



CONSEIL RÉGIONAL  
**NAKONHA:KA**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

**2024-02-14**  
Newsletter / Bulletin

***“Put a new heart in me, O God” - Psalm 51:1–17*** (shared by Judy Coffin (she/her), Communications)

As we honour the juxtaposition of Ash Wednesday and Valentine’s Day today, and embark on new activities based on the strategic plan we have created together as a regional council, I would like to share the following reflections.

The first is by Barbara Cairns in Gathering: ...[Lent] is a 40-day journey that will take us to places we may not choose to go. Knowing that God’s love is with us, we dare to embrace the journey, answer God’s call to seek out new paths...

The second is from Sikh activist, Valerie Kaur: I describe love as sweet labor, a fierce and bloody and imperfect life-giving choice that we make. And if love is labor, then love can be taught. Love can be modeled. Love can be practiced...The more we can share the good news around these practices, the more we can say, “All of us can have access to building beloved community right where we are.”

As we work together in coming months to realize the shared dreams outlined in the regional council strategic plan, one key activity will involve building and strengthening relationships between individuals, communities of faith, local communities and the regional council. Let’s embrace the journey, rising like a phoenix from the ashes of the past, as we answer God’s call by modeling love and building beloved community.

- Gathering: Written by Barbara Cairns, West River U.C., Cornwall, P.E.I. / Gathering, LE 2024, Page 4-5. Used with Permission.
- Valerie Kaur, Centre for Action and Contemplation Podcast, Love Period.
- CrNRC Strategic Plan: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/2022-11-24-25-StrategicPlan-E2.pdf>

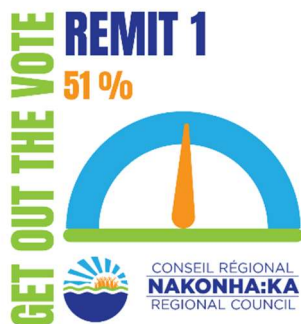
## DEEP SPIRITUALITY - BOLD DISCIPLESHIP - DARING JUSTICE



### **DARING JUSTICE – Pink Shirt Day (February 28, 2024)**

In 2007, in Berwick, Nova Scotia, after a new student at their school was bullied for wearing a pink shirt, two grade 12 students bought 50 pink shirts and encouraged their classmates to wear pink. The next day, to their surprise, the majority of students arrived wearing pink! With that act of kindness, Pink Shirt Day was born. The movement has continued to grow, and now the **last Wednesday each February is Canada’s national Pink Shirt/anti-bullying day.**

You are invited to post photos of members of your community of faith wearing pink for Pink Shirt Day to our Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Nakhonhaka> and/or other social media channels **#PinkShirtDay2024**



## BOLD DISCIPLESHIP – GET OUT THE VOTE (REMIT 1)

Over the past months, a tireless team of volunteers has been reaching out to pastoral charges, encouraging them to vote on *Remit 1: Creating an Autonomous Indigenous Organization* and to submit those votes to General Council to be counted. This remit is an important step towards reconciliation with indigenous ministries, respecting their wish to travel forward together in two separate but equal canoes.

**To date, only 50.6% of Nakonha:ka pastoral charges have voted.** The deadline to vote is **March 31, 2024**.

Learn more: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/resources/remit-1-establishing-an-autonomous-national-indigenous-organization/>

## BOLD DISCIPLESHIP - Cuba: A Country of Contradictions

CCS Diaconal Ministry student Lisa Byer-de Wever recently returned from her Global Perspectives Experience trip to Cuba with Montreal Dio. These are her initial reflections, as shared with the Centre for Christian Studies (CCS).



GPE (Global Perspective Experience), Study Tour, or Mission?

These simple words have different meanings and are impactful and potentially harmful if not engaged in a faithful and intentional way. When I returned home, the first questions were: “How was your vacation?”, “How was your experience?”, “How was your Mission?” I was at a loss to respond, so I answered with “exhausting, exhilarating, heartbreaking and hopeful”. These were the first words that my head and heart could use to start to process the deep and impactful experience of my time in Cuba.

Read article: <https://bit.ly/2024-Cuba-LByerdeWever-CCS>

EDITOR’S NOTE: we hope to share more stories about this trip from other participants in upcoming communications!

