christianisme social vous invite à un après-midi de réflexion et de ressourcement sur l'accueil des personnes LGBTQ+ en Église, **le samedi 13 mai 2023** à partir de 13 h à l'Église Unie Saint-Jean, à Montréal.

Learn more (in French): <https://www.facebook.com/events/1466229307116476>

FIRST THIRD MINISTRIES

<https://nakonhakaucc.ca/programs/youth-young-adult/>



REMINDER - United Spirit Camp: June 25-July 1, 2023

Learn more: <https://sites.google.com/view/campunitedspirit/home>

Camp brochure now available in French: <https://bit.ly/2023-Brochure-CampEspritUni>

LEARNING NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

UNITED CHURCH STUDIES AT MONTREAL DIO

Honorary Doctorate of Divinity for Rev. Patricia Lisson

Montreal Diocesan Theological College & United Church Studies at Dio is delighted to be conferring the Honorary Doctorate of Divinity on The Rev. Patricia Lisson at this year's convocation. Patricia is being recognized for her decades-long commitment to social ministry in the United Church of Canada and beyond. "We are pleased to honour a lifetime of effort within the church to advance social justice questions and to give this ministry recognition," says Pr. Eric Dyck, Acting Principal at Montreal Dio.

Learn more: <https://montrealdio.ca/the-rev-patricia-lisson-walking-humbly-with-our-god>

LAST CALL - Admission Ministers Orientation - week of May 15



This event is open to ministry leaders and theology students, especially those new to the United Church and those ministering in diverse and intercultural contexts. Please help spread the word to any admission ministers and any other ministers or theology students who might benefit from it. Download PDF: <https://bit.ly/2023-AdmissionOrientation-UCS-Dio>

NOTE: This event will be mainly in English but we can offer support to those who speak more French than English (there may be enough francophones to have a French speaking small group when we break into groups) and most of the resources we use will be bilingual.

REMINDER - Montreal Mission Internship, 2023 - May 29th to July 29th

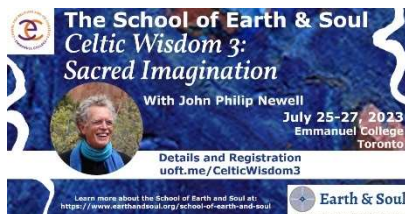


A summer internship for 18- to 25-year-olds who feel a call to ministry outside the walls of the church.

- **Serve** at a social service organisation in Montreal.
- **Reflect** with other interns during weekly group meetings.
- **Discern** how you are called to participate in God's work.

Learn more and apply at: www.montrealmission.ca

EMMANUEL COLLEGE - July 25–27, In-person, Alumni Hall, Victoria College



The School of Earth & Soul – Celtic Wisdom 3

Please join us for a three-day retreat on Celtic Wisdom with John Philip Newell and Cami Twilling.

In 2016, John Philip Newell began a teaching initiative that is called The School of Earth & Soul. Its purpose is to reawaken awareness of the sacred in all things through the recovery of Celtic wisdom for today and to help translate this awareness into compassionate action. The school

follows a three-year cycle of teaching in its annual retreats. Participants may join at any stage in the three-year cycle and attend any of the Earth & Soul venues across the country.

Please visit the Centre's website for bios, fees, registration and schedule:

<https://www.emmanuel.utoronto.ca/the-centre-for-religion-and-its-contexts/continuing-education-events-and-courses/#ac-1669>

Annual Reports (click on titles to download)

- [Atlantic School of Theology \(AST\)](#)
- [Centre for Christian Studies \(CCS\)](#)

UNITED IN LEARNING

Sponsoring Refugees: Challenges and Strategies - Starting May 31, 2023 (Online Webinar Series)

Join The United Church of Canada's Refugee Sponsorship staff to address the challenges of Refugee Sponsorship in the current political climate, and share strategies that are working.

