

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

Weekly Update – Friday 4 June 2021

Worship Service – Sunday 6 June 2021

Join us for Sunday Service virtually:

June 6 – Pentecost 2 – Rev. Deborah Vitt will lead us in worship.
Kim Rothney is our scripture reader.

June 13 – Pentecost 3 – Rev. Paul Duval will lead us in worship.

All services available via YouTube.

**We are saddened to announce the recent death of Jack Callum.
Jack was a long time member of Kirkfield Park United Church.**

COVID-19 Update

On May 26th, 2021 the Public Health Orders in place in Manitoba for the May long weekend were extended until 12:01 a.m. on June 12th, 2021.

Section 20 in these orders is specific to Places of Worship and section 26 relates to use of masks and section 2 relates to gatherings such as weddings and funerals:

- all places of worship must be closed to the public while these orders are in effect (Order 20-1)
- Religious leaders may conduct services at places of worship so that those services may be made available to the public over the Internet or through other remote means
- Outdoors drive in religious services can be held in accordance with specific protocols and restrictions (Order 2(3))
- Funeral and weddings remain at 10 persons in addition to one officiant and photographer or videographer (Order 2).
- Places of worship can be used for 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
- use of masks are outline in Order 26 (everyone indoors masked except when behind non-permeable barriers or while in indoor public places which members of the public do not normally have access)
- prohibition of all indoor and outdoor gathering in private space with a few exceptions (Order 1)
- prohibition of all gatherings in any spaces with those outside one's own household
- For full details see: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/prs/orders/index.html>

If you have questions requiring interpretation of the Public Health Orders please request that clarification through: engagemb.ca.

NOTICE
Prairie Spirit United Church
Community of Faith Meeting
Sunday, June 6, 2021
2:00 PM

A Community of Faith meeting will be held **on Sunday, June 6, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.** via Zoom with a phone in option. At this meeting the Search Team will present a candidate for the position of full time minister at Prairie Spirit United Church. It is the hope of the Oversight Council that the congregation will approve a motion to Appoint/Call a full time minister to Prairie Spirit United Church effective July 1, 2021.

How to Register

You must register to attend the Community of Faith meeting on June 6, 2021 so that attendance and voting can be properly recorded.

Registration closed on **June 2**. Registrants will receive the Zoom link, including the number for the phone in option as well as any other necessary information on Friday, June 4.

Format for Meeting

Joycelyn Fournier-Gawryluk will serve as chair of the meeting, since the present chairperson of the Oversight Council serves on the Search Team. Reverend Elizabeth Brown will attend the meeting representing the Prairie to Pine Region. Most recently, Reverend Brown has served as the regional representative to the Search Team. The Search Team will be in attendance and present the candidate for your consideration.

We have been informed that since the meeting is taking place via Zoom there can be no secret ballots. There also cannot be any mail-in or proxy ballots as per United Church protocol. Participants will indicate their vote by a "show of hands".

Please plan to register and attend this meeting. We must have a quorum of twenty people in attendance to hold a Community of Faith meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact the office at (204) 832-1000 or email office@prairiespirituc.org

Val Goodridge
Oversight Council Chairperson

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.

Please submit Weekly Updates to the office by Wed.
Deadline for July's Newsletter is June 30th.

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.

PSUC Office Hours are Tues-Fri 10am-2pm

How to Reach us by email:

Rev. Paul DuVal pduval@prairiespirituc.org
Rev. Deborah Vitt dvitt@prairiespirituc.org
Sherri in the Office office@prairiespirituc.org



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!

Our fifteenth question:

Where are we with the United Church of Canada Apologies to Indigenous Peoples?

As news came on May 28, 2021, that the remains of 215 children were found in a mass unmarked grave on the grounds of the former Kamloops Residential School, we entered into a time of mourning for these relatives, their families, and their communities.

Gatherings were held around sacred fires across the country. Prayers were sung and spoken. Church bells were rung. Orange ribbons were tied on branches and fences. Shoes were laid out on the steps of churches and government buildings. Candles were lit and flags were lowered as a sign of respect.

We here at Prairie Spirit, commit ourselves to the ongoing work of the TRC as we open our hearts to listening and learning together.

As a United Church we have statements confessing our failure to value Aboriginal traditional spirituality.

- United church apology to First Nations (1986)
- United Church apology to Former Students, their families and communities in residential schools (1998)
- Revisions to the United Church Crest to reflect Inclusion of Indigenous Peoples (2012) <https://united-church.ca/sites/default/files/apologies-response-crest.pdf>
- And this from United Church statement to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Alberta National Event (2014) <https://united-church.ca/sites/default/files/trc-statement-2014.pdf>

We have learned that “good intentions” are never enough, especially when wrapped in the misguided zeal of cultural and spiritual superiority. Thus we have learned we were wrong to reject, discredit and yes, even outlaw traditional indigenous spiritual practice and ceremony; in amazing circles of grace, as we have begun to listen to the wisdom of the Elders, we have found our own faith enriched and deepened. And we are grateful. (Moderator Gary Paterson, Edmonton, March 27, 2014)

The following is from the Aboriginal Ministries Council and the Committee on Indigenous Justice and Residential Schools.

We know we have a long journey ahead of us. We are committed to make that journey in humility and partnership, engaging the healing work of making “whole” our own spirituality, and acknowledging that holding both your spirituality and ours is possible through listening and learning with open hearts.