## GROWTH – RENEW, CREATE, INVITE



### REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

#### LAST CALL FOR ANNUAL REPORTS (from Leadership Teams and Networks)

Leadership teams and networks are invited to submit their annual reports to Joel Miller ([jmiller@united-church.ca](mailto:jmiller@united-church.ca)) by **February 20** at the latest (to allow time for translation). Reports should be no longer than a page and a half in length (Times Roman, font size 12, single spaced). Content should include what has taken place in 2023, and what members of the regional council can look forward to in the coming year (2024). If desired, reports may refer to elements of the national and/or regional council strategic plans (links below).

- UCCan Call and Vision: <https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/welcome-united-church-canada/our-call-and-vision>
- CrNRC Strategic Plan : <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/2022-11-24-25-StrategicPlan-E2.pdf>

#### Dates for 2024 Regional Council Meetings

- **March 15-16, 2024** (online)
- **May 24-25, 2024** (hybrid) – location TBD
- **November 1-2, 2024** (online)

#### DERNIER APPEL - L'assemblée générale annuelle de la Table des Ministères en français (in French)

L'assemblée générale annuelle de la Table des Ministères en français se déroulera la journée du **samedi 24 février 2024 de 9h à 16h**. Nous nous rencontrerons en format hybride (en personne et par Zoom):

- **Sur place** : Collège presbytérien de Montréal (3495, rue University, Montréal)  
(Un repas sur l'heure du midi sera offert pour les personnes présentes sur place.)
- **Lien Zoom** : <https://united-church.zoom.us/j/84094766714>

Veuillez remplir ce court formulaire d'inscription le plus tôt possible: <https://bit.ly/2024-02-24-Inscription-AGA-LaTable>

#### ONLINE LEARNING EVENT – Strengthening Invitation (hosted by EOORC) – **March 2, 8:30 am to 1 pm**

Entering a church can be scary for people looking for meaning and spirituality. Are we capable of welcoming the person, the stranger, the seeker of meaning who has no experience of the Church? In a context where people are hungry for spirituality, where isolation has reached pandemic proportions and where a significant number of

migrants want to create connections within their adopted city, together we will examine how we can be more effective and more courageous in our capacity to invite and welcome the other.

Join us in thinking about ways to strengthen our capacity to welcome others. We will discuss the results of a recent study conducted by our church regarding public opinions of us, so that you can apply some of the learnings from this study in your community. Discover some of the practical ways you can make your community of faith not only a place where "all are welcome," but also a place where people come to meet God and meet other people.

We are not alone. Let's find ways to make sure that others realize this too and can experience this same feeling.

Learn more / register: <https://eoorc.ca/2024-eoorc-online-winter-educational/>

**ONLINE LEARNING EVENT – Demystifying Low Literacy** (presented by Literacy Unlimited / Family Life Centre)  
**February 27, 1:30 to 2:30 pm** (shared by Elizabeth Chown-Lafrenière, Family Life Centre)

Please advertise this free info session far and wide! It's for church staff, clergy, lay leaders, volunteers and, in fact, anyone! Please feel free to share it with any organizations with whom your church partners. The session is on Zoom to be easily accessible to all, and it's free.

When I met with Literacy Unlimited to plan this, I was astounded to learn that people who do not read or write well avoid any situation where they might feel 'less than' -- and that there are simple ways we, as churches, can be more equitable and welcoming. It was eye-opening.

Everyone knows someone who lives with low literacy -- even if they keep it well hidden. Anything we can do in our church programmes, activities, worship and communications to make them feel comfortable is a worthwhile investment of time.

Download poster: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/event/online-learning-event-demystifying-low-literacy/>

Learn more / register: [familylifecentre@gmail.com](mailto:familylifecentre@gmail.com)

**Other news and events from our communities of faith:**



**Ste. Anne's Blues Café** (Ian Tamblyn / The Breeze)

**February 23, 2024**

Adair Hall, 24 Maple Ave., Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue H9X 2E6

Ian Tamblyn has won several awards for his work including a Juno award and nomination, songwriting awards and nominations from the Canadian Folk Music Awards as well as awards and nominations for his theatre and film soundtracks. The Breeze plays a mix of melodic folk-rock tunes, with influences ranging from John Prine and Neil Young to The Cure and Radiohead.

