



CONSEIL RÉGIONAL  
**NAKONHA:KA**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL



**2023-05-24**  
Newsletter / Bulletin

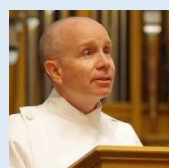
**THEME: Loaves and fishes**

As we prepare for our upcoming hybrid regional council gathering on **June 3**, we are invited to reflect together on the biblical precedent demonstrating how abundance can be fostered and celebrated, even the midst of apparent scarcity.

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

**REMINDER - 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:



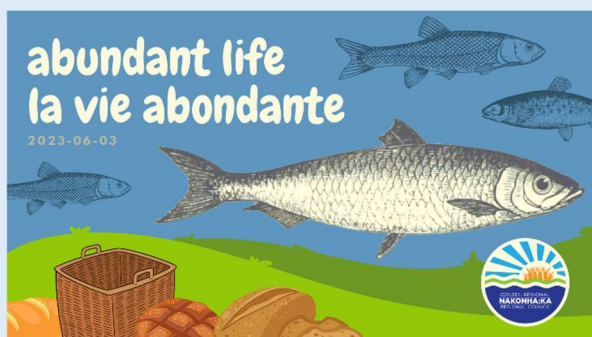
**Recognizing Hope** (as shared at St. Lambert United Church) :

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

**UPDATED LINK: 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-mer-preparer-le-chemin-malgre-tout/>

**REGIONAL COUNCIL NEWS**

**REGIONAL COUNCIL GATHERINGS**



**LAST CALL - 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



### REMINDER - 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](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](#)

### LAST CALL - 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](mailto:helenhliaras@hotmail.com) before **May 30, 2023**.

## NOMINATIONS

### LAST CALL - 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/>

## MINISTRY PERSONNEL

### LAST CALL - 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](mailto:dhayward@united-church.ca)

### LAST CALL - 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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023**.

Completed forms should be sent to Joel Miller at [jmiller@united-church.ca](mailto: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](mailto:dhayward@united-church.ca) or David-Roger Gagnon: [DRGagnon@united-church.ca](mailto:DRGagnon@united-church.ca)



## BURSARIES

### LAST CALL - 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](mailto:bruse@united-church.ca)) **before June 2, 2023**. Don't miss your chance!

For any questions, please contact Monique Moser: [monique.moser@umontreal.ca](mailto:monique.moser@umontreal.ca)

## GRANTING AND ENABLING LEADERSHIP TEAM (GELT)

### Next Regional Council Grant Application Deadline: **September 15, 2023**

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

## PROPERTY & FINANCE LEADERSHIP TEAM

### REMINDER - 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](mailto:bruse@united-church.ca).

## EXECUTIVE

**REMINDER** - 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/>



## 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>

## CLIMATE JUSTICE

### GREENFAITH MONTRÉAL

GreenFaith International has been hosting an online **No Faith in Fossil Fuels: A Climate Finance Summit!** Here is one of the recording links for anyone interested: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OTHD5IWsfYE>

One way you can take action right now is to sign the GreenFaith International Affirmation of Climate Finance Moral Standards for Asset Managers: <https://actionnetwork.org/forms/affirmation-of-climate-finance-moral-standards-for-asset-managers>

Thanks to all who were able to help organize and/or participate in our own circle's **online action hour** during Earth Week!

If you weren't able to participate but would still like to take action, here are the petition links:



- Text of the petition (in French) - *Déclaration du fleuve Saint-Laurent comme sujet de droit* : <https://www.thepetitionsite.com/fr/716/873/803/d%C3%A9claration-du-fleuve-saint-laurent-comme-sujet-de-droit/>
- Sign the petition (in French) <https://www.solutionsaintlaurent.ca/>

Here is the link to a powerful video about the St. Lawrence that we shared part of during the session: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yI5MrfinrAk>

and the link to a news video that explains more of the legal aspect of granting a river legal personhood: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nbtWp31L7MY>

Learn more: Greenfaith Montréal [greenfaithmontreal@gmail.com](mailto:greenfaithmontreal@gmail.com)

