



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

### **DEEP SPIRITUALITY: REFLECTIONS TO SHARE**

**A Green Thumb and a Green Jersey** (*Judy Coffin, Communications*)



My stepdaughter Ashley is an independent and resourceful single mom of twin boys. She has always had a green thumb, creating a beautiful growing space on her apartment balcony and cultivating a diverse collection of healthy houseplants. A few years ago, Ashley also managed to obtain membership in a local community garden, and has involved both of her sons in planting and maintaining a 10x30 foot space for growing fruit, vegetables and flowers. She discerns which tasks the boys enjoy most: one son loves to plant and harvest, while the other enjoys the trips back and forth to the water source. Each participates according to their gifts and interests and contributes to the resounding success of the garden, to the point where other gardeners often come to Ashley for inspiration or advice. The garden is also an intergenerational connecting point: in addition to sharing the actual fruits of her labour with us, Ashley also sends photos of her burgeoning blueberries to my mom, along with thoughtful messages about my late father's blueberry growing endeavours; and she and my mom compare notes on how this year's nasturtiums are coming along.

Cultivating a garden is one thing, but cultivating the potential of our children requires a whole other level of skill. Ashley recently signed both boys up for soccer. At the first practice, one of the boys was having an off day and told his mom there was no way he would wear the uniform. Ashley told him that he would still have

to go and get it from the coach like all the other players. Apparently, he reluctantly agreed and then kicked it all the way back across the field while Ashley watched with chagrin. Throughout the next week, at opportune moments, she persuaded him to try on various pieces of the uniform and equipment one at a time. By the time we came to visit them mid-week, he was proudly wearing the jersey, only changing for dinner in order to keep it clean.

When I think about the challenges facing our communities of faith, I often find parallels in my personal life or in my circle of family and friends. Like the soccer uniform, new things can be overwhelming and we are not always sure we want to try them on for size. Sometimes we need someone who cares about us deeply to persuade us to step out of our comfort zone, to help us find the right moment to test things out a little bit at a time so we can fully engage and enjoy the experience when the time comes. And just like our grandsons in the garden, if we can each learn to harness the gifts, talents and interests that are unique to us in order to contribute to the success of the whole, then we are really able to nourish ourselves and others from the bounty of the garden we share. Let's all be like Ashley (and the boys)!

## DEEP SPIRITUALITY RESOURCES

- *Regional Council Prayer Cycles for The United Church of Canada:* <https://www.prayercycles.ca/>
- *Personal Faith Development:* <https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/get-involved/faith-formation>
- *Faith Statements of The United Church of Canada:* <https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/welcome-united-church-canada/faith-statements>

## BOLD DISCIPLESHIP / DARING JUSTICE

### RESPONDING TO WILDFIRES AND CLIMATE CHANGE

As wildfires continue to rage across the country and we move into hurricane season, we are being called to act: by writing letters to government officials, participating in peaceful protests and sharing a message of faithful stewardship of the earth's resources. Action can also help to mitigate our feelings of grief and helplessness. Here are some ways you can get involved:

- **For the Love of Creation:** Join us for a moment of online prayer and reflection at **12 pm on September 1<sup>st</sup>** to mark the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, which marks the beginning of the Season of Creation, a period of ecumenical observance that runs from September 1 to the feast of St. Francis of Assisi on October 4.  
*Learn more / register:* <https://fortheLoveofCreation.ca/event/world-day-of-prayer-for-creation/>
- **GreenFaith:** As the world around us is suffering from extreme heat, flooding and droughts, all of our faith and spiritual traditions call on us to work for climate justice. The current scale of the climate crisis requires a cooperative global solution that addresses the fossil fuel industry directly. Climate disasters will deprive many communities of everything. The polluters must pay, in order for those disproportionately affected to get justice. Sign the faith letter for a fossil fuel non-proliferation treaty, and share it with as many people as you can.  
**Sign the Multi-Faith Letter**  
<https://greenfaith.org/sign-the-multi-faith-letter-for-a-fossil-fuel-non-proliferation-treaty>  
**Social media resource kit**  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1V2-45l\\_kilQtx9W42y0qhNxqtZMMQk8rqfunpy82eQc/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1V2-45l_kilQtx9W42y0qhNxqtZMMQk8rqfunpy82eQc/edit)
- **Climate Emergency Unit:** As of August 22, there were 1031 active fires across Canada with 651 burning out of control. This is the time to demand real action from politicians who are not afraid to embrace a bold emergency-level response to the climate crisis. On **September 15-17**, as the UN Secretary General will be convening a special climate ambition summit, the world will be taking to the streets in global climate days of action. These will be the first major post-pandemic climate marches, with the potential to catalyze real change.  
**Find a march near you (or add your own)**  
<https://fossilfuelstreaty.good.do/global-march/map/>  
**Download amplification kit**  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1t3CCfb3aJDL0sKilAWdUrnSqCo\\_b8mDFDMXcX4PEA-4/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1t3CCfb3aJDL0sKilAWdUrnSqCo_b8mDFDMXcX4PEA-4/edit)
- **CanadaHelps:** Canadian charities responding to wildfires across the country urgently need your help. Your donations will help them provide much-needed emergency services, fire-fighting equipment, food and shelter. Donate today.  
**Donate:** <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/support-2023-canadian-wildfire-relief-efforts>