Register on CHURCHx: <https://churchx.ca/enrol/link2enrol/form.php?id=188>

EMPLOYMENT AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Canada Summer Jobs Program (for youth aged 15 to 30) - <https://united-church.ca/opportunities>

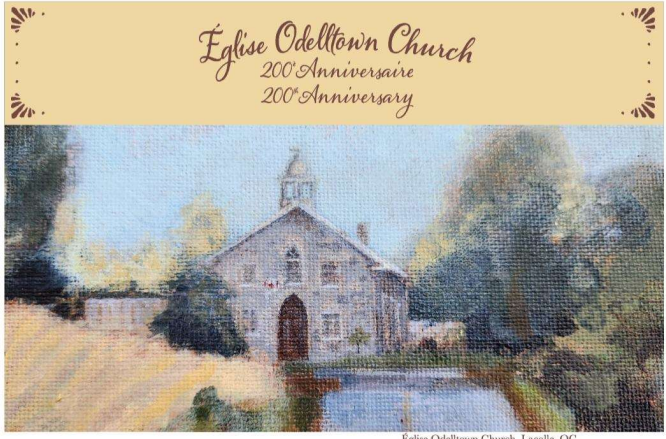
- Climate Motivators
- Digital Marketing & Public Relations Assistant
- Equity & Diversity Researcher
- Social Media Assistant

Bilingual Program Assistant, Ministries in French

Learn more (in French): <https://egliseunie.ca/offre-demploi-adjoint-ou-adjointe-de-programme-bilingue-ministeres-en-francais/>

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/>

MILESTONES As we move towards the 100th anniversary of The United Church of Canada in 2025, a number of communities of faith within Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council are celebrating significant milestones and anniversaries of their own. Congratulations and best wishes to all!



Eglise Odelltown Church
200^e Anniversaire
200^e Anniversary

16 - 18 juin 2023 *Eglise Odelltown Church* 200^e Anniversaire 200^e Anniversary June 16 - 18, 2023

Venez célébrer avec nous en participant aux activités suivantes:
Please join us in celebration at the following events:

Vendredi 16 juin - Friday June 16
Chœur MG V Harmonie Lacolle - MG V Choir
19 h

Samedi 17 juin - Saturday June 17
Journée Portes Ouvertes - Open House
10 h - 16 h
Barbecue ☺

Dimanche 18 juin - Sunday June 18
Célébration Religieuse - Church Service
11 h
Buffet

Eglise Odelltown Church
243, Route 221 sud
Lacolle (Québec)
J0J 1J0

200 years

Odelltown Church

In addition to the special events listed on the poster at left, church services will also be held at 11 AM followed by a BYO picnic lunch on the dates below.

- May 28th
- July 30th
- August 27th
- September 24th

190 years

St. Andrew's United Church (Chateaugay)

100 years

Valois United Church

Saturday June 10: 100 Year Anniversary Special Congregational Supper

One hundred years ago, families in the tiny cottage community of Valois decided it was time to build a congregation, and on June 3, 1923, their very first service was held. At this dinner we celebrate those beginnings and the people who worked so hard to build this church. All members past and present are welcome! A catered buffet will include salads and bread, main course options (including vegetarian), beverages, wine and dessert with tea or coffee, and a slide show of historic photos.

Tickets are \$20 per adult and \$5.00 for children 12 and under, and can be purchased in church, by email request to: admin@valoisunited.ca, by clicking <https://valoisunited.ca/congregational-supper.html> to reserve online, or by speaking to any of our committee leaders. **Deadline to purchase tickets is May 28.** Share the news with other members, past and present, and let's come together to celebrate the Centennial of how we began!

49th Spring Thing (Lakeshore Trinity United Church, Pointe-Claire)

Lakeshore Trinity United's annual Spring Thing (bazaar and garage sale) is **Saturday, May 13th** from 8:30 AM to 1 PM. It is a good opportunity to recycle unwanted items and to find treasures. Garage sale donations can be dropped off at the church (98 Aurora, Pointe-Claire), Saturday, May 6th to Wednesday, May 10th. Pick up can be arranged by calling 514-697-6459 (mornings) or 514-426-2090 by May 5th. Please join us for lots of bargains. [Download PDF](#)

Refugee Rights information (Montreal City Mission)

The refugee rights information on the Montreal City Mission web site has been updated:
<https://www.montrealcitymission.org/>

Prayers requested

On behalf of Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council, our thoughts and prayers go out to the communities of faith of Cedar Park United Church and Merging Waters United Church, who both suffered flooding during a recent storm.

