

EDITOR'S NOTE: I was travelling somewhere recently and noticed some purple flowers by the side of the road; my mind immediately flew to an iconic passage from the powerful book, "The Colour Purple" and reminded me of the permanent (and positive) impact author Alice Walker has had on my world view. Imagine my delight to see that passage named as a "theological tour de force" in a recent email from SALT Project (see link below). I hope the excerpt linked in the email brings some life-changing grace to you, too: https://mailchi.mp/saltproject/newsletter-awesomeness-2643386

SHARE THE NEWS: See last page for a **shareable one-page summary** of upcoming regional council events and resources to help you keep your community of faith informed.

DEEP SPIRITUALITY - BOLD DISCIPLESHIP - DARING JUSTICE

Partner Council in Canada Eager to Be Immersed in the UCC Call and Vision

From October 19–26, The United Church of Canada Partner Council gathered in Canada for the first in-person session since 2018 (including a visit to Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council)...

 ${\it Learn\ more:}\ \underline{\it https://united-church.ca/news/partner-council-eager-be-immersed-united-churchs-call-and-vision}$

Ecumenical Statement on Violence between Hamas and Israel

KAIROS Canada and its member churches and agencies are following reports of the escalation of violence between Hamas and Israel with deepening alarm and profound grief...

Download PDF:

https://united-church.ca/sites/default/files/2023-10/ecumenical-statement-violence-hamas-israel.pdf



REMINDER - From October 10 to December 1, 2023, the annual campaign for 40 Days of Engagement on Anti-Racism will include a wide range of FREE weekly events on CHURCHx.ca, including bilingual events on October 10 and November 28.

Learn more:

https://united-church.ca/social-action/justice-initiatives/anti-racism/40-days-engagement-anti-racism

REGIONAL COUNCIL NEWS



INVITATION: Regional Remembrance Day Photo Gallery

Many churches have signs or plaques with the names of those who served in the world wars. Would you be willing to take photos of any of these honour rolls in your church and share them with us (at icoffin@united-church.ca before November 4) so that we can post the collection of photos on our site for November 11? This would be one way for the Regional Council to honour those who served. Thanks for your help.



Remit 1: Establishing an autonomous national indigenous organization

The online Remit information sessions on October 4 (in English) with Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly and Rev. Dr. Teresa Burnett-Cole and on October 11 (in French) were both recorded, and are now available to share with your pastoral charge: https://nakonhakaucc.ca/resources/remit-1-establishing-an-autonomous-national-indigenous-organization/



REMINDER - 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.

CEBA Loan Repayment

In anticipation of the repayment of federal Canada Emergency Business Account 'CEBA' loan, the United Church has developed a repayment program for UCC congregations who find themselves struggling to fully repay their commercial CEBA loans - which would trigger foregoing the already accounted for forgiveness portion. We have created a loan program to support our congregations through this transition. To take advantage you must respond prior to December 10, 2023. To provide bridging support, the national office is prepared to facilitate a swap out of the commercial loan and replace it with a UCC loan. In short, UCC would issue loans of \$30,000 or \$40,000 for the express purpose of paying off CEBA. All eligible United Church CEBA loan holders in good standing with UCC are able to take advantage of this loan at an interest rate of 5.0%. First payment comes due February 1st, 2024. To get started simply complete the loan agreement and forward to Maria Pimpinella at mpimpinella@united-church.ca along with a copy of void cheque.

Download form: https://bit.ly/2023-CEBA-CloseoutForm-UCC



LAST CALL - Mohawk Bibles in every community of faith?

For those communities of faith who have already indicated interest in purchasing a Bible (as well as for those who have not yet responded), please confirm your community of faith's willingness to commit to "honouring the treaty values of Respect, Friendship, and Peace with all Indigenous folk living near and among them" by October 30, 2023 in order to receive a FREE copy of the Mohawk Bible. <code>jcoffin@united-church.ca</code>

REGIONAL COUNCIL GATHERINGS



November 24-25, 2023 (online)



Strengthening Invitation: Taking a Strategic Approach to Growth

Join us online on the evening of November 24 and the morning of November 25 to reflect on what it means to strengthen invitation and take a strategic approach to growth. There will be two learning sessions offered in advance of the meeting for in-depth exploration of the strategic plan and the budget before voting during the meeting. Additional presentations will include Communications, Office of Vocation, Nominations, Granting & Enabling, and updates to the Governance Handbook.