- **Broadview:** Inevitably, the heat from climate change will continue to increase the risk of a wide range of disasters and as the country continues to become hotter and drier, wildfires will become more prevalent or intense. If this is the new normal, what will we do?  
Send your thoughts to [c.jung@broadview.org](mailto:c.jung@broadview.org)

## REGIONAL COUNCIL NEWS

### 2022 Annual Reports, 2023-2024 ChurchHub updates for Pastoral Charges and Communities of Faith

In order to ensure good two-way communications and reporting, please verify with the governing board or office administrator of your pastoral charge / community of faith to ensure that 1) your community of faith/pastoral charge has submitted a copy of their 2022 annual report to Brian Ruse ([bruse@united-church.ca](mailto:bruse@united-church.ca)) and 2) all of the CoF roles in ChurchHub (including phone numbers and email addresses) have been updated for Regional Representatives, Board Chairs, Treasurers and other key roles. Thanks!

## REGIONAL COUNCIL GATHERINGS



### SAVE THE DATES – 2023 AND 2024

Mark your calendar to join us for upcoming regional council meetings in 2023 and 2024!

- **November 24-25, 2023** (online)  
Event page: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/event/regional-council-meeting-november-2023-online/>
- **March 15-16, 2024** (online)
- **June 8, 2024** (hybrid)

## BURSARIES

### MORE Thank-You Letters from Bursary Recipients Demonstrating Real Life Impact

Sometimes, as members of a regional council, we might wonder how much difference our contributions actually make in the real world, but these thank-you letters from recent bursary recipients paint a picture of learning and engagement that shed a different light. We hope the following excerpts (shared with permission) brighten your day, too!

*"I would like to extend my profound gratitude to the Bursary Committee of the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council of The United Church of Canada for selecting me as a recipient of the Hugh Duncan Bursary. This funding will help me to continue my studies in Honours Geography with a minor in Environment at McGill University. I am very passionate about my programme, and hope to pursue a career in food justice once my studies are complete. I thank the committee a million times over." – Haley*

*"J'ai bien reçu le chèque ... qui représente la bourse du programme institut Français Évangélique. Je vous remercie de cet élan de générosité qui permet de donner un coup de pouce aux étudiants membre de l'église afin de permettre à ceux-ci de pallier aux besoins scolaires qui est d'une réalité indéniable. Votre soutien est tellement admirable pour moi et j'apprécie vraiment votre geste. Merci encore ... de m'aider à atteindre mes objectifs..." – Tchio*

*"... Ce montant d'argent fait une différence importante dans mes finances actuelles, mais aussi dans mon cheminement universitaire. Aussi, l'attribution de cette bourse me confirme que j'ai ma place au sein de l'Église Unie; tant dans mon identité personnelle que dans mes projets universitaires, lesquels sont porteurs d'enjeux sociaux et aussi politiques. Comme mentionné dans ma lettre de présentation, j'ai eu la chance de découvrir l'Église Unie il y a peu de temps. Cet accueil qui m'est fait m'incite à m'investir au sein de la communauté religieuse. Je réfléchis aussi à m'investir dans des projets sociaux en lien avec l'Église Unie..." – Malou*

## GRANTING AND ENABLING LEADERSHIP TEAM (GELT)

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

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

## EXECUTIVE

**REMINDER** - Next Executive meeting will be **September 21, 2023**. Once approved and translated, final minutes of Executive meetings are posted at: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/resources/minutes-and-reports/>

## FINANCE AND EXTENSION BOARD



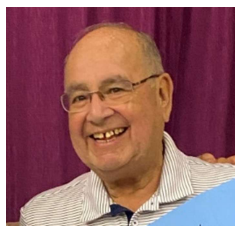
### **An appreciation of Peter Mundie (1930-2023)** *(shared by Fred Braman)*

We mourn the passing of our dear brother Peter Mundie on August 2, 2023 a few days before his 93rd birthday. Peter was a dear soul who worked tirelessly to help the many volunteers of the United Church of Canada in our Regional Council and its predecessors to deal with the many building challenges that face all of our buildings and their guardians...

