

Here's what's up at Prairie Spirit

## Prairie Spirit United Church

207 Thompson Drive, Winnipeg, MB R3J 3E2

Phone: 204-832-1000 Email: [office@prairiespirituc.org](mailto:office@prairiespirituc.org)

Weekly Update – Friday 30 April 2021

### Worship Service – Sunday 2 May 2021

*Join us for Sunday Service virtually:*

May 2 – Easter 5 – Rev. Paul DuVal will lead us in worship.

May 9 – Easter 6 – Rev. Deborah Vitt will lead us in worship.

*All services available via YouTube.*

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### Sunday After Worship Zoom Chat

will not take place this week.

Keep watching the Weekly Update for future dates and times.

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**Please submit Weekly Updates to the office by Wed.**

**Deadline for the next Newsletter is today, April 30th.**

**Please email your reports to the office over the weekend.**

If you would like to register for our Member Only area of the PSUC website, please email the office with your name and email address.

In the Member Only section you will have access to past Annual Reports, Governance Structure, Ministry Profile, Oversight and Executive Minutes, Newsletters and Weekly Updates.

### How to Reach us by eMail:

Rev. Paul DuVal [pduval@prairiespirituc.org](mailto:pduval@prairiespirituc.org)

Rev. Deborah Vitt [dvitt@prairiespirituc.org](mailto:dvitt@prairiespirituc.org)

Sherrin in the Office [office@prairiespirituc.org](mailto:office@prairiespirituc.org)

## COVID Updates for Manitoba

On April 26, 2021 the Public Health Orders in Manitoba were updated for a second time this month. Increasing trend in number of cases has resulted in the implementation of further restrictions. Orders effective April 28 at 12: 01 a.m. until May 26,2021 include:

\*restriction of those gathering for in person worship to **10 people maximum or 25% of capacity of premises whichever is lower and all persons attending a service must be masked at all times (Order 19 & 27). All other measures remain the same (social distancing, cleaning, outlined early on in Guidelines for Faith Based Communities still available on engage.mb)**

\* prohibition of all indoor and outdoor gathering in private space with a few exceptions (Order 1)

\* outdoor gathering limited to 10 persons maximum at an outdoor public place (Order 2)

Funeral and weddings remain at 10 persons in addition to one officiant and photographer or videographer (Order 2). Drive in services are still permitted (Order 2). Access the church building is still permitted for use by private or public school or the delivery of child care, health care or social services. (Order Specific sections of the public health orders address Food Banks (Order 22) and Self-Help Groups for persons dealing with additions (Order 23).

For full details see: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/prs/orders/index.html>



### **Coffee and Conversation on May 5**

Wednesday Morning at 10am

The Happy Gang is inviting YOU to join a Zoom Coffee Time on Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 until 11:30 a.m. This will be an opportunity to catch up with old friends and have a discussion on a relevant topic for these COVID times. We hope you will be able to make a coffee or tea for yourself that morning and join us from the comforts of your home. The link to join the “Meeting” is below:

[Join Zoom Coffee and Conversation](#)

Look forward to seeing you on Zoom!

## Mark Your Calendar

Join Deborah for a one hour information Zoom call to share and learn more about becoming an Affirming Ministry.  
Thursday May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 @ 7pm

For more info email Deborah @ [dvitt@prairiespirit.org](mailto:dvitt@prairiespirit.org)



The COOL ( Communities Offering Others Life ) Project of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank is off to a good start! Farmer Dave Wiebe called Linda Uhrich last week to let us know the seeding will begin this week, The ground looks good and all the seed and fertilizer was donated this spring!!! They are growing Canola this year. They will keep us posted throughout the season and hopefully, they will have an abundant harvest.

## PSUC Community Connection Groups

A big thank you to those who have already responded committing to act as a group leader for one of our Community Connection (C2) groups! As a larger and newly amalgamated community of faith, we do not have as good a sense of community as we might/should have. Many are expressing that they do not feel connected to the faith community; particularly at this time with the impact of COVID 19. The Group leader's role is as follows:

- Phone at least quarterly during the year
- Call or email with regard to important events such as the Annual Meeting or a Fundraising event
- Phone if they haven't seen the person at church of late. If a call doesn't get a response, perhaps an email to follow up. In the event that the person is not reached, a call to the church office to assure that the person is okay (particularly for those who live alone)
- Make a point of chatting when we are together for fellowship
- ***"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as you are doing." 1 Thessalonians 5:11***

**IF INTERESTED IN SERVING IN A GROUP LEADER CAPACITY, PLEASE EMAIL OR PHONE OUR OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR, SHERRI VAN AERT.**



Worship Team invites questions from you about worship practices. Send your questions to the church office by phone or email. One question per week will be responded to by the Ministry and or Worship Team. Once your response is given, if you have further questions, feel free to probe for understanding. You will receive a response from someone on the Worship Team. Let us learn together!