Learning opportunities

- November 20 (VisionAction): proposal for strategic plan (based on results of consultations) Zoom link: https://united-church.zoom.us/j/89386186800
- November 22 (Property & Finance): presentation of proposal for 2024 budget Zoom link: https://united-church.zoom.us/j/85081270394

Resources and meeting registration for lay representatives, ministry personnel and interested observers: https://nakonhakaucc.ca/event/regional-council-meeting-november-2023-online/

SAVE THE DATES -2024

- March 15-16, 2024 (online)
- June 8, 2024 (hybrid) location TBD

VISIONACTION

VisionAction Strategic Plan Process

1) LAST CALL - SUBMIT YOUR FEEDBACK IN WRITING - before October 28, 2023

The VisionAction public consultation process is soon coming to a close with its on-line and in-person consultations. We would like to thank all those who have taken part in our consultations, but if you have not been able to take part, you still have an opportunity to do so in writing.

The preparatory documents that have been sent to everyone who has participated in the consultations are available to download at: https://email.envoke.io/web_files/5300/VisionAction-Information-E.pdf?t=1695652473723

Based on the proposals under each portion of the fish schema, we have summarized some of the suggestions that have come to us so far in this consultation process. If you have any thoughts or suggestions that you feel should be added to the comprehensive record of the consultation process, we invite you to please send along your thoughts by e-mail to David-Roger Gagnon at: DRGagnon@united-church.ca. Your written submissions will be included in the comprehensive document that will serve as the first draft which will then be fine-tuned by the VisionAction Team before its final draft is presented in November to the Regional Council.

Our thanks to the VisionAction team for all their efforts and support in this process!

2) INFORMATION SESSION - Monday, November 20 at 7:00 pm

The VisionAction Team has been hard at work listening to all of you who have participated in our consultations and have submitted written feedback. From pages of feedback, the VisionAction Team will distill a final draft report which it will submit to the Regional Council for consideration and a vote at the November 24-25 meeting.

In order to have more time to explain the report and the outcomes of the public consultation process, we will be holding an information session on **Monday**, **November 20 at 7:00 pm** on Zoom.

Zoom link: https://united-church.zoom.us/j/89386186800

Please join us to dig deeper into the report, into what you have told about the priorities for Nakonha:ka, and to do any final fine-tuning to the report before it comes before the Regional Council at the end of that week.

For more information, or to RSVP, please contact David-Roger Gagnon at: DRGagnon@united-church.ca

MINISTRY PERSONNEL



OBITUARY: Rev. Dennis Dwyer (August 18, 1936 – October 06, 2023)
Our sympathies go out to the family and friends of Rev. Dennis Dwyer, who died peacefully at his residence in Perth, Ontario over the Thanksgiving weekend.

Following an "aha" moment during his career as an investment banker, Dennis was ordained as a Minister in the United Church of Canada and served in parish ministry for 11 years in Quebec. During this time, he rejoined the Canadian Forces (Reserves) as Padre and was promoted Major and awarded the CD. In addition, he was a co-host on a religious radio and television programs. Dennis also served in other areas of the United Church: Chairman of Finance of M & O Conference, a member of The Church Council on Justice and Corrections, Governor of United Theological College of McGill University, and as founding Spiritual Director of the Montreal

United Church Cursillo. Dennis was also an author and published several books including "Bent But Not Broken" in 1992 on the state of the church. He was an entrepreneur and founded a company, The Freedom Group, which focused on mediation and conflict resolution.

A celebration of life will take place on **Saturday**, **November 4 at 13:00** in Bethel United Church, 1500 Rideau Ferry Road in Perth, Ontario. A private interment will be held in West Brome, Quebec at a later date.