## LIVING INTO RIGHT RELATIONS

[rightrelationsnakonhaka@gmail.com](mailto:rightrelationsnakonhaka@gmail.com)



**LAST CALL – RSVP by May 2023** for banquet to [satewas.karenhatasegabriel@gmail.com](mailto:satewas.karenhatasegabriel@gmail.com)

## LEARNING NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

### UNITED CHURCH STUDIES AT MONTREAL DIO



### Convocation

Congratulations to graduates and award-winners at the recent convocation honouring students of United Church Studies at Montreal Dio, including Jessica Gauthier (Master of Divinity with Distinction and United Church Testamur), Aron Molnar (United Church Testamur), Marlene Buwalda-Liao (United Church Testamur) and Rev. Patricia Lisson (Doctorate of Divinity – Honoris causa).

## REMINDER - Honorary Doctorate of Divinity for Rev. Patricia Lisson (DM)

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

## LAST CALL - 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](http://www.montrealmission.ca)

## REMINDER - 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:** <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/blog/2023/05/24/2022-annual-reports-from-uccan-learning-institutions/>

- **United Church Studies at Montreal Dio (UCS)**
- **Atlantic School of Theology (AST)**
- **Centre for Christian Studies (CCS)**

## UNITED IN LEARNING

Learn more: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/united-in-learning-1052168>

## EMPLOYMENT AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**REMINDER - 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

**REMINDER - 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/>

## LOCAL COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS

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

**Covenanting Celebration with Kelley Molloy - June 18, 2023** (Morin Heights United Church at 11am)

Please come to celebrate Kelley's official welcome as our full-time student minister, serving Laurentian Area Ministry (LAM) congregations. Zoom worship will be available.

Contact Vera Young at [vwyoung@sympatico.ca](mailto:vwyoung@sympatico.ca) to learn more.



### **Mission francophone de Longueuil (shared by David-Roger Gagnon)**

Here are some photos, taken by members of the Mission francophone de Longueuil, of my visit with them for worship on May 7, 2023.

The community is currently worshipping at a school-turned community centre in Longueuil and are pastored by Pasteure Florence Bukam Kamta, who comes in all the way from Toronto to lead worship. During COVID-19, Florence and her husband Pasteur Isaac Kamta were leading worship on-line for the Mission francophone de Toronto. Through different connections, a group of people in Longueuil heard about the Mission in Toronto, and began worshipping on-line with them through COVID. As we began to emerge from the pandemic, the Mission community in Toronto opted to return to in-person worship. And, so as to not leave the growing community in Longueuil orphaned, Pasteure Florence began making the trip from Toronto each week since Easter. The community has grown quickly, and on this Sunday, the classroom where they worshiped welcomed 32 people, ten of whom were children 16 and under.

A promising new addition to the Nakonha:ka family!



### **Successful Puzzle Sale at Summerlea United Church**

On May 13, the congregation of Summerlea in Lachine held a puzzle sale and brought in about 800 dollars, which will be offered to charity organizations in the neighborhood. In the picture, one can see volunteers who are placing each puzzle box in a display style which will entice the eyes of the shoppers! It was a nice sunny Saturday, perfect for those who took a walk to the church.

### **Saint Columba House - All aboard for a summer of fun!**

We are writing to you today with great excitement and enthusiasm for our upcoming summer camp program at Saint Columba House. We call it *The Little Camp That Could\**, inspired by the beloved children's book *The Little Engine That Could*. Just like that little engine, we believe that, with your help, we can make a difference in the lives of the children and families that spend time at Saint Columba House...