*We will be limiting the audience to 100 in an effort to keep you all healthy. Tables will be set for 6 and will be spread out a little more than in the past. We ask that everyone follow the guidance of social distancing – say hello and smile from a short distance. We welcome and encourage masking.*

Tickets \$15.00, on sale at the door **starting at 7:00 pm.**  
(Doors open at 7:30 pm.)

Learn more: <https://sainteannebluescafe.wordpress.com/2024/01/28/february-23rd-the-breeze-ian-tamblyn/>

SHARE **YOUR** COMMUNITY EVENTS: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/events/community/add>

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**MONTREAL CITY MISSION**

**20th Anniversary Campaign Launch for Just Solutions!**

We are excited to share a momentous occasion with you – *Just Solutions*, Montreal City Mission's legal clinic for vulnerable migrants, is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year! Over the past two decades, we have made a significant impact on the lives of thousands of im/migrants, reuniting hundreds of loved ones through the dedicated efforts of our staff and student interns.

To commemorate this milestone, we are thrilled to kick off our 20th-anniversary campaign. We invite you to join us in shaping the future. Learn more: <https://bit.ly/2024-02-14-JustSolutions-20-MCM>



## LA MISSION PROTESTANTE FRANCOPHONE DE LONGUEUIL DE L'ÉGLISE UNIE

### Culte enrichissant avec le professeur Martin Bellerose (partagé par Florence Bukam, pasteure)

La Mission protestante francophone de Longueuil de l'Église Unie a eu le privilège d'accueillir le professeur Martin Bellerose le dimanche 28 janvier 2024. Lors de la célébration, il a partagé avec les membres de la communauté sur le thème de la communauté francophone afro-descendant et la dynamique de la résurrection sur le chemin d'Emaüs. Ce fut enrichissant pour les nouveaux arrivants chrétiens francophone dans l'Église Unie ici au Canada. Un moment d'intense débats pour ceux et celles-là qui ont le souci de comprendre, quel est leur rôle au cœur de cette nouvelle réalité.

### REMINDER - United Church Rural Ministry Network (UCRMN)

The United Church Rural Ministry Network is for all rural and small town folks – lay and ministry – and offers resources, events and a regular newsletter focused on rural issues. Monthly online meetings are listed below:

- Wednesday, **February 28, 1-2 pm ET** – Deep Spirituality
- Wednesday, **March 27, 1-2 pm ET** – Daring Justice
- Wednesday, **April 24, 1-2 pm ET** – Bold Discipleship
- Wednesday, **May 29, 1-2 pm ET** – The United Church of Canada Vision – Connected but Evolving Church

Zoom: <https://united-church.zoom.us/j/86575297565?pwd=SeqbPmrOrKo8UuNwrGSa6fCYz38OAD.1>

Learn more about 2024 Rural Ministry Town Halls: <https://united-church.ca/events/rural-ministry-town-halls-spring-2024>

Latest news from UCRMN: <https://mailchi.mp/bd7220ae9d6f/may-2023-ucrmn-eneews-13719560>



### REMINDER - SAVE THE DATE

**Flourishing with the Moderator (Montreal) - bilingual**  
**September 21, 2024** (at Cedar Park United Church, 204 Lakeview Ave., Pointe-Claire)

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

## JUSTICE

### IN THE NEWS: BEACONSFIELD INITIATIVE

(article by Caleb Garaga in Broadview, shared by Rev. Dan Hayward)

Canadian mining companies are destroying communities in the Philippines but this United Church mission team is determined to help. Twelve years ago, the Beaconsfield Initiative team started working with activists and human rights organizations to protect the Cordillera region... Twelve years since his team stepped foot on what was sometimes rocky and unpaved Philippine soil, Rev. Shawn Fryday and several of the trip's participants remain resolute in keeping the Canadian church, government and public aware of how Canadian mining operations profit off ancestral lands, wreak havoc on farmers' and fisherfolks' livelihoods and help curtail democratic norms.

Learn more: <https://broadview.org/mining-companies-pollution-philippines-united-church/>

### Anti-Racism Training for Youth App

The United Church Young Black Scholars program participants created a mobile app for Anti-Racism Training for Youth (ar4yt) and it is now available for download in both the App Store and Google Play. The curriculum was led by Jonisha with the contributions of the scholars. We encourage you to download (even if you're not youth) and give it a try. It's in a beta format right now, and the participants would love your feedback as they make it better. While it is targeted to youth, it is suitable for those over 26 too!