Obituary: https://blairandson.com/tribute/details/5992/Dennis-Dwyer/obituary.html
Tribute from Royal Montreal Regiment: https://royalmontrealregiment.com/rip-major-retd-dennis-dwyer-cd/
[Other biographical details provided by Rick Sheffer]



REMINDER - October is Clergy Appreciation Month

Watch our social media channels this month (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and X-formerly known as Twitter) for tips on how we can all appreciate our ministry personnel.

Learn more: https://nakonhakaucc.ca/blog/2021/10/18/october-is-clergy-appreciation-month/ #Nakonhaka #UCCan #egliseunie #ClergyAppreciationMonth

REMINDER - Ministry & Personnel Committee workshop - Saturday, November 25th (9am - 12 noon)

This online workshop, held with the Eastern Ontario Outaouais and East Central Ontario Regional Councils, will cover all the main roles and responsibilities of the M&P Committee. (NOTE: This will be a repeat of the workshop offered in the Fall of 2022 and Spring of 2023.) This will be a general orientation to the work of the M&P Committee for those new to their congregation's committee and who have not participated in this workshop before, and a refresher for current members. Members of M&P Committees and Ministry Personnel are invited to register for this workshop. Advance registration is required. Once you register, you will receive an email containing information about joining this Zoom workshop. [NOTE: Regional Council meeting is taking place at the same time as this event, but M&P members who are not representatives to the Regional Council are welcome to attend.]

Registration: https://united-church.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcoce2rrzosGdwnClgb659fddUchOFoBcXg

LAST CALL - 'Healing and Hope' Retreat for clergy women

October 30-November 2, 2023 (Five Oaks Centre, 1 Bethel Road, Paris, Ontario)

See previous newsletters for details or learn more at sistersandministers@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE

Summary of Executive Meeting - October 19, 2023

This meeting focused on changes in Pastoral Relations; recommendations from Property & Finance Leadership Team; recommendations from the Granting & Enabling Leadership Team; discussed the implications of the decisions made by the General Council Executive, explored how to handle the translation of Executive minutes, reviewed the status of planning for the fall meeting and the progress of the strategic plan, and discerned how to address the recognition of a new community of faith as well as how we might respond to the Israel-Hamas war. We received representatives from Saint Columba House who shared some of the latest developments in that ministry. Rev. Dr. Emmanuel Tehindrazanarivelo also joined us for a brief conversation about Ministries in French.

Next Executive meeting will be November 16, 2023. Executive members and staff are requested to submit any correspondence, reports or other documents one week in advance, by November 9. Once approved and translated, final minutes of Executive meetings are posted at: https://nakonhakaucc.ca/resources/minutes-and-reports/

PROPERTY AND FINANCE LEADERSHIP TEAM

New Resources for Treasurers

Nakonha:ka Regional Council has taken two initiatives to assist treasurers of our communities of faith in performing their duties.

Firstly, we have evaluated and are recommending the use of two easy-to-use and inexpensive non-profit accounting software products from the company Software4Nonprofits. Their bookkeeping software is called "Accounts" and has the following capabilities:

- bookkeeping (journal entries, sample or custom chart of accounts)
- banking (deposits, cheques, reconciliation)
- tracking income, expenses, assets, liabilities, funds
- generating financial statements (income statement, balance sheet)
- generating annual charity information returns (federal and provincial)

The annual cost of this software is \$129 plus tax. We have arranged for a \$50 discount on the first-year purchase price (i.e., you will pay \$79 for the first year) - please contact Brian Ruse prior to purchasing for information on obtaining the discount.

The second software product is called "Donation" and allows you to track donors and to create automated charitable tax receipts. The annual cost of this software is \$99 plus tax. We have also arranged for a \$50 discount on the first-year purchase price of this software (i.e., you will pay \$49 for the first year) - please contact Brian Ruse prior to purchasing for information on obtaining the discount.