### What is the difference between “holy” and “sacred”?

“Sacred” and “Holy” are often used interchangeably, and in general both are used as adjectives referring to something that is set apart or dedicated to be used in the worship of God or for religious purposes.

The word *sacred* descends from the [Latin \*sacer\*](#), referring to that which is '[consecrated](#), dedicated' or 'purified' to the gods or anything in their power.

The Hebrew word *kodesh* (קֹדֶשׁ) is used in the [Torah](#) to mean 'set-apartness' and 'distinct'.

*Kodesh* is also commonly translated as 'holiness' and 'sacredness'.<sup>[18]</sup> The Torah describes the [Aaronite priests](#) and the [Levites](#) as being selected by God to perform the Temple services; they, as well, are called "holy."

Holiness is not a single state but contains a broad spectrum.

**Sacred** describes something that is dedicated or set apart for the service or worship of a [deity](#);<sup>[1]</sup> considered worthy of spiritual [respect](#) or devotion; or inspires [awe](#) or [reverence](#) among believers. The property is often ascribed to objects (a "[sacred artifact](#)" that is [venerated](#) and [blessed](#)), or places. Although there are similarities between the terms *sacred* and *holy*, there are subtle differences.<sup>[4]</sup> *Holiness* is generally the term used in relation to persons and relationship, whereas *sacredness* is used in relation to objects, places, or happenings.<sup>[6]</sup> Thus, a saint may be considered as holy, but would not be viewed as sacred. Conversely, some things can be both holy and sacred, such as the Holy Bible, or Holy or sacred land.

While both words denote something or someone set apart to the worship of God and therefore worthy of respect and in some cases veneration, *holy* (the stronger word) implies an inherent or essential character.<sup>[6]</sup> Holiness originates in God and is communicated to things, places, times, and persons engaged in His Service.

The English word *holy* dates back to at least the 11th century with the [Old English](#) word [hālig](#), an adjective derived from *hāl* ('whole'), which was used to mean 'uninjured, sound, healthy, entire, complete'. The Scottish *hale* ('health, happiness, wholeness') is the most complete modern form of this Old English root. The word *holy* in its modern form appears in [Wycliffe's Bible](#) of 1382. Sometimes, the term *holy* is used in a more general way, to refer to someone or something that is associated with a [divine power](#), such as [water](#) used for [baptism](#).

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sacred>

## Have You Purchased A Memory Stone Yet?

Have you checked out the sidewalk pavers at the front of the church? They are in desperate need of repair before we have an injury from a trip and fall accident. Property is planning to replace them this summer. This restoration presents us with a unique opportunity which will allow families to leave a lasting mark on Prairie Spirit as well as help to raise money to offset the cost of the repairs.

Memory or Inspiration Stones will be installed in the new sidewalk! Memory Stones are a perfect way for your family to commemorate a loved one, an important memory, a short Bible passage or an inspirational quote or word, in a prominent location at Prairie Spirit United Church.



An 8x8 inch, paver, engraved with your choice of lettering, will be available for a donation of \$150.00. Donations are eligible for a charitable tax receipt and would be added to your church givings in 2021.

Contact the church office at [office@prairiespirituc.org](mailto:office@prairiespirituc.org) or (204) 832-1000 to express your interest in a donation towards your Memory Stone and to receive more information.

If you haven't taken advantage of this unique opportunity to have your memory set in stone don't lose out! Act now!

**Please click [here](#) for a Memory Stone Order Form.  
Please click [here](#) to read Frequently Asked Questions.**

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The peace of Christ holds us,  
the love of God enfolds us,  
and the Holy Spirit keeps us –  
now, and always.

Thanks be to God!

## Community News

Join the Centre on Aging online for this year's 38th Annual Spring Research Symposium! Our theme this year is *Looking forward to aging in a post-pandemic world*.