Learn more: <https://united-church.ca/stories/anti-racism-app-developed-young-adults-set-launch>

### Celebrating Black History Month

February is Black History (or African Heritage) Month. Officially recognized in Canada since 1996, this is a time to honour the contributions and struggles of people of African descent.

Black History Month blog from the Rev. Franklyn James:

<https://united-church.ca/blogs/round-table/unity-and-legacy-celebrating-black-history-canada-and-united-church>

**RIVERSIDE UNITED CHURCH**

A panel discussion on the Black History Month and the role of interfaith and intercultural growth.

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

Deacon Dolapo Ogunsile Guest Speaker February 3rd	Adedeji Sunday Akintayo Speaker February 18th	Kehinde Gifty Okunika Abolarin Okololu Tolulope Victor Panelists February 25
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Join us in February to explore the importance of interfaith and intercultural dialogue about Black History

**Time 11:00 am**

📍 200 Chem. de la Grande-Côte, Rosemère, QC J7A 1H4  
[riversideunitedchurch@hotmail.com](mailto:riversideunitedchurch@hotmail.com)

L'Église Unie du Canada also has a number of events planned to celebrate Black History Month.

**DERNIER APPEL - Mois de l'histoire des Afro-descendants (in French)**

- **15 février** : Contribution africaine dans la vie religieuse au Canada
- **22 février** : Activités culturelles: Documentaires et débats
- **25 février** : Culte de clôture à Montréal de 11h à 14h. (Cet événement ne sera pas diffusé sur Zoom.)

Sauf avis du contraire, toutes les activités débutent à **19h**. Le lien Zoom est toujours le même:

<https://united-church.zoom.us/j/85866393253>

Pour en savoir plus : <https://egliseunie.ca/category/mois-histoire-personnes-ascendance-africaine/>

## CLIMATE



### HUNTINGDON UNITED CHURCH

#### Project Insights and Energy Results (Faithful Footprints)

Received a grant to update its electrical entrance from 200 amps to 400 amps; replace oil furnace with two 24 000 BTU heat pumps in the lower level and an electric boiler; install two 20 KW electric forced air furnaces, one on each level to supplement the heat pumps and drain the hot water system; install an electric heater in the furnace room; insulate its chimney with fiberglass insulation; caulk the front windows on the lower level; repair and install weather stripping on its front doors; insulate and seal

back window; upgrade bathroom exhaust fan; replace incandescent light bulbs with LEDs, including its backyard light; insulate furnace room and storage area under front entrance with spray foam insulation; replace kitchen stove, refrigerator and freezer with more efficient models. **A year following their projects, Huntingdon United reduced its source EUI by 26.6%, total GHG emissions by 99.4%, direct GHG Emissions intensity by 100.0%, energy costs by 46.7%, and energy cost intensity by 46.6%.**

### Give it up for the Earth! - February 14 - March 28 (Citizens for Public Justice)

Citizens for Public Justice's Give it up for the Earth! is a national faith-in-action campaign that raises awareness about the climate crisis and mobilizes people across Canada to reduce personal and household greenhouse gas emissions, engage in acts of solidarity, and collect signatures as a demonstration of support for increased federal climate action. Give it up for the Earth! 2024 includes three action items:

- A pledge to reduce your personal and household greenhouse gas emissions.
- A Commitment to embrace eco-spirituality through climate action and by building relationships with the Indigenous communities on whose traditional territories we live, work, and play.
- Sending a letter to the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, Steven Guilbeault, urging him to set more ambitious climate action targets and expressing support for a just transition towards a low-carbon economy.

Learn more: <https://cpj.ca/fortheearth/>

### LAST CALL - Lenten Study: Act/Fast: Spiritual Practices for a Climate in Crisis

**Every Tuesday, from February 20–March 26 2024 - 1:00 - 2:00 pm**

Grief, anxiety, hope, love pain, despair, awe – many emotions are used to describe our relationship with all of Creation. What is your persona, physical, and spiritual relationship with God's Creation? How does this relationship affect how you follow Christ? This Lenten devotional invites us to deepen our love for Creation and take action or fast for a climate in crisis.