Read full tribute: <https://bit.ly/2023-08-Tribute-PeterMundie>

Obituary: <https://montrealgazette.remembering.ca/obituary/peter-mundie-1088668733>

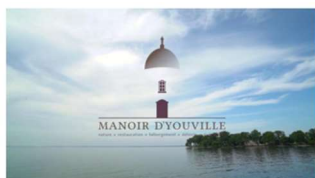
## MINISTRY PERSONNEL



### **Congratulations to Robert Patton** *(message from Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly)*

I have been given the great news that the Indigenous Candidacy Board has approved Robert Patton for ordination! Please join me in congratulating Robert on this achievement – and celebrating the good fortune of the church to have him in this role. God is good.

See more photos from a recent celebration for Robert in the **LIVING INTO RIGHT RELATIONS CIRCLE** news section below.



### **REMINDER - Bilingual Ministers' Retreat - September 29 & 30 and October 1, 2023** *(at Manoir D'Youville on l'île Bernard in Châteauguay)*

Registration: <https://form.jotform.com/231521198768262>

For more information, 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)



### **REMINDER - 'Healing and Hope' Retreat for clergy women**

**October 30-November 2, 2023**

*(Five Oaks Centre, 1 Bethel Road, Paris, Ontario) – shared by Fran Ota*

Rev. Tina Conlon from Davenport-Perth Community Ministry, and Shining Waters Regional Council President, will join us for part of the time. United Church Moderator Right Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne will speak on the afternoon of Nov. 1.

We are hoping to ensure there is lots of time for small groups, and relaxation on the lovely grounds of Five Oaks. There are a few single rooms at \$475 for room and meals for the entire time, and \$405 for shared rooms and meals.

This is a first-come basis, maximum of 50 people but we will also keep a waiting list just in case. Contact us at [sistersandministers@gmail.com](mailto:sistersandministers@gmail.com).

[IMAGE: RAINBOW QUILT BY REV. ROSE ANNE VITA]

## LIVING INTO RIGHT RELATIONS CIRCLE

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



### **REMINDER - Mohawk Bibles in every community of faith?**

The complete Mohawk translation of the Bible (made possible by the faithful perseverance of Satewas Gabriel of Kanesatake United Church over many years) will soon be available and offers a deep resonance as a tangible symbol of reconciliation for all of our communities of faith and missions who live and work on traditional Mohawk lands. Regional Council staff are willing to organize a bulk purchase, but please let us know ASAP if your community of faith is interested. The retail price is \$45 per Bible (proceeds will be going to language retention programs in collaboration with The United Church of Canada Foundation and the Indigenous Church). Delivery is expected in October 2023.

Please indicate your interest: [jcoffin@united-church.ca](mailto:jcoffin@united-church.ca)

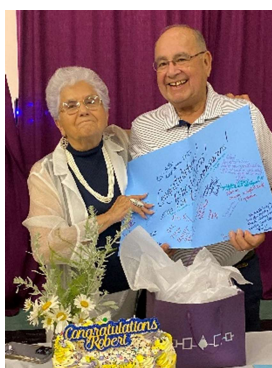
## Events Celebrating Publication of Mohawk Bible

There will be three major events to celebrate the publication of the Mohawk translation of the Bible.