IN THE NEWS

Three major holidays marked in Quebec during rare crossover (St. James United Church)

<https://montreal.ctvnews.ca/it-s-beautiful-three-major-holidays-marked-in-quebec-during-rare-crossover-1.6348580>

Spring Market Marché printanier

Saturday, May 13, 2023
10 h – 16 h
Le samedi 13 mai 2023

United Church – Église Unie
415A, Mercille and/et 440, Notre-Dame
Saint-Lambert, Québec J4P 2L6
Tel. (450) 671-6003
www.stlambertunited.com
stlucartians@gmail.com

Baked Goods/Biscuits, gâteaux
Community partners/Partenaires communautaires

VENTE DE PLANTES

VIVACES POUR L'OMBRE
PERENNIALS FOR SHADE

VIVACES POUR LE SOLEIL
PERENNIALS FOR SUN

ANNUELLES
ex: colcus, herbs, geraniums,



DELLIS SYLVESTRIS

Merging Waters United Church
24 Maple, Ste Anne de Bellevue
27 MAI 9:00 TO 1:00

lonkwatkwatonhatie

You are cordially invited to
a very important event!

Mohawk Bible Dedication
and Launch

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

Meal banquet to follow at
KANESATAKE RATHENITE HIGHSCHOOL

RSVP by MAY 2023 FOR BANQUET TO: satewas.karenhatasegabriel@gmail.com

REMINDER

Events may be submitted directly to the
community events section of the website
(<https://nakonhakaucc.ca/events/community/add>)
and to the Nakonha:ka FB group
(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Nakonhaka>)

Next newsletter will be sent out **May 24**

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Friday, May 19

PERENNIAL PLANT SALE

VENTE DE VIVACES

Beaurepaire United Church
25 Fieldfare Ave., Beaconsfield QC



Saturday, mai 13, 2023

9 :00 am to 12 :00 pm

Proceeds support a church apartment program and the
work of local outreach organizations.

Les benefices soutiennent les travaux d'organisations
communautaires locaux.

Pour information : 514-695-5448

MUSIQUE RÉSONANCE MÉDITATION

12:00 - 13:00

Église St-James United
463 Ste-Catherine Ouest
Montréal H3B 1B1



Guided Meditation
Accompanying music
from 5 faith traditions

Light Snack



Méditation guidée
Musique d'accompagnement
de 5 traditions religieuses
Collation

UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA NEWS AND EVENTS

Responding to Questions about Remit 1: Establishing an Autonomous Indigenous Organization

Since launching the remit about restructuring the Indigenous Church in March 2023, we have received a number of questions about the remit process, as well as about the remit itself. We hope that the video at the link below offers information to help your regional council or pastoral charge's governing body to make a decision on the remit question by **March 31, 2024**.

Learn more: <https://generalcouncil44.ca/news/responding-questions-about-remit-1-establishing-autonomous-indigenous-organization>

Download remit, study guide, and voting sheet, together with the return information and deadline:

<https://generalcouncil44.ca/council/remit-1-establishing-autonomous-national-indigenous-organization>



UNJPPI's April Network News

- Kairos Palestine's Easter Alert
- April 27 event "New Developments in Israel-Palestine and the Role of the Churches" that takes place in Ottawa and online
- CPT's Prayers for Peacemakers
- Video recording of Rabbi Rous' sermon "Tears of Zion"
- "The Trip that Changed My Life" video series by Palestinian film maker on his experiences of travelling to South Africa

Plus resources, relevant articles, campaigns and more: <https://mailchi.mp/unjppei/unjppei-network-news-april>

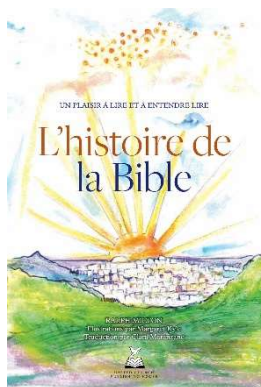
For more information about the United Network for Justice and Peace in Palestine Israel or to subscribe to our newsletters visit: www.unjppei.org

REMINDER - Rural Ministry Town Halls 2023 - Monday, May 29

Learn more: <https://catalog.churchx.ca/product?catalog=EDGE2010>

REMINDER - reVITALize 2023 – Halifax – June 7 to 9, 2023

Learn more and register at www.revitalizeconference.ca



LA TABLE DES MINISTÈRES EN FRANÇAIS

Lancement de *L'Histoire de la Bible* (traduction de *The Family Story Bible*)

S'adressant à la fois aux enfants et aux adultes, cette ressource agréablement illustrée raconte dans une langue contemporaine, vivante et inclusive, des histoires de la Bible qui portent autant sur des personnages féminins que masculins.

