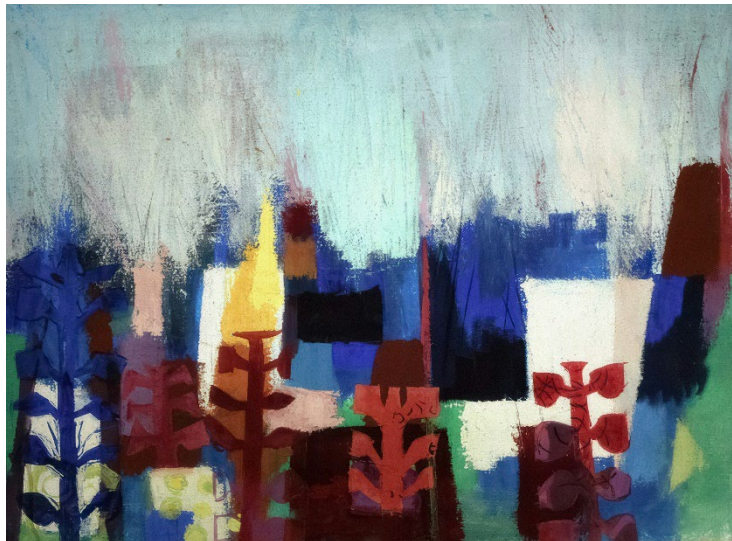




Events Newsletter: January 29, 2025



Upcoming events of interest to the people of the Northern Spirit Region.

If you have news or events to share, please write a short description, with a clear headline and a link to more information, and send it to northernspirit@united-church.ca.

★ Add your local events to our Northern Spirit events calendar! ★
[Click here to view upcoming events.](#) And [click here to submit your event.](#)

News from the Pews and Other Ministries

♥ **Covenanting:** The covenanting service between Rev. Shane Goldie and St. Andrew's United Church, Spruce Grove, will be held **Sunday, February 23, 2025**. The service will be a part of our regular service time, which starts at 10:00 a.m. We will be providing a light lunch after the service to which all are invited. Come and share with us as we take this next step on our covenantal journey in faith.

New Staff Phone Numbers

The United Church Staff phone system has changed.

Adam Hall's new phone number: 1-587-407-0329

Northern Spirit Office / Chloe Burns' new phone number: 1-587-407-0330

These numbers are already set up and in service. The former 1-800 numbers will not work after January 15. Please spread the word and save our new phone numbers! Many of the tri-Regional and National staff numbers are changing as well: [all staff contact information is available on the website](#).

2025 AGM: Save the date for the 2025 in-person Regional Annual Meeting, which will be held **May 29 - June 1**, at Riverbend United Church, Edmonton.

Reminder re Annual Meetings for Communities of Faith with Pastoral Charge Supervisors

For Communities of faith who have appointed Supervisors, those supervisors must be present (either in person, via technology, or phone) during the entire duration of your Annual Meeting. Because of that, it is absolutely imperative that you reach out to your supervisors and discuss the time, date, and location of your annual meetings prior to determining the date and announcing those dates publicly. [Please click here to read the full letter from the Community of Faith Support Committee](#).

New & Featured Events

★ **Our Sacred Obligations: learning from the Unmarked Burials report and challenging settler denial, Thursday February 27, 10 am - 4 pm, Southminster-Steinhauer United Church, Edmonton, in person and by Zoom**

All welcome to this day-long learning gathering, open to Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. We will focus on the United Church's national and local responsibilities, but all backgrounds are welcome as a full part of the day. Together we will learn about the recent report on unmarked burials; explore what reparations means; learn about the problem of settler denialism; and practice together how to challenge it.

Community, prayer, traditional ceremony, and cultural supports will be part of our day. A separate support space is also available to First Nations, Métis and Inuit, respecting that this is a hard topic. Lunch and snacks included. Registration is free but required. [Click here for all the details](#). Planners will update this page with details and confirmed resource people as we go.