### May 3: Presentations 9 am–12 pm; Poster session 1–4 pm

- *Mental health in later life: Is it the best of times or the worst of times?*  
Dr. Corey S. Mackenzie, Professor, Departments of Psychology & Psychiatry; Clinical Associate, Centre on Aging
- *Lessons from the pandemic—Older adults, their health and their health care*  
Dr. Cornelia (Kristol) van Ineveld, Associate Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, Rady Faculty of Health Sciences
- *The Mindful Elder: The healing power of Indigenous contemplative and mindfulness practices*  
Dr. Michael Yellow Bird, Dean and Professor, Faculty of Social Work

### May 4: Poster session 9 am–12 pm; Presentations 1–4 pm

- *Life after COVID: Opportunities and challenges for home care*  
Dr. Christine Kelly, Associate Professor, Rady Faculty of Health Sciences, Community Health Sciences
- *Social isolation and loneliness: Can lessons learned during the pandemic help in the future?*  
Dr. Verena Menec, Professor, Department of Community Health Sciences, Rady College of Medicine
- *Lessons from the pandemic—Health policy*  
Dr. Phil St. John, Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, Rady Faculty of Health Sciences

There is no cost to attend the 38th Annual Spring Research Symposium. No formal registration—just one click to join us! Full Symposium details can be found on the Centre's Web site: <https://umanitoba.ca/centre-on-aging/research/spring-symposium>

## Stories of Our Mission



### When Being Born with Light Skin Is Dangerous

Being born with light skin is particularly dangerous in Tanzania, where 1 in 1,400 people have albinism. Few people in Tanzania with albinism live beyond the age of 40, and not just because of high rates of skin cancer. Because some Tanzanian belief systems portray people with albinism as magical, there is a lucrative trade in their body parts, which are believed to hold special power—and the pandemic has made this

situation even worse. That's why your generosity through Mission & Service is helping the Morogoro Women's Training Centre provide support to young Tanzanian women with albinism. [Learn about the plight of those with albinism](#) and how your Mission & Service gifts are helping them.

# News from the Wider Church

## CCS Fridays

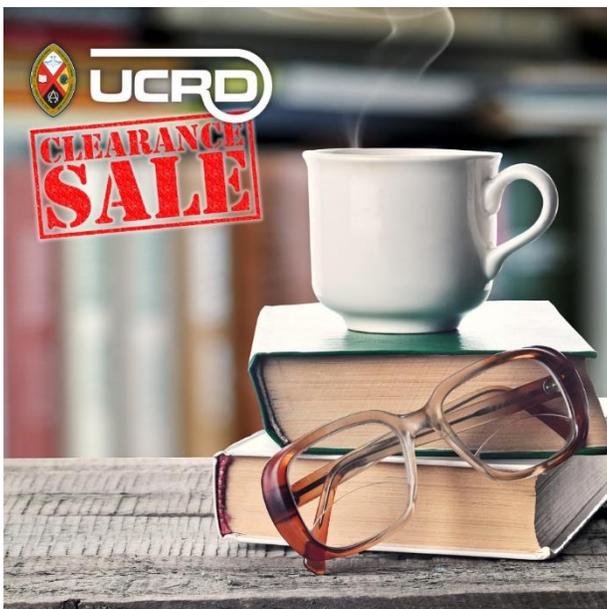
**CCS Fridays** are online conversations to help people of faith respond to emerging issues in local contexts. **Each session is from 12:00 to 1:00 CT** and in the form of a Zoom workshop.

There will be a presentation that will be recorded for future viewing, plus opportunities to engage with the ideas in small groups. **Sessions are open to all and are free but you must [register](#).**

**Join in on April 30 for “How It Ends”, a reading by playwright Debbie Patterson.** “How It Ends” is an immersive, interactive dance/theatre piece, produced in Winnipeg in 2019. It explores end-of-life issues, seen through the lens of disability. Playwright Debbie Patterson uses her lived experience of a progressive, debilitating, incurable illness to provide a new understanding of what makes life worth living, the value of suffering, and the pleasure of surrendering control.

## Asian Canadian Women: Support, Strength, and Solidarity gatherings May 2 and 5

If you are of Asian descent in The United Church of Canada and self-identify as woman, genderqueer, and/or nonbinary, you are invited to gather together in Asian Heritage Month this May. We will have time to get to know one another, to talk about our places in the church, and explore the intersections of our racial identities and gender identities. Asian women are particularly visible and vulnerable during this pandemic time. Please be welcome to a safe meeting space to connect, lament, and honour one another. To register, please send an email to: [anti-racism@united-church.ca](mailto:anti-racism@united-church.ca) with your full name, your email address, and your Asian ancestry.



UCRD store continues to clear out its inventory to make room for fresh new titles! This means huge markdowns on a wide range of titles like *Rooted in the Divine: Nurturing Our Faith through Small Group Ministry* (now just \$4.38) and *Book of Fidgets: A Jot & Doodle Journal for Christian Youth* (a tiny \$6.20), so shop while quantities last. And some books are down to just \$0.99, like *Curating Church: Strategies for Innovative Worship!*

New titles will continue to be added over the next few weeks, so check back often for incredible deals!