Learn more: <https://churchx.ca/local/shop/product.php?id=131>

Purchase book: <https://ucrdstore.ca/products/act-fast-spiritual-practices-for-a-climate-in-crisis>

### OTHER RESOURCES

- For the Love of Creation: <https://mailchi.mp/cf2c6b0df33f/for-the-love-of-creation-update-may22-13556709>
- Faith & the Common Good: [https://www.faithcommongood.org/mailling\\_list](https://www.faithcommongood.org/mailling_list)
- Green Churches Network: <https://mailchi.mp/5de13909d7ae/green-churches-newsletter-6688491>

## LEADERSHIP

### Regional Council Executive – **TOMORROW, February 15, 2024**

A reminder that our meetings are focused on the three Ds! **Decision, Discernment and Direction.** We are doing all we can to make full use of the wisdom that sits around our virtual table in the limited time we have together.

If networks, leadership teams, clusters or a member of the Regional Council wishes to request that the Executive decide, discern or direct on a particular issue, please flag it with President Marc Grenon ([marcgrenon5@icloud.com](mailto:marcgrenon5@icloud.com)), Regional Executive Minister Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly ([ehbertdaly@unitedchurch.ca](mailto:ehbertdaly@unitedchurch.ca)) or Joel Miller ([jmiller@unitedchurch.ca](mailto:jmiller@unitedchurch.ca)) **at least one week in advance of the meeting** so that it can be built into the agenda.

**NOTE:** Once approved and translated, final minutes of Executive meetings are posted at:

<https://nakonhakaucc.ca/resources/minutes-and-reports/>



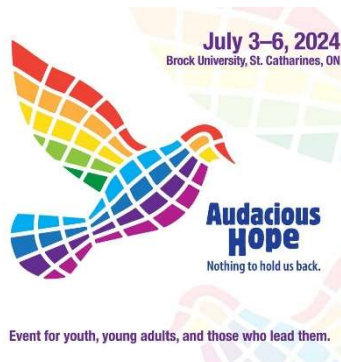
### REMINDER - Attention Candidates and Applicants

Join Caroline Penhale, Vocational Minister for Quebec and East Ontario for an hour of conversation and connection the second Tuesday of every month. Come and share your Candidacy Pathway journey with others who are walking a similar road.

Next conversation **Tuesday, March 12 at 7 pm ET**

Zoom link: <https://united-church.zoom.us/j/87692462278>

Please note that this program will also be offered in French on the second Tuesday of each month at noon. See the French version of the newsletter for more information and the Zoom link.



### REMINDER

**Youth Forum - March 22-24, 2024**

Learn more:

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

**Audacious Hope – July 3-6, 2024**

Learn more:

<https://united-church.ca/events/audacious-hope-2024>

### Online Ministry Support Circle

The next online gathering for ministry support will be: **March 5 at 1:30 pm.**

Contact Rev. Dan Hayward at [dhayward@united-church.ca](mailto:dhayward@united-church.ca) to learn more.

### REMINDER - Pastoral Charge Supervisors

Please remember that one of your supervision duties is “reporting to the regional council on the state of the pastoral charge.” Please submit your report on 2023 activities after the pastoral charge you supervise holds its annual meetings in the next few months.

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

French form: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/fr/ressources/politiques/>

Please send completed forms to Rev. Dan Hayward: [dhayward@united-church.ca](mailto:dhayward@united-church.ca).

### SAD NEWS

**Rev. Barend Biesheuvel** (shared by Saint Columba House)

Our sympathies are extended to the family and friends of Rev. Barend Biesheuvel, who passed away at the age of 75 on January 28, 2024, at Verdun Hospital, Quebec, from heart complications after suffering a stroke. Rev. Biesheuvel's work in ministry began with various roles in the Christian Reformed Church, most notably as chaplain of the Seafarers' Centre in the Old Port of Montreal. He was then ordained as a pastor in the United Church of Canada, serving churches around the Montreal area until he retired, including Hemmingford, Lacolle-Clarenceville

and Trinity-Anjou, as well as volunteering with Saint Columba House in several capacities. His daughters would appreciate receiving your memories of their father: <https://memorialsources.com/memorial/barend-biesheuvel>

**Heather Chesney** (shared by Rev. Kent Chown)

Heather Chesney (widow of the late Rev David Chesney, who was involved in Montreal-Ottawa Conference) passed away on Saturday, February 3, at the age of 80. She was admitted into hospital in Guelph a couple of weeks ago for planned surgery, but died before that took place. Coincidentally, Dave passed away four years ago at this time. The family takes comfort knowing that she and Dave are together once again.