- **\$30** Allows a child to attend 5 days of Camp
- **\$50** Provides healthy snacks for a group of 15 children for one whole week
- **\$100** Enables a child with special needs to be accompanied by a Special Care Attendant for one day
- **\$250** Allows 71 children the opportunity to participate in one of our Friday beach outings

Learn more: <http://ow.ly/8pbj500vPXx>

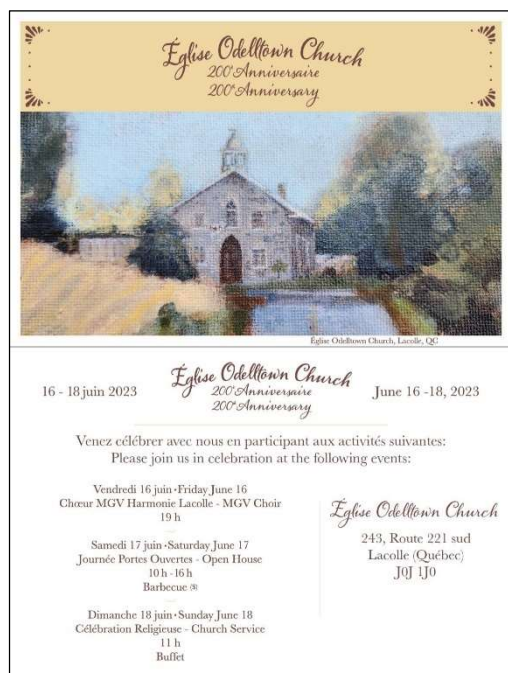
Donate at: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/saint-columba-house/campaign/day-camp-appeal-2023/>

Video: <https://fb.watch/kDp1Q-qc3F/>





**REMINDER - MILESTONES** As we move towards the 100<sup>th</sup> 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!



### 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 28<sup>th</sup>
- July 30<sup>th</sup>
- August 27<sup>th</sup>
- September 24<sup>th</sup>

### 190 years - St. Andrew's United Church (Chateauguy)

### 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](mailto: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.**

# UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA NEWS AND EVENTS

## Highlights from May 2023 Meeting of General Council Executive:

<https://generalcouncil44.ca/news/highlights-may-2023-meeting-general-council-executive>

## REMINDER - 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>



## United Network for Justice and Peace in Palestine and Israel (UNJPPI)

In this special issue of UNJPPI Network News, we reflect on the Nakba and the effect that seventy-five years of genocide has had on a land and a people:

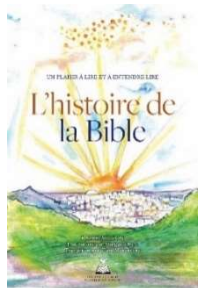
Learn more: <https://mailchi.mp/unjppl/unjppl-network-news-may>

## LAST CALL - Rural Ministry Town Halls 2023 - Monday, May 29

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

## LAST CALL - reVITALize 2023 – Halifax – June 7 to 9, 2023

Learn more and register at [www.revitalizeconference.ca](http://www.revitalizeconference.ca)



## LA TABLE DES MINISTÈRES EN FRANÇAIS

### DERNIER APPEL - 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, **aujourd'hui 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

## RAPPEL - 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/>

**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/d37efe16263d/unquiet\\_in\\_the\\_land-1815078](https://mailchi.mp/d37efe16263d/unquiet_in_the_land-1815078)
- Église Unie du Canada: <https://mailchi.mp/egliseunie/infolettre-8-mai-1052060>
- Embracing the Spirit: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/embracing-the-spirit-1052096>
- E-ssentials: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/es230516-1052140>
- 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-1052120>
- UCC Foundation News: <http://ow.ly/Z3Nq50Ouy7>
- United Church Bookstore: <https://mailchi.mp/ucrdstore.ca/new-french-resource-from-lglise-unie>
- 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-1052168>





Subscribe to United Church of Canada e-newsletters: <https://united-church.ca/e-newsletters>  
Abonnez-vous à l'info-lettre de l'Église Unie du Canada : <https://bit.ly/EgliseUnie-infolettre-Subscribe>

## OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

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

Learn more: [www.thehymnsociety.org](http://www.thehymnsociety.org). Advance registration rates are available through **June 15**.

**NEXT NEWSLETTER: June 7, 2023**

Send stories: [jcoffin@united-church.ca](mailto:jcoffin@united-church.ca)

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: June 2, 2023**

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