Honouring the Truth, Reconciling for the Future; a Summary of the Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada available online at http://www.trc.ca/assets/pdf/Honouring_the_Truth_Reconciling_for_the_Future_July_23_2015.pdf
If you are a residential school or intergenerational survivor and this content is upsetting, please call the National Indian Residential School Crisis Line at 1-866-925-4419



Art by Chase Gray, to honour the 215 children found at the Kamloops Indian Residential School.

Prayer for the Loss in Kamloops, BC

*by Rev. Murray Pruden, Executive Minister, Indigenous Ministries & Justice,
The United Church of Canada*

Creator,

We give thanks for this day and each day you grant us life to walk on this great land, our Mother.

Give us the heart and strength to come together in prayer in time of mourning, reflection, and peace.

The news we have heard these last few days of our relations, our families, the children who have been physically taken away from us and who have now been found.

And with this news, we grieve for their memory, for their struggle, for their spirit.

We pray for good understanding, guidance, and love for all our families and communities who will need direction and resolution at this time.

And we come together in prayer and ask for your light to guide us to be a part of that needed peace, support, and resolve for everyone who is reacting to this great tragedy in our Indigenous Nations of this great land.

Creator be with us, allow us to be brave. Allow us to be strong. Allow us to be gentle to one another. Allow us to be humble. But most of all, allow us to be like the Creator's love.

Peace be with us, we lift up our prayers to you. In love, trust, and truth, peace be with us all.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

News from the Wider Church

Affirming Celebration for Crestview United Church Sunday, June 6 @ 10:30 a.m.

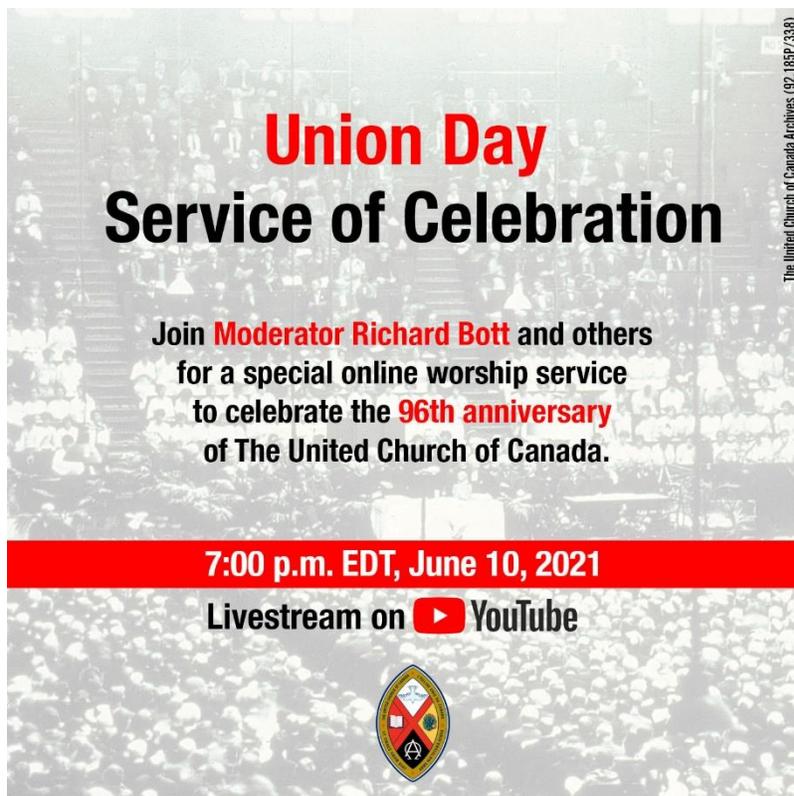
On June 6th, we invite you to join us as we celebrate our church, Crestview United, officially become an Affirming Congregation. This service will include the presentation of the official certificate by Reverend Ken DeLisle, who will be representing Affirm United / (S'Affirmer Ensemble).

We are pleased to have guests participating in the service and there will be greetings from friends of Crestview United Church past and present.

Please find the You Tube link for the service on our Facebook page at www.facebook/crestviewunited

Affirming Celebration for Little Britain United Church Sunday, June 6th, 10:00 a.m.

Little Britain United Church in Lockport, Manitoba is cordially inviting everyone to their celebration of becoming an Affirming Ministry in the United Church of Canada. The celebration will be held on Sunday, June 6th, 10:00 a.m. over Zoom. Please click [here](#) for more information.



The poster features a background image of a large group of people in a church sanctuary. The text is overlaid on this image. At the top, it says 'Union Day' in red and 'Service of Celebration' in large black letters. Below that, it invites people to join Moderator Richard Bott and others for a special online worship service to celebrate the 96th anniversary of The United Church of Canada. A red banner at the bottom indicates the time: 7:00 p.m. EDT, June 10, 2021. Below the banner, it says 'Livestream on YouTube' with the YouTube logo. At the very bottom is the United Church of Canada logo. On the right side, there is vertical text: 'The United Church of Canada Archives (92.185P/338)'.

Union Day
Service of Celebration

Join **Moderator Richard Bott** and others
for a special online worship service
to celebrate the **96th anniversary**
of The United Church of Canada.

7:00 p.m. EDT, June 10, 2021

Livestream on  **YouTube**



The United Church of Canada Archives (92.185P/338)

On Thursday, June 10, join Moderator Richard Bott and others for a special online worship service to celebrate the 96th anniversary of The United Church of Canada. This service will be livestreamed on our [YouTube channel](#). Please bring water with you to participate in the service.