- **Sept. 9, 2023:** A dedication of the Mohawk Bible will include a worship service at Kanasatake United Church and a midday feast (Oka, Quebec)  
Learn more: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/event/dedication-of-mohawk-bible-translation/>
- **Sept. 26, 2023:** The Moderator will join the Canadian Bible Society, Mohawk elders and others to celebrate the publication of the Mohawk Bible with a dinner and a program that tells the story of the translation of the Bible into Mohawk (Caledonia, Ontario)
- **Oct. 1, 2023:** A Montreal City Mission – St. James Movable Feast honouring Sosé Onasakenrat (Rev. Joseph Swan, d. 1881), Harvey Gabriel's great-grandfather, and original translator of the gospels included in the new Mohawk Bible (Montreal, QC)  
Learn more: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/event/movable-feast-honouring-rose-onasakenrat/>

Media release: <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/translation-of-bible-into-mohawk-language-published-829263350.html>

## Celebrating with Robert Patton (photos courtesy of Lisa Byer-de Wever)



Friends, family, community and members of the Living Into Right Relations Circle gathered recently to celebrate the good news of Robert Patton's completion of studies and call to ministry. (NOTE: Robert is holding a card signed by members of Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council at our June meeting, with Alma Ransom in centre photo, and with Lisa Byer-de Wever, Alma and Rev. Jan Jorgensen at right.) We look forward to sharing news of Robert's ordination celebration once the plans are in place.

## REMINDER – The United Church of Canada calls on communities of faith, ministries and individuals to add voices to the call for a search of landfill

Learn more: <https://united-church.ca/news/united-church-calls-manitoba-search-landfill>

## SAVE THE DATE! October 4, 2023 at 7 pm

### Regional Council Information Session About Remit 1

An online information session about the Remit will be offered for Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council (CrNRC), Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council (EOORC) and East Central Ontario Regional Council (ECORC). While this session may be most helpful to those in pastoral charges whose governing boards have not yet submitted their votes, all are very welcome to attend. Hope to see you there!

Learn more and RSVP: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/event/regional-council-information-session-about-remit-1/>

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85372530647?pwd=bUh2aE5ldVA4WFFYckVZRTJSVXpJQT09>

## REMINDER - Vote on Remit 1: Establishing an autonomous national indigenous organization

The governing board of each pastoral charge has a right and responsibility to vote on this remit, and all votes must be submitted by **March 31, 2024**. If a pastoral charge does not submit a vote, the default will be to count the missing vote as a vote against the remit.

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

## JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY MINISTRY

### "We don't have guns and rifles, but we have truth in our voices"

We need your help to support this Campaign of the United Church of Canada and ICHRP Canada. Please read the article and follow the link below. If you have questions please feel free to contact Rev. Dr. Patricia Lisson at [pmlglb@mail.com](mailto:pmlglb@mail.com)

Please encourage others to sign: <https://united-church.ca/blogs/round-table/truth-sets-us-free>

## PRIDE AND FRIENDS NETWORK



### FOUND ON FACEBOOK - United Church Presence at 2023 Montreal Pride Parade

Thanks to Cedar Park United Church for posting joyful photos of The United Church of Canada presence at 2023 Montreal Pride.

## FIRST THIRD MINISTRIES

### Young Adults Retreat - September 15 – 17



**Theme:** How do we show up for ourselves? "Se prendre en main"

**Location:** Camp D'action Biblique, Cleveland, QC

**Cost:** 60\$ per person (let Shanna know if this is a barrier to participation.)

Many young adults struggle with balancing all of the demands that work, school, family, and the wider world place on us. We need to develop skills to care for ourselves, set healthy boundaries and find strong communities of support.

Join us for a weekend of playing in nature, relaxation, and practical learning; all in an affirming and open Christian community. Do not hesitate to reach out if you have questions!

Registration: <https://forms.gle/uBFUosD3Q9pDbqXU7>

Shanna Bernier (she/her) [sbernier@united-church.ca](mailto:sbernier@united-church.ca)

### Youth Survey

The United Church of Canada is trying to learn from young people (ages 13-35 years) about what encourages a sense of connection to the church, and what blocks their involvement. Please share with Canadian young people that you know - they don't need to be currently connected with a church in any way!

Survey: <https://forms.office.com/r/xzG3D4WZcr>

## CLIMATE JUSTICE

### REMINDER - FAITHFUL FOOTPRINTS - engaged with 400 communities of faith...so far!

With a public goal of engaging 500 United Church communities of faith by 2025, The United Church of Canada's Faithful Footprints grant program has reached 400 engagements to date.

**NEW** participant in Faithful Footprints program: **Kahnawake United Church!**

Learn more: <https://www.faithfulfootprints.org/>

## LEARNING NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

### Sacraments Elder Training Course (with Rev. Whitman Strong)

I will be offering a ZOOM "Sacraments Elder Training Course" for interested parties in EOORC, but am willing to open this to people from Nakonha:ka and ECORC Regional Councils. The proposed starting date will be **Wednesday, Sept 13 and every second week thereafter**. NOTE: For participants to be formally recognized as a SE by their Regional Council they would have to be recommended by their CoF Board/Council.