Upcoming Events and Learning Opportunities

★ **Planning Worship event: format change**

The Planning Worship Together team has decided to do something shorter and sweeter this month, in place of the day retreat at St. David's in Leduc. We will be at [the High Level Diner](#) in Edmonton, **Thursday, January 30 at 10:30 am** for cinnamon buns, coffee and brainstorming Lent 2025 ideas. Afterwards there will be an option to gather somewhere to do more planning if that excites you. Please note the High Level Diner has free parking spots across the street (behind the movie theater). All those planning one or more worship services this Lent are welcome.

★ The January/ February 2025 [United in Learning newsletter is out](#), with all sorts of opportunities for Lent and beyond.

PIE Day Prep Party! Tuesday 4 February 2025 at 6:00PM Mountain on Zoom.

All Affirming, in-process, and exploring ministries welcome, and individuals too. Hosted by the Living Skies Affirming Committee, all are welcome from every Region. We'll explore our plans for [Affirming PIE Day](#) on Friday March 14. (New materials are now up!) This year's theme is Sing Out Proud, so come with your creative ideas. We'll also do an update from advocate Dr Fran Forsberg on efforts against the government of SK's pronoun policy and sexual health education restrictions, which align with AB's recent legislation.

<https://united->

[church.zoom.us/j/85257234676?pwd=7XleWg4QVjMv95zQLJUOEEQwFiaK3Y.1](https://united-church.zoom.us/j/85257234676?pwd=7XleWg4QVjMv95zQLJUOEEQwFiaK3Y.1)

Meeting ID: 852 5723 4676 Password: 981332 855 703 8985 Canada Toll-free

"Carrying the Light Into the Ordinary" Contemplative Gathering, February 18, 10:40 am MT, online

St. Andrew's College (in partnership with leaders from the Living Skies Regional Council, Northern Spirit Regional Council, and Green Spirit Chaplaincy) invites you to our next contemplative gathering, to be held with the Saskatoon Theological Union Chapel community on Tuesday February 18, at 11:40am Sask time. Come spend 40 minutes or so in quiet contemplation, centered on the ancient practice of lectio divina. Join us via zoom right here: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82963758924>. All are welcome ... and invite a friend!

★ **Succeed at Advocacy: Casting a Vision for a Better World, February 25, 2025, 6:00-7:30 PM CST, 5:00-6:30 PM MST.**

A United in Learning event. Your voice counts with our elected officials! Learn how to use it most effectively in raising your and UCC partners' concerns. Share strategies to build community for greater impact. Whether you have never met your MP or regularly call the Prime Minister's office, this webinar will be a chance to learn more or share your experience by connecting with others engaged in federal advocacy across the country. [Click here to register](#); you will need a free account to do so, but that gives you access to materials and recordings, and to many events from many different church traditions.

United Church Women offer a Centennial service *for March 2 or other times*

United Church Women groups across Canada are dedicating Sunday March 2 to remembering the faithful and dedicated service of women's organizations throughout the past 100 years of the church's life. [Click here for resources for the service](#) (scroll to the bottom). Talk to the people in your community of faith and consider making this part of your service March 2 or another time that suits.

Godly Play Core Training 2025, *Via Zoom, 10:30am to 1:30 pm Central time, April 26, May 10 & 24, June 7; then in person Aug.12 and13 2025 in Vancouver, BC.*

Get ready to enter the stories of our faith! Through an action/reflection model of learning you will learn more about creating sacred space, building and working in community, nurturing spiritual development, using silence, story and play to make meaning. All learning takes place in a prayerful and playful atmosphere with creative and experienced Godly Play trainers. \$350 CDN to register for all sessions. Space is limited to 12 people. [Click here to register.](#)

***United Church 100th anniversary event map:** Is your church community planning something special to commemorate this milestone? [Submit your event details](#) on the National [Centennial event map!](#)

***Past Newsletter issues are archived on our website.**



Northern Spirit Regional Council Office
8510 95 Ave NW Edmonton Alberta
1-587-407-0330
northernspirit@united-church.ca
www.northernspirित्रc.ca

Photo by [Europeana](#) on [Unsplash](#): Title: Korsika II. Agaavid / Creator: Luts, Karin (autor) / Date: 1959 / Providing institution: Tartu Art Museum, Estonia

Copyright © 2025 Northern Spirit Regional Council, All rights reserved.

[Click here to subscribe to receive this newsletter via email.](#)