Secondly, we have arranged with the Quebec Council of Christian Charities/Conseil Québécois des Organismes Chrétiens to assist the treasurers of our communities of faith. You will be able to take advantage, at no cost to you, of their bookkeeping and accounting services (in both French and English), including:

- · calculating payroll deductions
- preparing tax slips (T4, T4A, Relevé 1, etc.)
- · applying for GST & QST rebates
- preparing annual charity information returns (T3010, TP985.22-V)

We will be providing more information on these initiatives in the coming weeks. In the meantime, please contact Brian Ruse at brian Ruse@united-church.ca with any questions. '

GRANTING AND ENABLING LEADERSHIP TEAM (GELT)

September Grants

Applications for more than \$800,000 were submitted to the Granting and Enabling Leadership Team for the September 15 deadline. The amount available for dispersal at this time was closer to \$500,000 so none of the applicants received the full amount they requested. On behalf of the regional council and all the grant recipients, we express our appreciation for the members of GELT as they navigated a difficult discernment process.

Changes to Terms of Reference

Some updates were recently made to the terms of reference for the Erskine & American-Mountainside Grant. *See updated version: https://nakonhakaucc.ca/resources/granting-and-enabling/*

Next Regional Council Grant Application Deadline: February 15, 2024

Grant application forms and information: https://nakonhakaucc.ca/resources/qranting-and-enabling/

STEWARDSHIP



REMINDER - STEWARDSHIP COURSES

Registration is now open for stewardship courses on the CHURCHx platform. (If you are new to CHURCHx and have questions, please contact Roger Janes: rjanes@united-church.ca)

Getting Started in Stewardship - November 1

Learn more and register: https://catalog.churchx.ca/product?catalog=UILX1203F23

LIVING INTO RIGHT RELATIONS CIRCLE

UPDATE - New Project Coordinator for Respect & Kanoronhkwátshera (Love) Initiative



We are thrilled to announce the hiring of a Project Coordinator for the Respect & Kanoronhkwátshera (Love) Initiative. Maude Paradis (whose preferred name is her Jewish one, Aviyah Abrams) brings a wealth of experience to this contract position within the regional council. We are grateful to Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council and The Living Spirit Fund at The United Church of Canada Foundation whose generosity made it possible to create this position.

The Respect & Kanoronhkwátshera initiative will support communications between Indigenous and non-Indigenous organizations, highlighting Indigenous initiatives for justice. Please join us in welcoming **Aviyah**.

UPDATED EMAIL ADDRESS: <u>respect.kanoronhkwatshera@gmail.com</u>



FIRST THIRD MINISTRIES

Youth Forum – November 3-5

Youth Forum is a bi-annual weekend retreat for teens, and the next one will be **November 3-5** in Sherbrooke Quebec. Our theme is building bridges of understanding and friendship between Christian and Muslim communities. It will include a very special field-trip to a local Mosque.

Learn more: https://nakonhakaucc.ca/event/youth-forum-november-2023/

Registration: https://forms.gle/6K6tnsjypNUbA5Go8

LEARNING NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

ST. MARTHA'S CHAPEL

St. Martha's chaplaincy is queer-affirming ecumenical ministry for 18 to 40-year-olds based in downtown Montreal that offers weekly bible studies, pastoral care, and twice-monthly ecumenical worship during the academic year.



Young Adult Bible Study: Villains of the Bible

Join the St. Martha's community on Wednesdays this fall for free dinner and Bible study on the topic: Villains of the Bible.

6pm Contemporary Worship Service

At 6pm on the first and third Sunday of each Month, St. Martha's hosts an ecumenical worship service at Christ Church Cathedral on. Catherine's St. This service is young-adult-led but all are welcome to attend.

Call for Hymn Books

St. Martha's is in search of hymn books for its twice-monthly worship service! If you or your congregation are in possession of any excess hymn books you would like to give away, please be in touch with *sarah@stemarthe.ca*.

UNITED CHURCH STUDIES AT MONTREAL DIO

REMINDER - Online Courses for Admission Ministers and Others

United Church History and Theology - online

Wednesdays, January 10th-February 28th, March 13th-April 3rd, 2024, 1:30 to 4:30 pm

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

ATLANTIC SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY (AST)

REMINDER - Solidarity Circles: A peer network of clergy, faith leaders and organizers interested in the solidarity economy.