To learn more, please contact Rev. Whitman Strong: [wstrong@united-church.ca](mailto:wstrong@united-church.ca)

## UNITED CHURCH STUDIES AT MONTREAL DIO



### **LAST CALL - The Lament of the Land and the Tears of God**

A morning-long workshop with Dr. Sylvia Keesmat, distinguished biblical scholar and author of *Romans Disarmed: Resisting Empire, Demanding Justice*.

**Friday, September 8th, 2023, 9:30am to 12:00pm** at the Church of St. Mark and St. Peter (1650 Rue Decelles, St. Laurent).

**\$20/person** or free for Friends of the College (<https://montrealdio.ca/friends/>)

Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/the-lament-of-the-land-and-the-tears-of-god-tickets-675981818817>

### **REMINDER - Online Courses for Admission Ministers and Others**

- **United Church Worship - online**  
Wednesdays, September 6<sup>th</sup>-October 4<sup>th</sup>, and Oct 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 3:00pm-6:00pm
- **United Church Polity - online**  
Wednesdays, October 25<sup>th</sup>-November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 1:30 to 4:30 pm
- **United Church History and Theology - online**  
Wednesdays, January 10<sup>th</sup>-February 28<sup>th</sup>, March 13<sup>th</sup>-April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, 1:30 to 4:30 pm

Learn more: <https://montrealdio.ca/ucs-courses/>

## EMPLOYMENT AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### **Check out the possibilities!**

A wide selection of employment and volunteer opportunities with The United Church of Canada have opened up for September 2023; have a look to see if any of them are calling to your unique gifts and talents!

In particular, please have a look at the following opportunities **closing on Monday, September 25, 2023:**

- **Task Group on Apology to Two Spirit and LGBTQIA+ Communities**  
We are seeking individuals to create an apology for The United Church of Canada that addresses the harms and hurts that members of the Two Spirit and LGBTQIA+ communities have experienced. The task group will be responsible for creating an intentional, living apology that moves beyond a statement to explicit action
- **Total Compensation Review Task Group**  
This task group will undertake a study of all elements of the United Church's compensation practices with a view to developing an equitable and sustainable system of compensation.
- **Audit Committee**  
The Audit Committee oversees the integrity of the management control and information systems of The United Church of Canada. This committee is responsible for overseeing the United Church's financial reporting, control, and audit functions. It also oversees the pension plan audit on behalf of the Pension Board.
- **General Council Executive**  
The General Council Executive seeks a forward-looking collaborative colleague to join them in their oversight and governance responsibilities. For this vacancy, it is a priority of the Executive to broaden the diversity and perspectives at the table through appointing a racialized person who identifies as female or non-binary, a young adult, or a Diaconal or Designated Lay Minister.

Learn more: <https://united-church.ca/opportunities/> or <https://egliseunie.ca/engagement-et-formation/emplois-et-benevolat/>

## LOCAL COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS

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



### **STE. GENEVIEVE UNITED CHURCH**

**REMINDER - Cooking for Love and Comfort** (animated by chef Roma Trottier), offers opportunities for those experiencing loss to learn new cooking skills, to prepare simple, healthy and economical meals, and to share stories and favourite recipes of loved ones. Four eight-week sessions (with a maximum of eight participants per session) will be offered in 2023-24, some in person and some online. A suggested donation of \$60 per eight-week session is recommended (but please note that cost will not be an obstacle to participation.)

Download poster: <https://bit.ly/2023-RomasKitchen-SGUC>

Registration (beginning **August 11**) by email: [donna.stegennys@gmail.com](mailto:donna.stegennys@gmail.com) or by phone: 514-626-4795



## WEST ISLAND & RIVERSIDE CLUSTER

### Shared Summer Worship

During the Summer, all of the Communities of Faith in the West Island & Riverside Cluster hosted at least one Shared Sunday Worship as the communities of faith all gathered at one church each week. Throughout the summer, the worship focused on the various aspects of the Strategic Plan fish image which guided choices in liturgical planning, music and preaching. It has been wonderful to see the United Church in the whole of West Island and Riverside gather for shared worship and visioning their way into a future rooted in Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship and Daring Justice. Much time was given to discerning as a regional council how to live into the vision of the strategic plan model offered by General Council within our context.