<https://www.guelphtoday.com/obituaries/chesney-heather-margaret-8211421>

**CORRECTION: Rev. Marsha\* Mundy**

We were saddened to hear of the death of Rev. Marsha Mundy, Anglican priest and wife of Rev. John Matheson. Martha died at Anna Laberge hospital December 31, 2023, and was buried from Cardinal Funeral home on January 13, 2024 at a service conducted by The Rev. Douglas Throop. We extend our deepest sympathies to John and to all of Marsha's family and friends. <https://ijcardinal.ca/rev-marsha-mundy/>

*\*Editor's note: deepest apologies for misspelling Rev. Marsha Mundy's name in the last issue of the newsletter.*

**UPDATE: Catherine Fortin** (fille du pasteur Denis Fortin et de la pasteure Darla Sloan)

Ses funérailles seront célébrées le **samedi 27 avril 2024, à 10 h 30**, en l'Église Unie Saint-Pierre, dans le temple Chalmers-Wesley, situé au 78 rue Sainte-Ursule à Québec.

Le culte sera retransmis en direct sur la plateforme Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81668254892?pwd=FOdAE5U7pLN0uCoS8uVentBOIdekLe.1>

ID de réunion : 816 6825 4892 / Code secret : 890284

**EMPLOYMENT AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Here are some of the employment and volunteer opportunities currently available:

- **Pastoral Relations Minister**, part-time (ECORC) – **February 20, 2024**  
Learn more: <https://united-church.ca/opportunities/pastoral-relations-minister-part-time>
- **Committee vacancies - February 26, 2024** <https://united-church.ca/opportunities>
  - **Governing Board of the Canadian Council of Churches:** Seeking two people who have a strong commitment to ecumenism and an understanding of the United Church's theology and polity to serve as representatives of The United Church of Canada.
  - **Structural Change Evaluation Steering Group (NEW!):** Leaders instrumental in the structural change initiative effective January 2019 are needed for this steering group.
  - **Board of Vocation:** The Board of Vocation is the governing body of the Office of Vocation. It requires both lay members and ministry personnel from diverse backgrounds who have skills for this governance role and a commitment to vital ministry leadership.
  - **Admission Board:** Diaconal ministers and people with fluency in languages in addition to English are needed for this Board that supports ministry personnel from other denominations who feel called to the United Church.
  - **Candidacy Boards:** Candidacy Boards provide an essential role in assisting people to discern their call into ministry. Four candidacy boards are seeking additional members.
  - **Standards for Accreditation Committee:** Seeking lay people and ministry personnel with expertise in adult education and learning outcomes.
  - **Credentialing Committee:** Lay people, intentional interim ministers, and people familiar with educational supervision and chaplaincy are needed for this committee that assesses a qualification for specialized ministries.
  - **Response Committee:** This committee seeks people from the prairie provinces, Southwestern Ontario, Eastern Ontario, or Quebec who are familiar with dispute resolution and the church's complaint processes.
  - **Remedial Committee:** We are seeking people who have the ability to assess investigative reviews and have a commitment to helping ministry personnel improve their pastoral skills.

Learn more: <https://united-church.ca/opportunities>





### Montreal Mission Internship – Applications now open

Are you grappling with justice in our flawed world? Are you seeking to grow and be challenged in your faith? Are you discerning a call to ministry inside or outside the walls of the church? Serve, reflect, and discern with the Montreal Mission Internship this summer.

The Montreal Mission Internship is a paid 9-week summer internship for 18- to 25-year-olds who are seeking an opportunity to put their faith into action through service and discern God's call on their life. Interns are placed at different social service organisations around the city and meet once weekly for theological reflection, community building, and discernment.

Applications submitted **before March 31st** will receive priority consideration.

Learn more about the program and how to apply: <https://www.montrealmission.ca/>

### UNITED CHURCH STUDIES AT MONTREAL DIO: Open Enrolment Course Offerings



#### French for Ministry Intensive - May 6-10, 2024

The French for Ministry Intensive is designed for clergy, lay leaders, and spiritual care professionals looking to improve their ability to work in French. Activities include: learning church and ministry-specific vocabulary, writing prayers and theological reflections, and role-playing pastoral care situations. Participants may take this course as part of the Certificate in Bilingual Ministry or as a stand-alone continuing education course.