(beginning in November 2023)

Please be in touch with Andrew Richardson (Vocation Minister Atlantic Regions) if you have any questions: ARichardson@united-church.ca

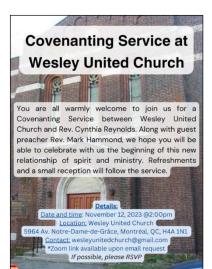
CENTRE FOR CHRISTIAN STUDIES (CCS)

You are invited to join a CCS Friday on **Diakonia During Climate Change** on **Friday**, **October 27**, **2023 at noon Central Time** for an online discussion of climate change and how to respond as faith-filled individuals and as ministers. (CCS Fridays events are free.)

Learn more/register: http://ccsonline.ca/event/ccs-friday-diakonia-during-climate-change/

EMPLOYMENT AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Other employment and volunteer opportunities: https://united-church.ca/opportunities



LOCAL COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS

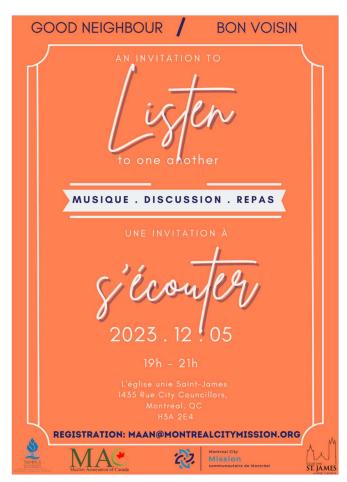
CHARGE PASTORALE SAINT-PIERRE ET PINGUET

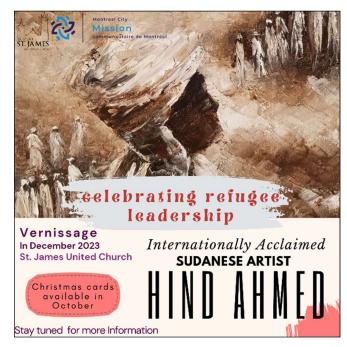
RAPPEL - Culte d'alliance

Le culte d'alliance entre Jean-Philippe Dubé-Goupil (pour sa formation supervisée au ministère) et la paroisse Église Saint-Pierre et Pinguet aura lieu le dimanche 29 octobre 2023 à 9h.

Lien Zoom: https://bit.ly/2023-10-29-CulteDAlliance-JPDubeGoupil









WESTMOUNT PARK UNITED CHURCH REMINDER - Faith in Nature program

(shared by Jessica Stilwell)

The Faith in Nature program has a long list of FREE activities for the autumn.

Meet at 4695 boul. De Maisonneuve O. – activities take place rain or shine, inside if necessary.

Learn more: 514-937-1146 or westmountparkuc@videotron.ca
Download poster: https://bit.ly/2023-WPUC-FaithinNature
Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/westmountparkunitedchurch/

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA NEWS AND EVENTS

General Council Executive Meeting

Summary of the September GCE meeting is available on https://generalcouncil44.ca/news/gce-summary-sept-22-23-2023 and at Eglise Unie: https://egliseunie.ca/points-essentiels-de-la-reunion-de-lexecutif-du-conseil-general/

REMINDER - The Mod's Book Squad

Nov 30, 2023 at 6:30 pm - The Wall Between: What Jews and Palestinians Don't Want to Know About Each Other, by Raja G. Khouri & Jeffrey J. Wilkinson, with co-author/guest Raja Khouri.