*[Photos are of the Shared Summer Worship Celebration at Riverside United Church on July 23, 2023]*



## MERGING WATERS UNITED CHURCH

### REMINDER - KAİROS Blanket Exercise – September 17, 2023

Come join us on September 17th, 2023 as we explore the Kairos Blanket Exercise as part of our response in worship. As we at Merging Waters begin collectively to navigate our responsibility towards reconciliation on this territory, we recognize it begins with the land and the history of its Peoples. The service will begin at **9 am** and conclude with the end of the exercise around 11:30 followed by a time of fellowship.

Please bring a brown bag lunch so we may feast together.

**RSVP by Sept.12:** [office@mergingwaters.ca](mailto:office@mergingwaters.ca)

## ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH AND MONTREAL CITY MISSION

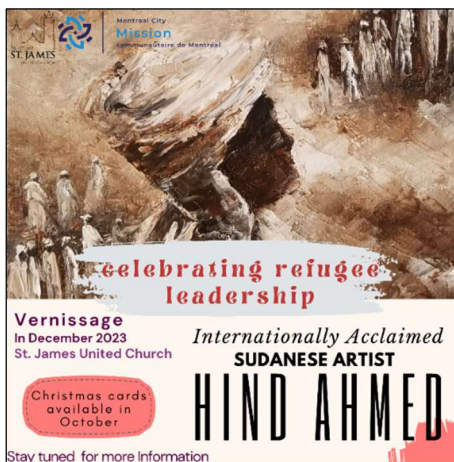
### Update from Camp Cosmos





Camp Cosmos is thrilled to share with you the incredible success of yet another wonderful summer! This season has been filled with laughter, learning, and heartwarming connections, making it truly special for all involved.


Throughout the summer, our dedicated team of Camp Counselors, Coordinators, Shadows, and LITs worked tirelessly to ensure that every moment was both enjoyable and educational for our campers. We witnessed the children engage in a wide range of activities, exploring new interests, and embracing their creativity.

One of the most outstanding highlights this year was the heartwarming opportunity to welcome and support a total of 65 kids and approximately 28 newly arrived and returning Ukrainian and Russian refugee families. This milestone was made possible by the generous donations, including the gracious contribution from Saint James United Church. Thanks to your support, we were able to provide these families access to Camp Cosmos at little to no cost. The impact of this initiative has been truly immeasurable, as these families found a nurturing and inclusive environment where they could forge new connections and create cherished memories.






**Montreal City Mission**  
 communautaire de Montréal

A MONTREAL CITY MISSION- ST. JAMES  
**MOVABLE FEAST**


 Sunday, October 1st

HONOURING SOSÉ ONASAKENRAT (REV. JOSEPH SWAN, D.1881),  
 KANETSATAKE MOHAWK LEADER, METHODIST MINISTER AND BIBLE  
 TRANSLATOR, ON THE OCCASION OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST  
 COMPLETE MOHAWK BIBLE BY THE CANADIAN BIBLE SOCIETY AND  
 KANETSATAKE UNITED CHURCH.


 11:00: Worship at St. James,  
 reception of Mohawk Bible  
 12:00: Guided historical walk to Mt. Royal  
 Cemetery grave of Sose Onasakenrat  
 12:30: Bus leaves from St. James for cemetery  
 1:00: Gathering at the  
 gravesite with Mohawk elders  
 Commemoration ceremony with Mohawk  
 elders, refreshments

To register:  
[info@montrealcitymission.org](mailto:info@montrealcitymission.org)


**back TO SCHOOL**

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Montreal City  
**Mission**  
 communautaire de Montréal

**MUSIQUE  
 RÉSONANCE  
 MÉDITATION**

**12:00 - 13:00**  
 Église St-James United  
 463 Ste-Catherine Ouest  
 Montréal H3B 1B1


 17 Mai  
 14 Juin  
 5 Juillet  
 16 Août  
 13 September

Guided Meditation  
 Accompanying music  
 from 5 faith traditions  
 Light Snack  
 Méditation guidée  
 Musique d'accompagnement  
 de 5 traditions religieuses  
 Collation




**Montreal City Mission**  
 communautaire de Montréal

**Soyez des nôtres pour une journée enchantée!**  
**APPLE-PICKING  
 CUEILLETTE DES POMMES**

Choose from Convenient Departure Points:  
 • Departure: St. James United Church, 1435 City Councillors, at 12 p.m.  
 • Departure: Metro Cote Vertu, at 12 p.m.  
 • Departure: West Island-gare de train Sunnybrooke, at 12 p.m.  
 • Travel Directly to the Orchard.