For more information about the course and how to register: <https://montrealdio.ca/courses/french-for-ministry/>

### Annual Music Matters Conference in Thunder Bay, ON now open for registration!

The highly anticipated annual Music Matters conference will be taking place in Thunder Bay this year, bringing together United Church musicians and music enthusiasts from across the country. The event will be held from **May 2nd to May 5th**, offering both in-person and online attendance options for participants. The conference, organized by the Music United Association, will feature a diverse range of activities, including workshops, plenary sessions, presentations, and performances. Attendees will have the opportunity to network with fellow musicians and learn from fellow church musicians and experts. Among the presenters, we find Dr Alexandra Fol from the Nakonha:ka region, music director and organist at St James United Church in Montréal.

Registration for in-person and online participation on a sliding scale is now open for all interested participants at the following link: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/music-matters-2024-tickets-760746753017>

Music United is an organization dedicated to promoting and supporting the importance of music in diverse communities. Through events, conferences, and educational programs, Music United strives to foster collaborative relationships among musicians, empower individuals in their musical journeys, and celebrate the transformative power of music.

For more information about the Music Matters conference, please contact [worship@united-church.ca](mailto:worship@united-church.ca) or visit the Music United webpage: [www.musicunited.ca](http://www.musicunited.ca)

### UCW News

Please note that the latest edition of UCW *Keeping In Touch* newsletter is available on the Nakonha:ka web site: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/programs/ucw/>

## INDIGENOUS PATHWAYS

### Respect & Kanoronhkwtshera News (by Avi Abrams)

The latest edition reflects on violence against women, the particular difficulties encountered by Indigenous women as well as the intersectionality of gender-based violence: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/blog/2024/02/14/respect-kanoronhkwtshera-news-february-14-2024/>

### REMINDER - Dedication resources for Mohawk Bibles

Many Mohawk Bibles have already been delivered to individuals and communities of faith, with more on their way. The Living into Right Relations Leadership Circle is gathering some resources and ideas to help communities of faith dedicate their copies of the Mohawk Bible with respect and gratitude. More details coming soon.



## NEW FUND FOR 2024! Rosemary Lambie Fund for Learning: Respecting our Indigenous Neighbours

Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council is thrilled to announce the creation of a new fund to honour the faithful service of the Reverend Rosemary Lambie for many years with Presbytery, Conference and finally as Executive Minister of Regional Council and her commitment to, and passion for learning from, our Indigenous siblings and neighbours. Learn more: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/blog/2024/01/31/new-in-2024-rosemary-lambie-fund-for-learning-respecting-our-indigenous-neighbours>

## COMMON GOOD

### FOLLOW UP - Online Learning Opportunity: 2024 Grants

Brian Ruse, Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly, Rev. Barbara Bryce and Erik Lo Forte hosted a discussion last week about the granting process (just in time for the next round of grant applications!) The video, slide presentations and other resources, as well as a link to an evaluation survey, are now available on the event web page.

Learn more: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/event/learning-session-grants/>

### LAST CALL - Regional Council Grant Application Deadline: TOMORROW, February 15, 2024

**Please note the availability of two new funds in 2024:** Rosemary Lambie Fund for Learning: Respecting our Indigenous Neighbours, and the Regional Strategic Fund. The terms of reference and an updated application form for 2024 can be found on the regional council web site: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/resources/granting-and-enabling/>

### REMINDER – UCCan Grants and Scholarships Now Available! (The United Church of Canada Foundation)

Learn more: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/sohspring24> Deadline: April 15, 2024

### Additional resources available online

- Strategic Plan: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/2022-11-24-25-StrategicPlan-E2.pdf>
- Glossary for English/French translation: <https://egliseunie.ca/ressources/ressources-linguistiques/glossaire/>
- Sabbatical leave 2025: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/resources/sabbatical-leave/>
- Bursaries 2024: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/resources/bursaries/>
- The Manual 2024: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/resources/policies/>