Disponible en format PDF téléchargeable, il s'agit d'une belle ressource à diffuser dans nos communautés de foi ou à offrir en cadeau.

Le lancement de cet ouvrage se fera sur Zoom, **le mardi 24 mai prochain à 19 h**. Clara Maranzano, la traductrice, et d'autres personnes invitées en liront des extraits pour le plaisir des grands et des petits.

Lien Zoom : <https://united-church.zoom.us/j/85857701541?pwd=YXhiNmxiWTd4bFNTTGVMRzBYQlRydz09>

ID de reunion : 858 5770 1541 Code secret : 154692

Offre d'emploi : Adjoint ou adjointe de programme bilingue, Ministères en français*

<https://egliseunie.ca/offre-demploi-adjoint-ou-adjointe-de-programme-bilingue-ministeres-en-francais/>

[*NOTE DE LA RÉDACTION : Nos félicitations à Ruth, qui part en congé de maternité le 15 mai prochain!]

RAPPEL - Le Manuel 2023 est maintenant disponible à <https://egliseunie.ca/ressources/vie-en-paroisse/rapports-politiques>.

Recent newsletters from United Church of Canada

- Broadview newsletter: https://mailchi.mp/eec0b5f2d1bc/unquiet_in_the_land-1814958
- Église Unie du Canada : <https://mailchi.mp/egliseunie/infolettre-8-mai-1052060>
- Embracing the Spirit: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/embracing-the-spirit-1052008>
- E-ssentials: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/es230502-1052080>
- Living into Right Relations: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/living-into-right-relations-1052012>
- Philanthropy News: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/gods-mission-our-gifts-1051924>
- UCC Foundation News: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/faithful-steward-webinar-8717851>
- United Church Bookstore: <https://mailchi.mp/ucrdstore.ca/introducing-the-united-church-bookstore-gift-card>
- UC Rural Ministry Network: <https://mailchi.mp/84c9ee7d2d94/may-2023-ucrmn-enews>
- United Action for Justice: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/uaj-1052024>
- United in Learning: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/united-in-learning-1052064>



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

OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS



Christian Commemoration of the Shoah 2023 (shared by David-Roger Gagnon)

Rabba Sherril Gilbert and Reverend Douglas Throop were the co-presiders for the Christian Commemoration of the Shoah, held at the Birks Chapel and hosted by Mountainside United Church.

The Candles of Remembrance symbolize the 6 million Jewish people killed in the Nazi death camps, as well as over 1 million other people (Roma, gays, Christian dissenters, resisters) who were also killed in the death camps. We drew attention this year to the fact that almost all of the gays who were “liberated” from the death camps were subsequently imprisoned because of their sexual orientation.

The small stones next to each candle come from the Jewish tradition of leaving a stone at a grave when one pays one's respects to let others know that the deceased was remembered and honoured.

The candles of remembrance are shown with the Hebrew Scriptures (Torah scrolls) and the Christian Scriptures. The Bible used was the personal Bible of a relative of Rev. Douglas Throop who came over to North America from Europe on the Lusitania, which tragically sank on its return trip to Europe.

Shoah (Holocaust) Survivor Mr. Maxwell Smart, who survived the Shoah by hiding in the woods, and by being helped by a kind farmer that risked his own life and that of his family to save Maxwell from the Nazi's, is pictured here with his wife and friends. Mr. Smart is an accomplished author, whose work “A Boy in the Woods” recounting his experience of survival, became a Canadian best seller. He is also an accomplished artist and has his own studio.

REMINDER - Hymn Society Annual Conference in Montreal July 16-19, 2023

Learn more: www.thehymnsociety.org. Advance registration rates are available through **June 15**.

NEXT NEWSLETTER: May 24, 2023

Send stories: jcoffin@united-church.ca

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: May 19, 2023

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