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

Nouvelles des Ministères en français

https://eqliseunie.ca/mot-du-responsable-23-octobre-2023-rev-dr-emmanuel-djacoba-tehindrazanarivelo/

OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS



Recent news from United Church of Canada

- Broadview newsletter: https://mailchi.mp/7560831b9a07/internationaldayofgirl-1815514
- Église Unie du Canada: https://mailchi.mp/egliseunie/infolettre-9-octobre-1053004
- E-ssentials: https://mailchi.mp/united-church/es230905-1053064
- GC44: https://generalcouncil44.ca/news
- Gifts with Vision: https://mailchi.mp/85a65d419534/gifts-with-vision-is-live-1050972-1052956
- Living into Right Relations: https://mailchi.mp/united-church/living-into-right-relations-1052948
- Philanthropy News: https://mailchi.mp/united-church/gods-mission-our-gifts-1053080
- UCC Foundation News: https://mailchi.mp/united-church/good-news-you-can-oct23
- United Church Resource Centre: https://mailchi.mp/ucrdstore.ca/cozy-reads-and-lively-discussions-this-fall
- UC Rural Ministry Network: https://mailchi.mp/b8cdb705e958/may-2023-ucrmn-enews-13564048
- United Action for Justice: https://mailchi.mp/united-church/uaj-1052244
- United in Learning: https://mailchi.mp/united-church/united-in-learning-1053136

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SHAREABLE ONE-PAGE SUMMARY

REGIONAL COUNCIL DATES TO REMEMBER

October	Clergy Appreciation Month https://nakonhakaucc.ca/blog/2021/10/18/october-is-clergy-appreciation-month/
Oct 28	LAST CALL to submit feedback for VisionAction consultations re strategic plan drqaqnon@united-church.ca
Oct 29 – 9:00 am	Culte d'alliance: Jean-Philippe Dubé-Goupil (SME) / Église Unie Saint-Pierre et Pinguet Lien Zoom: https://bit.ly/2023-10-29-CulteDAlliance-JPDubeGoupil
Oct 30	LAST CALL for pastoral charges to confirm FREE copy of Mohawk Bible jcoffin@united-church.ca
Nov 3	LAST CALL for Remembrance Day photos of church honour roll jcoffin@united-church.ca
Nov 3-5	Youth Forum: https://nakonhakaucc.ca/event/youth-forum-november-2023/
Nov 12 – 2:00 pm	Covenant service: Rev. Cynthia Reynolds / Wesley United (Montreal) wesleyunitedchurch@gmail.com
Nov 16 – 9:00 am	Regional Council Executive meeting (online)
Nov 20 – 7:00 pm	Pre-meeting Learning Session: Proposal for Strategic Plan - VisionAction https://united-church.zoom.us/j/89386186800
Nov 22 – 7:00 pm	Pre-meeting Learning Session: Proposal for Budget 2024 – Property & Finance https://united-church.zoom.us/j/85081270394
Nov 24 – 6:30 pm Nov 25 – 9:00 am	Regional Council Meeting (online) https://nakonhakaucc.ca/event/regional-council-meeting-november-2023-online/
Nov 25 – 9:00 am	Ministry & Personnel Committee workshop (online) https://united-church.zoom.us/meeting/register/tzcoce2rrzosGdwnClqb659fddUchOFoBcXq
Dec 10	LAST CALL to submit CEBA loan closeout form to mpimpinella@united-church.ca Download form: https://bit.ly/2023-CEBA-CloseoutForm-UCC

Other special dates to engage with our communities in Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship and Daring Justice:

Oct 29	Ref	orma	atic	n	Su	nday	y	
	4.00						,	

https://united-church.ca/worship-liturgical-season/reformation-sunday

Nov 11 Remembrance Day

https://united-church.ca/worship-special-days/remembrance-day

Nov 19 Children's Sunday

https://united-church.ca/worship-special-days/childrens-sunday

Nov 20 Transgender Day of Remembrance

https://united-church.ca/worship-special-days/transgender-day-remembrance

Until Dec 1 40 Days of Engagement on Anti-Racism

https://united-church.ca/social-action/justice-initiatives/anti-racism/40-days-engagement-anti-racism

Dec 1 World AIDS Day

https://united-church.ca/worship-special-days/world-aids-day

NEXT NEWSLETTER: November 8, 2023
Send stories: jcoffin@united-church.ca
Submit events: https://nakonhakaucc.ca/events/community/add