### Recent news from United Church of Canada

- Broadview newsletter: <https://mailchi.mp/broadview/lunarnewyear>
- Église Unie du Canada: <https://mailchi.mp/egliseunie/infolettre-6-fevrier-1054096>
- E-ssentials: <https://mailchi.mp/48117b56d8b8/es230905-1054116>
- 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/652f1242b361/living-into-right-relations-1053948>
- Philanthropy News: <https://mailchi.mp/e450bba1f87f/gods-mission-our-gifts-1053916>
- UCC Foundation News: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/good-news-you-can-jan24>
- UCRD: <https://mailchi.mp/ucrdstore.ca/cozy-reads-and-lively-discussions-this-fall-1054108>
- UC Rural Ministry Network: <https://mailchi.mp/bd7220ae9d6f/may-2023-ucrmn-enews-13719560>
- United Action for Justice: <https://mailchi.mp/united-church/uaj-1052244>
- United in Learning: <https://mailchi.mp/faf73714e9fc/united-in-learning-1054152>

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



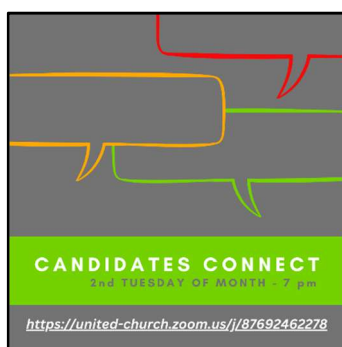
# SHAREABLE ONE-PAGE SUMMARY

## REGIONAL COUNCIL DATES TO REMEMBER

<b>Feb 15</b>	<b>LAST CALL</b> to submit <b>grant applications</b> to <a href="mailto:bruse@united-church.ca">bruse@united-church.ca</a> Download form: <a href="https://nakhonhakaucc.ca/resources/granting-and-enabling/">https://nakhonhakaucc.ca/resources/granting-and-enabling/</a>
<b>Feb 15 – 9:00 am</b>	<b>Regional Council Executive Meeting</b>
<b>Feb 20</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b> to submit reports for Regional Council Annual Report book <a href="mailto:jmiller@united-church.ca">jmiller@united-church.ca</a>
<b>Feb 24 – 9:00 am</b>	<b>DERNIER APPEL : AGA de La Table des ministères en français (hybride)</b> Inscription : <a href="https://bit.ly/2024-02-24-Inscription-AGA-LaTable">https://bit.ly/2024-02-24-Inscription-AGA-LaTable</a> Lien Zoom : <a href="https://united-church.zoom.us/j/84094766714">https://united-church.zoom.us/j/84094766714</a>
<b>Mar 5 – 1:30 pm</b>	<b>Online Ministry Support Circle</b> <a href="mailto:dhayward@united-church.ca">dhayward@united-church.ca</a>
<b>Mar 12 – 7 pm</b>	<b>Candidates Connect</b> <a href="https://united-church.zoom.us/j/87692462278">https://united-church.zoom.us/j/87692462278</a>
<b>Mar 15-16</b>	<b>Regional Council Meeting (online)</b> <a href="https://nakhonhakaucc.ca/event/regional-council-gathering-march-2024-online/">https://nakhonhakaucc.ca/event/regional-council-gathering-march-2024-online/</a>
<b>Mar 22-24</b>	<b>Youth Forum (Mount Bruno United Church)</b> <a href="https://nakhonhakaucc.ca/event/youth-forum-march-2024/">https://nakhonhakaucc.ca/event/youth-forum-march-2024/</a>
<b>Mar 31</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b> to submit votes on Remit 1 <a href="https://nakhonhakaucc.ca/resources/remit-1-establishing-an-autonomous-national-indigenous-organization/">https://nakhonhakaucc.ca/resources/remit-1-establishing-an-autonomous-national-indigenous-organization/</a>

Other upcoming opportunities to engage in Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship and Daring Justice:

<b>Mar 1</b>	<b>World Day of Prayer</b>
<b>Mar 8</b>	<b>International Women's Day</b>
<b>Mar 14</b>	<b>National Affirming (P.I.E.) Day</b>
<b>Mar 21</b>	<b>International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination</b>
<b>Mar 23</b>	<b>Earth Hour</b>
<b>Mar 25</b>	<b>Holy Week</b>



### NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE (2024)

Submission deadline	Publication date
February 23	February 28
March 8	March 13
March 22	March 27
April 5	April 10
April 19	April 24
May 3	May 8
May 17	May 22
May 31	June 5
June 15	June 19

Submit news/events:  
[jcoffin@united-church.ca](mailto:jcoffin@united-church.ca) or  
<https://nakhonhakaucc.ca/events/community/add>