Don't miss out on this  
 fantastic day with our  
 vibrant community of  
 friends!

For Further Details:  
 please Contact MCM Staffer: Phone: (514) 476-6435 Email: [Arwa@montrealcitymission.org](mailto:Arwa@montrealcitymission.org)  
 Kindly Confirm Your attendance by September 12, 2023

Vous avez plusieurs options pour participer à cet événement. Prendre l'un de nos bus qui quittera :  
 • l'Église Unie St. James, au 1435 City Councillors à 12h  
 • Metro Cote Vertu à 12h  
 • West Island-Train Station Sunnybrooke à 12h  
 • Vous y rendre par vos propres moyens

Pour plus d'informations,  
 prière de contacter Arwa au (514)476-6435 ou à [Arwa@montrealcitymission.org](mailto:Arwa@montrealcitymission.org)  
 Merci de réserver votre place avant le 12 septembre.

**Cost/coût: 15\$**  
 Transportation fee for each family  
 le transport pour une famille

VERGER ST-REMI  
 141 RUE NOTRE DAME, SAINT-REMI, QC J0L 2L0

SATURDAY,  
 SEPTEMBER 16TH 12 P.M. - 6 P.M.





## The Moderator's Flourishing Initiative

Although it might seem like the pandemic was ages ago, we know that it kickstarted a chain of events that have forced us to address some of the inequities and challenges that face us at every level. From Covid-19 to the climate crisis, from labour shortages to supply chain disruptions, we've emerged from the pandemic to discover the world has restructured around us.

Much seems unsettled in life; we've taken our eyes off the horizon to focus solely on what is in front of us. We are surviving, and we have lost sight of the big picture.

But the Big Picture is still there.

In the big picture, there is possibility. In the big picture, we – as individuals, communities, corporations – can flourish, together. The idea of “flourishing” means moving from a state of simply surviving to one of thriving.

The Moderator has embarked on a three-year journey to connect with Canada on big questions about how to flourish – in church, among our leadership, and within the broader community. I hope you'll follow her journey, and join the dialogue when you can, on this question of flourishing, and how it could influence our future.

**The date currently scheduled for the Moderator to visit Montreal is next September 19-20 (2024).**

Learn more: <https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/organization-and-governance/moderator/right-rev-dr-carmen-lansdowne-44th-moderator/flourishing-project/>



## REMINDER - The Mod's Book Squad

Get ready for the Mod's Book Squad! Starting **Sept. 21, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. EDT**, join Carmen Lansdowne and guests for one of Canada's biggest book clubs.

**NOTE:** the book club is not just for church people! It's a wide range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry, including some bestsellers, and the guests are sometimes the authors themselves! The topics are big and relevant to the broader audience, and relevant in today's news nationally and globally.

- Video link: [https://youtu.be/HQBx6ho0\\_gM](https://youtu.be/HQBx6ho0_gM)
- Webpage: <https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/organization-and-governance/moderator/right-rev-dr-carmen-lansdowne-44th-moderator/flourishing-project/mods-book-squad>
- Registration: <https://churchx.ca/enrol/link2enrol/form.php?id=218>
- UCRD book store collection: <https://ucrdstore.ca/collections/the-mods-book-squad>

## REMINDER - Seeds of Hope Grant Applications Now Available!

Application deadline: **October 15, 2023**

Learn more: <https://bit.ly/2023-10-15-SeedsOfHopeGrantsAvailable>

## REMINDER - Remit 1: Establishing an Autonomous Indigenous Organization – 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>

## LA TABLE DES MINISTÈRES EN FRANÇAIS

### RAPPEL - Lancement officielle de MonCredo

Nous lancerons officiellement le site internet "MonCredo.org" le **19 septembre** prochain à Montréal. Plus de détails seront disponibles bientôt. En attendant, vous pouvez visiter le site et nous offrir vos commentaires et suggestions.

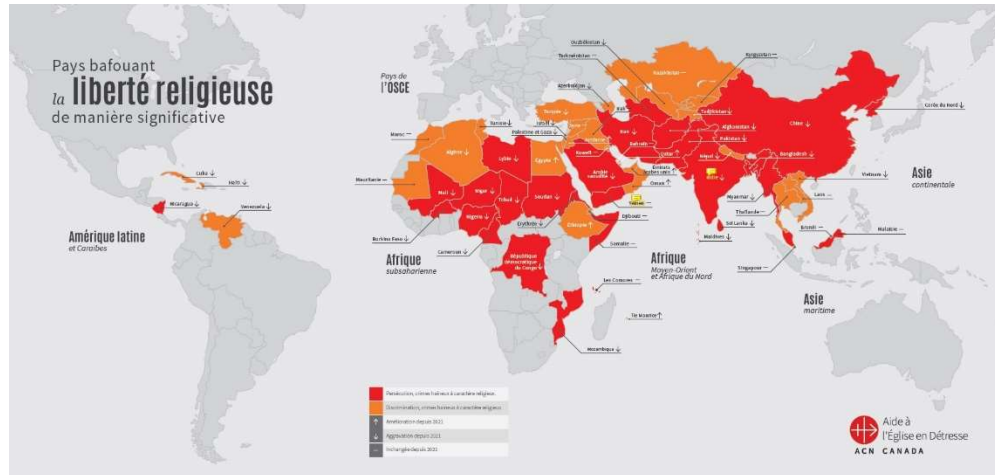
MonCredo : <https://moncredo.org/>

## OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

### Lettre d'opinion : Liberté religieuse (shared by Richard Guay)

Tu trouveras en pièce jointe une lettre d'opinion pour souligner le **22 août, Journée internationale de commémoration des personnes victimes de violences en raison de leur religion ou convictions**. Nous sommes 25 signataires préoccupés par les enjeux que cette lettre soulève dont plusieurs de l'Église Unie.

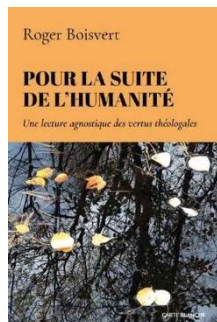
Je joins aussi à l'envoi une carte du monde assez parlante sur la situation.



Persécution religieuse : carte des pires pays en la matière. (©ACN/AED)

Download letter (in French) : <https://bit.ly/2023-08-22-Lettre-LiberteReligieuse>

Download map (in French) : <https://bit.ly/2023-08-22-Carte-Persecution>



### Pour la suite de l'humanité. Une lecture agnostique des vertus théologiques (shared by Paul-André Giguère)

Je vous écris à la suggestion de Richard Guay, membre de la charge pastorale Saint-Pierre et Pinguet. Il m'a fait connaître le livre de Roger Boisvert *Pour la suite de l'humanité. Une lecture agnostique des vertus théologiques* et l'ayant lu avec intérêt, j'en ai rédigé une brève présentation. À sa suggestion, donc, j'ai envoyé ce texte au *Devoir*, à *Présence Info* et je vous l'envoie au cas où vous trouveriez qu'il peut intéresser les personnes rejointes par les Ministères en français de notre Église.

Article sur le site Web de Présence-Info : <https://presence-info.ca/article/idees/chronique-litteraire/pour-la-suite-de-lhumanite-inattendu-surprenant-questionnant/>

### Recent newsletters from United Church of Canada

- Broadview newsletter: [https://mailchi.mp/5791d582f626/policing\\_schools\\_black\\_mental\\_health](https://mailchi.mp/5791d582f626/policing_schools_black_mental_health)
- Église Unie du Canada: <https://mailchi.mp/egliseunie/infolettre-29-mai-1052496>
- E-ssentials: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/es230815-1052720>
- Living into Right Relations: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/living-into-right-relations-1052568>
- Philanthropy News: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/gods-mission-our-gifts-1052696>
- UCC Foundation News: <https://bit.ly/2023-07-UCCFoundation-Newsletter>
- United Church Bookstore: <https://mailchi.mp/ucrdstore.ca/new-titles-for-your-fall-reading-list>
- UC Rural Ministry Network: <https://mailchi.mp/cb77121ffa30/may-2023-ucrmn-enews-13551924>
- United Action for Justice: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/uaj-1052244>
- United in Learning: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/united-in-learning-1052716>



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

**NEXT NEWSLETTER: September 13, 2023**

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

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: September 8, 2023**

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